

#### 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



## Nicola Cosgrove Principal & Co-founder

### **General experience overview**

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

Since completing my EMBA in 2015, I have co-founded Assured Legal Solutions, a boutique commercial services law firm based in Sydney and Lext, a legal innovation business.

### **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**

January 2022 – present: Lext Australia Co-founder, Head of Strategy

July 2017 – present: Assured Legal Solutions Co-founder, Principal

2005 – July 2017: Norton Rose Fulbright (formerly Deacons) Graduate, Associate, Senior Associate, Special Counsel

#### **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)

