

# NATHANIEL HARRIS

Year of call – 2024  
Year of admission - 2017

## DIRECT CONTACT DETAILS:

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## AREAS OF PRACTICE

Administrative Law  
Commercial Litigation  
Constitutional Law  
Electoral Law  
Human Rights  
Inquests and Inquiries  
Professional Discipline and Regulatory Law

## EDUCATION

Bachelor of Laws (Hons I), University of Southern Queensland  
Bachelor of Arts (International Relations), University of Southern Queensland  
Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice, College of Law

## CAREER HISTORY

Nathaniel practises predominantly in administrative law, commercial litigation, constitutional law, electoral law, human rights and regulatory law.

Nathaniel was admitted as a lawyer in 2017 and spent seven years at Crown Law Queensland. This included a short period as an employed barrister immediately prior to his call to the private Bar in April 2025.

## HIGGINSCHAMBERS

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Nathaniel has regularly appeared as an advocate in a range of Courts and Tribunals, including the Federal Court, Supreme Court of Queensland, and the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal. He has appeared in matters including applications for merits review, interlocutory relief, and applications for review under the *Judicial Review Act 1991* (Qld).

Nathaniel instructed the then Solicitor-General, Mr Peter Dunning KC, in the following matters before the High Court on behalf of the Attorney-General for Queensland:

- *Clubb v Edwards; Preston v Avery* (2019) 93 ALJR 448
- *Work Health Authority v Outback Ballooning Pty Ltd & Anor* (2019) 93 ALJR 212

Prior to his career in the law, Nathaniel served as an infantry soldier in the 2nd Battalion Royal Australian Regiment from 2006 to 2010, and as a reservist with the 25th/49th Battalion Royal Queensland Regiment from 2010 to 2018.

## SELECTED SIGNIFICANT CASES

### ***Johnston v Carroll; Witthahn v Wakefield; Sutton v Carroll* [2024] QSC 2; (2024) 329 IR 365**

Nathaniel was the instructing solicitor for the Commissioner of the Queensland Police Service. Five-day Supreme Court trial concerning the validity of certain directions given to State employees to be vaccinated against COVID-19, raising various questions under the Human Rights Act 2019.

Link to case: <https://www.sclqld.org.au/caselaw/146152>

### ***Owen-D'Arcy v Queensland Corrective Services* [2021] QSC 273; (2020) 9 QR 250**

Nathaniel was the instructing solicitor for Queensland Corrective Services. First significant case in Queensland to consider the application of s 58 of the *Human Rights Act 2019 (Qld)* in a judicial review proceeding.

Link to case: <https://www.sclqld.org.au/caselaw/131184>

### ***Australian Institute for Progress v Electoral Commission of Queensland & Ors* (2020) 4 QR 31**

Nathaniel was the instructing solicitor for the State of Queensland in relation to an application for a declaration regarding the proper construction of the *Electoral Act 1992* (Qld). First significant case in Queensland to consider the application of s 48 of the *Human Rights Act 2019* (Qld).

Link to case: <https://www.sclqld.org.au/caselaw/119770>

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***Bell v State of Queensland* [2022] QSC 80; (2022) 10 QR 568 (Satanic Temple Case)**

Nathaniel instructed the Solicitor-General for the State of Queensland in relation to an application for a declaration that the Noosa Temple of Satan was a 'religious denomination or society' for the purposes of s 76 of the *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006*

Link to case: <https://www.sclqld.org.au/caselaw/134342>

***AA v State of Queensland (Office of Industrial Relations)* [2021] QCAT 258**

Nathaniel appeared as the advocate for the Respondent in relation to a privacy complaint where the complainant alleged that the Respondent had intentionally and maliciously breached their privacy. First privacy complaint determined by QCAT following the Court of Appeal Decision in *PB v Workcover*.

Link to case: <https://www.sclqld.org.au/caselaw/129962>

***Chilcott v South West Hospital and Health Service* [2020] QSC 232**

Nathaniel appeared as the advocate in relation to an application in the Supreme Court for statement of reasons under the *Judicial Review Act 1991* (Qld).

Link to case: <https://www.sclqld.org.au/caselaw/123897>

***Hunt v Department of Transport and Main Roads (Qld)* [2020] AATA 557 (28 February 2020) & *McPhillimy v Department of Transport and Main Roads (Qld)* [2020] AATA 556 (28 February 2020) (heard together)**

Nathaniel appeared as the advocate before the Deputy President of the AAT in relation to a purported application to review a 'decision' of the Department under the *Mutual Recognition Act 1992*.

Link to case: <https://www.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/viewdoc/au/cases/cth/AATA/2020/557.html>

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

Australian Institute of Administrative Law – Member

Australian Association of Constitutional Law – Member

Human Rights Law Association – Member

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