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# OUR DIFFERENCE





# Welcome

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Thank you for considering Vocare Law.

Our purpose is to seek to live out our God-given calling as Lawyers.

We believe in the power of faith and the call to serve others. As legal professionals, we are driven by a higher purpose to not only uphold the law but also to live out our faith through service.

The pages that follow give expression to "Our Difference" in our focus areas of legal practice. Our logo represents the tip of a fountain pen and that of a bird. The logo is a visual reminder of justice taking flight from the pen's precision, there we are called to deliver just, redemptive outcomes.

Clearly our hope is that you would experience Our Difference rather than it just be words on a page. To this end, we welcome feedback, both good and challenging, as by this we will continue to grow and tailor our service to you.

THE VOCARE LAW TEAM



# Just, Redemptive Outcomes<sup>®</sup>





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## OUR MISSION

Our mission is we are called to deliver just, redemptive outcomes for our clients and their communities.

We recognise the often devastating consequences that human error, institutional failures, fractured relationships, discrimination and other wrongs have on the whole person. We understand the importance of life-giving community; of safe and healthy families, institutions, charities, churches, schools and businesses that shape lives and culture.

Cultivating wise decision making requires space, dignity, discretion and clarity around risks and options.

Each of our lawyers believe in the call on their lives to contribute to the fabric of this world through measured, timely and strategic counsel, courageous advocacy and clear documentation.

This leads to JUST, REDEMPTIVE OUTCOMES®





## OUR VALUES

### EXCELLENCE

We seek out opportunities to be excellent adding value to our communities, clients and the areas they are called to serve.



### CARE

We exercise care knowing that we are entrusted with significant issues in people's lives.

### SERVICE

We are dedicated to seeing our clients flourish, serving their objectives and supporting their missions.



## AREAS OF LEGAL EXPERTISE

- Schools & Education
- Commercial
- Compensation
- Employment & Discrimination
- Estate Planning & Elder Law
- Institutional Abuse
- NFP & Charity
- Commercial Litigation
- Family
- Criminal & Traffic
- Will Disputes & Estate Litigation



# SCHOOLS & EDUCATION

Educational institutions are in the business of shaping lives and culture. Watchful, prudent legal allies are essential to ensure the smooth running of these communities.

Committed to intentional listening, our lawyers will plan a strategy that fits your purpose, considering both the needs of those you serve and the safeguards required to protect your educational community.

Education providers need prompt, accurate answers. We usually respond on a "same day" basis during business hours (often straight away) and embrace technology to serve you - even if you aren't nearby. We can video conference with you, meeting your needs just as we would if you were around the corner.

Our team prove our commitment to building great educational institutions through their contribution to the governance of school, college and higher education boards. This means they are acutely aware of the current issues facing you, be it discrimination, employment, wrongful use of social media, stakeholder disputes, tax concessions, governance, legal structures for your next campus or revenue raising.

Our costing is careful and regularly communicated. Our solutions are tailored to the level of risk being managed and the ability of your institution to do some of the work in-house to lower your legal spend.



# ➤ NOT-FOR-PROFIT CHARITY

Not-for-profits and charitable organisations require diligent, accurate legal counsel.

We are committed to listening in a deliberate and thoughtful way in order to understand your purpose, the community you serve, and your stakeholders.

We recognise that not-for-profits are often underresourced and under-funded and yet truly desire to meaningfully impact society. Being attentive to the details in your first appointment and asking perceptive questions prepares us to be watchful and vigilant on your behalf. Understanding both your immediate objectives and your long term vision equips us to remain alert to your cause.

The lawyers in our firm are often involved personally in not-for-profit organisations, in leadership or governance roles, whether in local churches or benevolent organisations. In these roles, our lawyers are at the coal face of community service, in their own time, implementing the very advice they give to you. This keeps our advice grounded, practical and cost effective.

Our calling is to seek justice for the oppressed and we meticulously endeavour to live out that calling by our care for you and for those you serve. Our documents are clear, to the point and aimed at serving you well, not impressing you with legal jargon. We serve with care and excellence by giving robust, honest counsel and the development of thorough safeguards for the future.







We recognise that the details of your enterprise, your culture and your transactions are unique. We listen well to you, seeking to understand what it is you need.

We approach your needs based on the level of risk to be managed and your desired solutions. We aim to provide life-giving frameworks, building trust and positive relationships that result in even-handed, fair negotiations and successful outcomes for you and your enterprise. We believe profitable business contributes positively to the fabric of this world through employment and ethical product/service delivery.

We genuinely care about you receiving value from our service, about achieving your desired outcomes, by imagining ourselves in your shoes, acting in your best interests. There is little point in an expensive document or a large legal bill for a low value, low risk transaction. The cloth must be cut to measure.

Many commercial projects can be divided into stages, enabling you and your staff to undertake components of the work and so reduce the overall legal spend.



# COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

Vision. Mission. These are key terms that frequently find their way into company statements, prepared by enterprise leaders to keep their business on course.

In a fast paced business world, companies find themselves in situations that distract from their key Vision and Mission due to sales gone wrong, management and employment disputes, contractual mistakes, non-compliance or an unconscious infringement.

Our team is no stranger to lengthy, complex and costly litigation that can sometimes last years and unfortunately, takes its toll on enterprises and their leaders.

We understand the importance of Vision and Mission. We share the same passion. Our Difference is to understand your enterprise and focus on a resolution that will help achieve your goals.

Our service in commercial litigation is not about winning big or compromising your stance. It's about partnering with your enterprise, minimising the distraction and drain of commercial litigation, so you can focus on achieving your Vision and Mission.

Let us help preserve your enterprise.



# ➤ COMPENSATION LAW

A single moment on the road, a split-second on a work site, a fault in equipment or an institutional failure can result in devastating injury. We understand the impact this has on families and communities. Redemptive and restoring outcomes are facilitated by a trusted legal advisor, experienced in compensation and litigation.

We listen well to your story and give tailored advice. There is no difference in the diligence we apply, whether it be a "minor incident" or a "major catastrophe". Our lawyers have worked across the spectrum and are focused on your unique situation. The collection of evidence, approach to negotiations and planned strategy are meticulously considered for your case.

We communicate the merits, strengths and weaknesses of your case, whilst accounting for risk. We will not downplay or exaggerate a claim.

Care for our client involves seeking an outcome that brings restoration, value and hope, not just settlement. When it's not in your interest to proceed with a claim, our commitment to integrity means that we will recommend this to you.

Claims run the right way can lead to safer, lifegiving systems within our community.





# FAMILY LAW



When relationships are fractured, it is usually the beginning of a traumatic process that involves a number of different practical, legal and social issues for not only you, but your whole family.

We understand the complexity of family law and the accuracy needed to apply the law to your family's specific circumstances. We start by intentionally listening to you. Only then can we consider, evaluate and where appropriate, implement a strategy to resolve your family law matter without having to go to court.

Family law practised well involves a team approach with lawyers, other experts in the community and a "co-operative" rather than "positional" negotiation with the other party. We are committed to this approach so we can serve you with absolute care. Robust, precise advice will be communicated with clarity and practical insight. Proactive rather than reactive counsel will enable you to make wise, well-informed decisions and equip you to achieve the best possible outcomes in a timely and cost efficient manner.

We believe families are integral to a healthy community. The need for restoring order and delivering Just Redemptive Outcomes® is central to our calling. You and your family's needs inform all decisions and strategies delivered.



# EMPLOYMENT & DISCRIMINATION

We recognise the value of work, and the effect that the loss of work can have on individuals and families.

We understand the importance of a healthy workplace and so we will strategise, advise and equip you for your desired outcome.

However there are occasions when employers need to act in response to inappropriate behaviour, or where they are placed in difficult financial circumstances. Employees can also be targets of unlawful discrimination or unfair dealings from their employer.

Our lawyers provide accurate counsel to both employers and employees, having listened with care to the details, seeking to understand your desired outcome.

We aim for clear, practical solutions that lead to a renewed sense of purpose and hope. Your matter and documents will be presented with clarity and integrity.

We care about you, your workplace and your career path. We will tell you honestly about whether your case has merit. If you can't afford legal representation, we will suggest alternatives such as self-representation with some "behind the scenes" legal assistance.







# CRIMINAL & TRAFFIC LAW

Sometimes we end up on the wrong side of the law.

A criminal or serious traffic charge can change your life and possibly the life of your family. What many think may be easily explained can actually become complex. You may have good intentions in defending or representing yourself in a criminal or traffic matter and find that it quickly becomes an overwhelming challenge.

In criminal matters, we are with you every step of the way. We understand that the criminal justice process can be intimidating, so whether you are in a police station or appearing in court, we can provide you with legal advice and representation so you do not feel alone.

For traffic matters, our focus is to present your unique circumstances to get the best outcome possible; ensuring that disruption to your daily life is minimised.

Our difference is to provide you with holistic advice and a strategy explaining the law and advocating a safe and beneficial solution for you. Whether arguing your case or seeking a reduction in penalty, we are here for you.





# WILLS DISPUTES & ESTATE LITIGATION



The death of a loved one brings pain and loss, however growth in the number of disputed deceased estates continues.

If you believe that you have not been 'adequately provided for' in a Will, you may have standing to bring a family provision claim. The court has jurisdiction to essentially re-write the Will if the court is of the view that the applicant has not been adequately provided for.

Will disputes can also arise where there is a contest about whether the deceased had capacity to make a Will, may have been subject to undue influence in making the Will or the Will may be unclear or defective.

Estate litigation also includes disputes about promises made, superannuation and trust claims. Disappointed beneficiaries often believe that the deceased has not honored their reasonable expectations.

Our difference is that we seek to assist our clients (be they executors responding to a claim or an applicant making a claim) to understand as early as possible the likely substantive outcome of the dispute, with a view to reaching an early settlement. Exaggerated claims help no one. We understand that a protracted dispute can deepen the loss and pain that loved ones suffer.



# AUSTRALIA WIDE & INTERNATIONAL

While our principal office is in Brisbane, we act for clients throughout Australia and internationally. Our lawyers are happy to "get on a plane" when you need them to and we have developed a relational network of local lawyers to assist when the need arises.

We are committed to working across time-zones and extending our hours of availability to our clients in Australia and overseas. Face to face conferences are now regularly conducted by our lawyers via video conference when required.

Advice is also able to be given in languages in addition to English, whether through the multilingual lawyer involved or translation services.







At the end of the day, our business is about serving people.  
You need someone who will listen attentively, work with care and  
act with integrity - every single time.

## Just Redemptive Outcomes<sup>®</sup>

To find out more, visit  
[www.vocarelaw.com.au](http://www.vocarelaw.com.au)





## Get in touch

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