CBA Conference Torquay 21-23 March 2025

Speaker Biographies

Martine Powell is a Professor at Griffith University and Founding Director of the Centre for Investigative Interviewing (based in the Griffith Criminology Institute). She is a world-leading expert on witness testimony with a particular focus on eliciting evidence from child complainants of abuse. Professor Powell is one of the most frequently published academics in Australian law journals. She has produced more than 350 peer-reviewed publications on witness testimony (h-index = 64), supervised 38 doctoral/PhD students in the field, and has been a chief investigator on numerous Category 1 grants (> 10M). The influence of Powell's research has been recognised by several lifetime career awards (including membership into the prestigious Australian Academy of the Social Sciences). Over 700 organisations nationally and internationally have sought her expertise on witness testimony. For further information, see https://www.investigativecentre.com/

Natalie Martschuk is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Centre for Investigative Interviewing, Griffith Criminology Institute. She is a legal psychologist with over 12 years' experience conducting research that involves empirical legal studies that foster evidence-based decisions to promote social justice in Australia and internationally. This includes research on legal decision making, witness credibility and reliability, and interpreter-mediated legal proceedings. Dr Martschuk investigates how vulnerable people can give their best possible evidence regardless of their cognitive and linguistic abilities, with a particular focus on cross-examination of children. Her research has informed policy and practice. Dr Martschuk has clinical-forensic practice experience that assisted her in implementing the knowledge and challenges of a practitioner in her research.

Chris Carr SC practises in administrative, criminal, and quasi-criminal matters, with a particular focus on appellate and review proceedings. He appears in judicial reviews and other public law matters, criminal trials, pleas and appeals, OH&S prosecutions, inquests, disciplinary hearings such as those conducted by professional associations,

applications for detention and supervision orders, confiscations, criminal compensation applications, and in coercive hearings before investigatory bodies such as IBAC, the ACC, and the Chief Examiner.

Anna Dixon practises in criminal and quasi criminal matters (including white-collar crime, OH&S prosecutions, regulatory and disciplinary matters), and in common law. She has appeared in a range of County Court, Supreme Court and Court of Appeal matters. She holds an Indictable Crime Certificate, and is on VLA's Preferred Barrister List. She also practices in the regulatory sphere, in particular in relation to the regulation of health workers. Prior to coming to the bar in 2020, Anna worked as a solicitor advocate at the Aboriginal Legal Service of Western Australia for two years, after which she performed the same role at Matthew White and Associates in Melbourne for 18 months.

Brittany Myers has a broad practice in criminal, quasi-criminal and common law. She has a particular interest in trial and appellate work, and appears regularly in the Magistrates', County, and Supreme Courts. Before coming to the Bar, Brittany practised as a solicitor in criminal, civil, and administrative law. Most recently, she was an Associate to the Hon. Justice Jane Dixon in the Supreme Court of Victoria. Brittany is also currently an Assistant Convenor of the Women Barrister's Association.

Sam Hay KC has a broad practice at the Bar involving commercial and common law matters. He currently serves as Chair of the Victorian Legal Services Board. Sam served for 9 years on Bar Council, including as President from 2022 until 2023. He also served as Chair of Counsel Committee, and as Honorary Secretary.

Justin Hannebery KC practises in Victoria and other Australian jurisdictions in all criminal Law, OHS matters, coronial inquests, professional disciplinary tribunals and Royal Commissions. He has appeared extensively in Supreme Court trials and appeared in appeals in the High Court and the Court of Appeal. He appeared in the 'Lawyer X' Royal Commission. Justin has undertaken the Australian Advocacy Institute's teacher training program, and has regularly assisted with the Bar Readers' course. Justin is on the Victoria Legal Aid Preferred Trial Counsel and has been a leading counsel for Victoria

Legal Aid's Trial Counsel Development Program since 2011. Justin was a County Court Judge from 2020 until 2022.

Justin was elected to the current Bar Council in November 2024, for his 16th term since 2003. He was elected to serve President of the Victorian Bar on 12 December 2024. From 2018 until 2020 he was a Director of the Law Council of Australia. He has served on the Bar Council Executive. He has served multiple terms on the committee of the Criminal Bar Association and has served on the Indictable Crime Certificate Committee.

Zubin Menon Zubin regularly appears in jury trials, committals and pleas. He accepts briefs to prosecute and defend. He has experience appearing in cases involving mental impairment, fitness to plead and subsequent supervision order hearings. He holds an Indictable Crime Certificate (ICC) and is a member of Victoria Legal Aid's Preferred Criminal Trial Barrister List. Zubin was also previously a Public Defender at Victoria Legal Aid where he appeared exclusively on behalf of Legal Aid clients in serious criminal proceedings. In 2019 Zubin completed a Master's degree in Criminology with a focus on corporate crime, corruption and regulatory offences. He also studied sentencing principles and outcomes in the criminal justice system particularly with respect to family violence and sexual offences.

Magistrate Prior worked at the Victorian Aboriginal Legal Service for 11 years, traveling to regional Victoria on circuit. They rose to the position of Principal Legal Officer there.

Magistrate Prior was also at Djirra for a period of 18 months.

In 2016 Their Honour co-founded The Law and Advocacy Centre for Women with Elena Pappas. The Centre is a unique legal practice designed for women who are in, or at risk of entering, the criminal justice system. The Centre also provided support and advocacy to trans and non-binary people. Alongside legal representation, the Centre provides services such as counselling and housing support, offering a holistic approach that helps to address many of the reasons women, trans and non-binary people encounter the justice system such as poverty, homelessness, mental health, and family violence. The Centre was also unique in taking a multidisciplinary approach with a therapeutic focus and was co-located at Djirra (Aboriginal Family Violence and prevention legal service) and then within the Centre for Innovative Justice at RMIT.

In 2018, Magistrate Prior joined the Women's Correctional Services Advisory Committee contributing to the improvement of correctional services for women in custody.

Their Honour received an Order of Australia in 2021 for services to the law.

They were appointed as a Magistrate in 2024, bringing extensive experience and dedication to the role.

Quynh-Du Ton-That currently works as a Certified Interpreter, mostly in legal settings. He has had a long career in interpreting, training interpreters, researching interpreting practices, and teaching Vietnamese language at Australian universities. He has written a book chapter on legal interpreting, and co-authored two academic monographs on language and the law.

Quynh-Du is also a literary translator, specialized in contemporary Vietnamese writers. His translations have been published in Australian literary magazines such as Meanjin, HEAT, and scholarly journals in the USA. His translations won a Victorian Premier Literary Prize in 2000 and the Australian Capital Territory Book of The Year in 2007. Quynh-Du has a Bachelor of Science (University of Tasmania), a Diploma of Legal Studies (LaTrobe University) and a Ph.D (Australian National University).

Feby Lee is an experienced interpreter and translator with over 20 years in the industry, specialising in legal settings. She is a NAATI examiner, assessing and certifying interpreters to ensure they meet professional standards. Throughout her career, she has worked on complex legal cases, including high-profile trials related to sex slavery, money laundering, drug offenses, and murder, where her work has been crucial in maintaining accurate and impartial communication within the legal system.

In addition to her interpreting work, Feby has taught at RMIT University, sharing her expertise with students and preparing them for careers in the field. She is also dedicated to the professional development of others, regularly conducting training sessions on ethics to help interpreters and translators uphold accuracy and integrity. Her commitment to high standards has earned her a reputation as a respected figure in the profession.

Bing Lee Teh is a seasoned interpreter and translator with extensive experience in both local and international contexts. She continues to practice as a freelance professional and has been an educator at RMIT University for over 15 years, specialising in training interpreters and translators. Her expertise includes theories, ethics, and skills in translating and interpreting.

In her capacity as a NAATI examiner, Ms. Teh has been involved in assessing and certifying interpreters and translators for more than a decade. She has also facilitated numerous simultaneous interpreting workshops for NAATI. Presently, she is responsible for assessing potential candidates and crafting assessment tasks for NAATI's Certified Specialist Legal Interpreter examinations.

Ms. Teh has significant experience in legal settings, having participated in high-profile trials in Victoria and New South Wales. Her work with law enforcement agencies, such as the Australian Federal Police, Victoria Police, and the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission, includes interpreting at interviews and transcribing and translating intercepted communications.

She holds a Master of Social Science in Translating and Interpreting Studies and an Advanced Diploma of Translating and Interpreting, both from RMIT University.

Bruce Hodgkinson SC is widely recognised as one of Australia's leading barristers specialising in work health and safety, industrial and employment law, regulatory law and sports law. He maintains a large nationwide practice and has been consistently ranked in the Doyle's Guide as a 'Market Leader' and 'Pre-eminent' in the fields of health and safety and employment law.

Bruce is the current Chair of the New South Wales Bar Association's Industrial, Employment, Health and Safety Committee. He is also a past Chair of the Cancer Council of NSW (one of Australia's largest charities) and a past Director of Cancer Council Australia. Bruce has acquired considerable experience in corporate governance as a barrister, a director and in the not-for-profit sector, and has widespread experience managing and leading various collaborators and stakeholders. During his chairmanship of the Cancer Council of NSW, Bruce was instrumental in it

transitioning from a government-based organisation, to a commercially based not-for-profit organisation.

In 2018, Bruce became a Member in the General Division of the Order of Australia (AM) in recognition of his service to community health through cancer support and awareness programs and to rugby union, particularly to player welfare. In 2016, Bruce was appointed an Arbitrator of the Court of Arbitration for Sports (CAS).

Moya O'Brien is a highly experienced trial advocate in both the Supreme and County Courts. In addition to this she has appeared as counsel assisting various tribunals, has appeared for multiple clients in the Royal Commission into Institutional Sexual Abuse and regularly appears for clients in coercive matters.

Moya is passionate about mentoring more junior barristers and solicitors and is an enthusiastic lead participant in the Victoria Legal Aid Trial Counsel Development Program.

Moya is a current member of the Bar Council, serving her second year, and is a member of the Health and Wellbeing Committee, and Parnell's List Committee.

Elizabeth Ruddle KC joined the Victorian Bar in March 2005 and took silk in October 2020. In December 2020 she was appointed a Senior Crown Prosecutor. At the independent Bar Liz had a broad practice encompassing commercial, property, regulatory, criminal and proceeds of crime law. Unsurprisingly her focus these days is criminal and proceeds of crime. Liz practices primarily in the appellate jurisdictions but does a few trials a year just to remind herself exactly how hard they are.

Liz has, for her sins, taught at the readers course for the last 15 years, had five amazing readers, served five terms on Bar Council and is currently in her third year as convenor of the Women Barristers Association. She is known for being a law nerd, going to the opening of an envelope and being pathologically unable to say no to presenting a CPD.

Michael Stanton SC has appeared in a wide range of matters, including conviction and sentence appeals before the Court of Appeal, Royal Commissions and inquests. He was junior counsel for an appellant in Tony Strickland (a pseudonym) & Ors v Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions (2018) 266 CLR 325, and for the

accused in the retrial of David Eastman. He appeared for an appellant in Victoria's first guideline judgment, Boulton & Ors v The Queen (2014) 46 VR 308.

Michael is the Immediate Past President of Liberty Victoria, a member of the National Criminal Law Committee of the Law Council of Australia, and has a particular interest in the operation and effect of the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 (Vic). He has written widely on law reform issues, including on mandatory sentencing, civil liberties and protest rights. He is also a Co-Chair of the Victorian Bar's Health and Wellbeing Committee.

Tarina Fanning is a proud Larrakia and Tiwi woman who is passionate about providing education and training by sharing her extensive knowledge and expertise.

With over thirty years working in government organisations across Australia – including as the first female Aboriginal police officer in Victoria, Tarina Fanning has dedicated her career to supporting and building Aboriginal Cultural Awareness, Competence and Capability within workplaces and communities.

Having grown up on Gunai Kurnai Country in Victoria, Tarina has developed a deep understanding of the Victorian Aboriginal community and the rich and enduring culture of the First Nations communities. Tarina has also spent considerable time working and living in Queensland, as well as travelling extensively and interacting with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across Australia.

Tarina is a member of the Stolen Generations, having been taken as a newborn from her Aboriginal mother (also a member of the Stolen Generations) under the assimilation policies of the past. Tarina was adopted into a non-Aboriginal family and has lived in both worlds – Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal.

It is through walking in both of these worlds that Tarina has gained her passion, drive and commitment to create a world whereby acknowledging history and sharing stories leads to the path of understanding and reconciliation.

https://www.tfacts.com.au/