

Family Law

Friday 16 August 2024

Session 9 – 10:50am - 11:50am

Dimensions of family violence matters: Best practice when running a Kennon claim and investigating allegations of family violence

The principles of *Kennon v Kennon* (1997) FLC 92–757 ('Kennon') are well established. However, Kennon claims regularly fail, for a variety of reasons. Some fail because of a lack of thorough investigation of the allegations, or a failure to adduce clear evidence of the allegations. Some fail because of a failure to adduce corroborating evidence, or where the evidence of the complainant is inconsistent with other contemporaneous evidence. This session will analyse the practical steps that ought to be taken when preparing and running a Kennon claim from both perspectives: acting for the complainant and for the alleged perpetrator.

Meet the speaker

Craig Brickwood, Barrister, Waratah Chambers

Craig Brickwood practises exclusively in family law. He has experience across a broad range of family law issues, including complex financial disputes (child support and maintenance issues among them) and parenting disputes. Craig graduated from Macquarie University with a Bachelor of Laws with First Class Honours. Prior to being called to the Bar in 2023, Craig was a Partner at a top tier specialist family law firm in Sydney, and a Law Society of New South Wales Accredited Specialist in Family Law. Craig has been recognised in Doyles Guide as a rising star in NSW family law. He served as a NSW Police Officer from 2002 to 2011; his policing career provided him with exceptional investigation skills and invaluable experience with dealing with family violence, post-separation conflict and apprehended domestic violence orders. Craig accepts briefs to appear in city, regional and interstate registries of the Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia.