

MELITA EVELYN PARKER

Barrister

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ADMISSION

- Aug 2021** Called to the New South Wales Bar
- May 2015** Admission to the High Court of Australia
- Feb 2015** Admission to the Supreme Court of Western Australia

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Sep 2021 – present** **Eleven Wentworth**
Barrister - Reader
- Oct 2020 – Jun 2021** **Government Legal Department (United Kingdom)**
Lawyer - Home Office and Immigration Division
Drafting prospects advice and pleadings; preparing witness statements and collecting evidence in UK administrative law and human rights challenges.
- Feb 2017 - Sep 2019** **Australian Government Solicitor**
Senior Lawyer - AGS Dispute Resolution
Managing Federal Court representative proceedings; drafting prospects advice; identifying ADR solutions for claimants within the Commonwealth legal framework; drafting pleadings and submissions; conducting witness conferences and drafting witness statements; briefing counsel; and analysing large volumes of documentary evidence.
- Feb 2015 - Feb 2017** **Australian Government Solicitor**
Lawyer - AGS Dispute Resolution
Advocacy in inferior courts; briefing the Solicitor-General on a constitutional matter; leading large teams of lawyers in Federal Court discovery processes; representing the Commonwealth in enterprise bargaining; 12-month secondment to the Department of Defence (advising on Commonwealth-State and *Williams (No 2)* related issues; identifying constitutional issues in proposed policy responses; and advising on unlitigated claims).
- Feb 2014 - Feb 2015** **Australian Government Solicitor**
Graduate Lawyer
Preparing constitutional risk assessments; legislative drafting; advising on constitutional and tax issues regarding the G20 summit; evidence preparation for tobacco litigation.
- Jan 2013 - Dec 2013** **Supreme Court of Western Australia**
Research Associate to the Hon Justice Simmonds and the Hon Justice Beech
Associate duties for civil and criminal trials, sentencing and interlocutory hearings; legal research; drafting and proofing judgments; managing the Civil List; and reviewing transcript, evidence and court documents to prepare summary memoranda.

EDUCATION

- 2019 - 2020** **London School of Economics and Political Science**
Master of Laws (Distinction)
 Dissertation: Multiple Source Contamination: Overcoming the Causation Challenges in Australian Tort Law
- 2014** **Australian National University**
Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice
- 2011 - 2013,**
2007 - 2009 **University of Western Australia**
Bachelor of Laws (Hons) (First Class)/Bachelor of Arts
 Dissertation: Reconceiving the Assessment of Common Law Judicial Reviewability in Australia
- 2010** **University of Melbourne**
Bachelor of Arts (Political Science and International Relations) (Hons) (First Class)
 Dissertation: Interest Representation in the EU: A Privileged System of Access?

AWARDS

- 2015** **Australian Government Solicitor Client Care Award**
 Recommended by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission for representing management in enterprise bargaining and employment law advice.
- 2014** **Australian Government Solicitor Australia Day Award**
 For constitutional advice in preparation for the G20 Summit in Brisbane.
- 2012** **Top Mark in Advanced Constitutional Law (91)**

SELECTED ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2014, 2015** **AGS FOI Practitioners' Forum**
 Presenting to Commonwealth clients on emerging issues in Australian information law.
- 2013** **Beyond Kakavas: The Future of Unconscionable Dealing in Australia**
 Co-author of paper with the Hon Justice Beech presented at Law Society of WA.
- 25 - 29 Jul 2011** **LEADR Negotiation and Mediation Course**
 Five-day intensive negotiation and mediation course with LEADR coach.

VOLUNTEERING

- 2019 - 2020** **LSE Volunteering**
Ad hoc volunteering with the elderly and persons with a disability.
- 2019 - 2020** **Philip C Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition (LSE team)**
Consultant coach
 Assisting team in preparation of written submissions and oral advocacy.