

ANNA E. CAPPELLANO

Year of call - 2008

DIRECT CONTACT DETAILS:

Phone: 07 3012 8382
Mobile: 0433 891 291
Email: acappellano@qldbar.asn.au

PERSONAL ASSISTANT DETAILS:

Kristen Edwards
Phone: 07 3221 2182
Email: k.edwards@higginschambers.com.au

AREAS OF PRACTICE

Criminal Law
Appellate
Advocacy Inquests
Inquiries
Regulatory Law

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Laws (Hons), University of Queensland
Bachelor of Arts (Double Major in Political Science), University of Queensland

CAREER HISTORY

Anna is passionate about social justice and providing fearless advocacy for people who find themselves confronting the criminal justice system.

Anna commenced her career as the Associate to Justice Homes in the Supreme Court of Queensland (former Chief Justice for the State of Queensland). It was in this role that Anna first developed her passion for criminal law as

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Level 29, 239 George Street
(corner George and Adelaide Streets)
Brisbane, QLD, 4000
P: + 61 7 3221 2182
higginschambers.com.au

Her Honour was then the Manager of the Criminal Law list in the Supreme Court. After her time as an Associate, Anna was employed as an articled clerk at a busy criminal law firm in Brisbane. She was admitted as a solicitor in the Supreme Court of Queensland in 2006 and worked as a solicitor in private practice before being called to the Bar in 2008.

Anna has practiced at the private Bar in Queensland since 2008. She practices in criminal law at the trial and appellat level.

Anna also appears in regulatory matters, inquiries and inquests. In 2022, Anna was one of the Counsel Assisting the Independent Commission of Inquiry into Queensland Police Service responses to domestic and family violence. The inquiry's report, "A Call for Change" was presented to the Queensland Government in November 2022.

Anna is a member of the Queensland Bar Association and is an active member of the Bar Association's the Criminal Law Committee

Anna is a Board Member of inCommunity, a not-for-profit organisation that provides a range of services to homeless, at risk and disadvantaged members of the community.

Outside of work, Anna loves AFL football footy. Anna is able to channel her passion for both law and football in her role as the Chair of the AFL Queensland Tribunal. She has also represented AFLW players in hearings before the National AFL Tribunal.

Back in her playing days, Anna played for and captained both the Kedron Lions and the Zillmere Eagles women's AFL teams. She was a member of the inaugural Queensland Women's AFL team and, later, was Captain of the Queensland Team. Since becoming a mother of four, Anna's football focus has transitioned from playing to coaching. She currently coaches junior footy teams at the Zillmere Eagles AFL Club and, every now and again, laces up the boots again for a social game of AFL 9s.

SIGNIFICANT CASES

R v Pollock [2008] QCA 205

R v Pollock [2009] QCA 268

R v Pollock [2010] HCA 35

R v Pollock [2012] QCA 231

R v Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions v Mare & Ors [2009] Qld R 209

R v Brackenrig [2010] QCA 41

R v Hines [2016] QCA 3

R v Delander [2019] QCA 69

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R v Tong (a pseudonym) [2021] QCA 261

RECENT PRESENTATIONS

- 17 November 2023 Presenter, Legalwise, Major amendments affecting sexual offences: What trial lawyers need to know.
- 16 June 2023 Presenter, Prisoner's Legal Service Seminar – Human Rights and the Criminal Justice System, The changing landscape of DFV law
- 25 March 2023 Chair and Presenter, Reasonable Cause Criminal Law CPD Conference, Sexual offences: recent and upcoming changes
- 17 March 2023 Presenter, Legalwise – Criminal Law Symposium 2023, Criminalising Coercive Control

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