

# Nicola Cosgrove Lawyer & Co-founder

#### **Contact**

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in /nicola-cosgrove

# Professional qualifications and admissions

- 2012 2015, Executive Master of Business Administration (graduated with Distinction)
   Australian Graduate School of Management
- 2010, Advanced Insolvency Law and Practice I and II
   Queensland University of Technology
- 2008 2010, Master of Laws (graduated with Distinction)
   University of New South Wales
- 2006, Admission as a Solicitor of the Supreme Court of NSW and of the High Court and Federal Court of Australia
- 2006, Graduate Certificate in Legal Practice College of Law
- 2002 2006, Bachelor of Laws University of Wollongong
- 2002 2006, Bachelor of Arts University of Wollongong

## **General experience overview**

Nic is a specialised financial restructuring and insolvency lawyer. She focuses on providing strategic and technical advice to her clients to help them resolve disputes, recover debts, minimise losses, reduce holding costs and mitigate reputational risks arising from problematic exposures.

Prior to co-founding Assured, Nic was a Special Counsel in the Business Law team at a leading international law firm, where she worked for 12 years. During that time, Nic spent 18 months on secondment to a Big Four Australian Bank where she advised on governance and reputational risk.

## **Major transactions**

Below is a selection of matters Nic has worked on, both at Assured and at previous organisations:

- Advising leading restructuring firm PPB Advisory on its merger with PwC.
- Advising NAB/HSBC and Ferrier Hodgson as receivers of Dick Smith, trading on the business of over 400 stores and 3,300 employees.
- Acting for a syndicate of lenders in protracted litigation with a tenant over the terms of a leasehold interest located in Darling Harbour valued at +A\$120 million.
- Acting for Balmain and Goldman Sachs following the acquisition of a portfolio of loans from Suncorp-Metway (the Patterson book). Advising on security enforcement, restructuring and insolvency matters. This includes advising on the restructure of a A\$200 million facility provided to a development company.
- Acting for the Deed Administrator of a public company in protracted litigation comprising six separate proceedings in the Supreme Court of New South Wales and the Land and Environment Court over a period of 8 years.



### **Career history**

2005 – July 2017: Norton Rose Fulbright (formerly Deacons)

#### **Memberships and associations**

- 2010 present, ARITA
- 2008 present, New South Wales Young Lawyers
- 2007 present, Law Society of New South Wales
- 2009 2010, Team coach for the mock trial team at Kirrawee High School – appointed by the Law Society of New South Wales

### Recognition and awards

- Winner of the "30 under 30" Banking & Finance Award, Lawyers Weekly, June 2013
- Dean's Award for Best Performance in a Course: Commercial Fraud, University of New South Wales, 2009
- Dean's Award for Best Performance in a Course: Trade Law, University of New South Wales, 2009

- Acting for the Receivers and Managers appointed over a shopping centre in New South Wales, to realise approximately A\$20 million in secured debt.
- Advising and acting for a liquidator in obtaining recognition in the United States under the Cross-Border Insolvency Act.
- Acting for the Darrell Lea family following the high profile failure of the
  manufacturing and retail subsidiary of the iconic Darrell Lea Group. This
  involved appointing voluntary administrators, negotiating a moratorium
  with the family's principal secured creditor and assisting in the
  restructuring and refinancing of the Lea family's debt.

### Pro bono work

- 2008 present, volunteer solicitor for the Homeless Persons' Legal Service (HPLS)
- 2015 present, migration agent and volunteer solicitor for the Refugee
   Advice & Casework Service (RACS)

