

QUEENSLAND CONFERENCE PROGRAM 2026

Day 1: Thursday 12 February 2026

2:00 – 4:00pm	Early name badge collection 📍 Reception Foyer – Sheraton Grand Mirage Resort, Gold Coast	
6:00 – 7:30pm	Welcome reception 📍 By the Oasis Pool – Sheraton Grand Mirage Resort, Gold Coast 👤 Host: Peter Gibson, Queensland President, Australian Lawyers Alliance	Sponsored by:  Equity Trustees

Day 2: Friday 13 February 2026

7:00am **Optional Pilates Session**
📍 Sheraton Grand Mirage Resort



Coffee cart sponsored by:

8:30am **Registration**
📍 Sheraton Grand Mirage Resort



Chair: Peter Gibson, Queensland President, Australian Lawyers Alliance

Plenary Sessions 📍 Mirage Ballroom




9:00am **Welcome to Country**
🗣️












9:05am **Welcome and introduction**
🗣️ Peter Gibson, Queensland President, Australian Lawyers Alliance
🗣️ Ian Murray, National President, Australian Lawyers Alliance





9:20am **Civil Justice Award ceremony**
🗣️ Peter Gibson, Queensland President, Australian Lawyers Alliance




9:30am **Keynote Address:**
🗣️ The Honourable Deb Frecklington MP, Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Integrity.



10:30am		Morning break	
Chair: Michelle James, Director, Head of North Injuries and Queensland Injuries, Maurice Blackburn Lawyers			
11:00am		The Paramount Principle: <i>Stewart v MNHHS</i> 🗣️ Joshua Liddle, Barrister, Jeddart Chambers	
			
11:45am		The shifting sands of non-delegable duties: <i>AA and BYM</i> 🗣️ Charlotte Campbell, Barrister, Darrow Chambers	
			
12:30pm		Networking lunch	
		Sponsored by:	
			
		GOLD COAST · AUS 14-16 AUG	
	Stream A: Annual case reviews 📍 Ballrooms 2 & 3	Stream B: Superannuation / TPD 📍 Ballroom 1	Trial school 1:15pm–3:30pm 📍 Lagoon Room
	Chair: Sarah Singh, Executive Practice Leader, Splatt Lawyers	Chair: Keith Howe, Barrister, Level 10, Inns of Court	
1:15pm – 2:00pm	Review of 2025 motor vehicle cases 🗣️ Beth Rolton, Partner, Travis Schultz and Partners 🗣️ Jemma Stutz, Lawyer, Trilby	AFCA Determinations: Life insurance in 2025 🗣️ Hayley Stokes, Senior Associate, Maurice Blackburn Lawyers	🗣️ Gerard Mullins KC, Barrister, Darrow Chambers 🗣️ Clare Eves, Barrister, Darrow Chambers

	<p>Misso Lawyers</p>  	<p>👤 Kyle Peart-Corr, Associate, Maurice Blackburn Lawyers</p> 	 
2:00pm – 2:45pm	<p>Review of 2025 public liability cases</p> <p>👤 Travis Schultz, Managing Partner, Travis Schultz and Partners</p>  	<p>In good faith and fair dealing</p> <p>👤 Emma Gregg, Senior Associate, Aussie Injury Lawyers</p> <p>👤 Ben Ruback, Managing Legal Counsel, Australian Retirement Trust</p> 	
2:45pm	<p>Review of 2025 WorkCover cases</p> <p>👤 Seané Shalev, Associate, Shine Lawyers</p> <p>👤 Rebecca Thomas, Special Counsel, Shine Lawyers</p>  	<p>2025 Superannuation & Life Insurance case reviews</p> <p>👤 Rebecca Nichols, Barrister, More Chambers</p> 	

3:30pm Afternoon break			
	Stream A:	Stream B:	Stream C:
	📍 Ballroom 3	📍 Ballroom 2	📍 Ballroom 1
	Chair: Tamara Splatt, Senior Associate, Maurice Blackburn	Chair: Elspeth Ledwy, Senior Associate & Regional Partnership Specialist, Maurice Blackburn	Chair: Sophie McKenzie, Associate & Regional Partnership Specialist, Maurice Blackburn
4:00pm – 4:45pm	Consumer guarantees in medical law claims 👤 Clare Eves, Barrister, Darrow Chambers 👤 Geoffrey Diehm KC, Barrister, Jeddart Chambers  	Four things to know about Commonwealth workers' compensation schemes 👤 Peta Miller, Senior Associate, Slater and Gordon Lawyers 	Wearable technology: Establish liability through objective data when hazardous manual handling is at issue 👤 Simon Rosalie, Principal, SR Performance 
4:45pm – 5:30pm	Beyond the biopsy – clinical and legal strategies for mesothelioma cases in an aging population 👤 Dr Maurice Heiner, Respiratory & Sleep Medicine Physician, Themis Medico-Legal 👤 Sean Sweeney, Legal Counsel, Asbestos and Dust Diseases, Slater	Cashie culture and the common law: Issue Estoppel and worker status in light of <i>Cagney v D&J Building Contractors</i> 👤 Melissa McGarrity, Barrister, Darrow Chambers 👤 Jennifer Kratzmann, Senior Associate, Hede Byrne & Hall Lawyers	Dependency claims – is it maths or nuance? 👤 Matthew Holmes, Barrister, Clashfern Chambers 👤 Michael Lee, Director, Forensic & Litigation, Vincents

	and Gordon Lawyers		
5:30pm	Conference close		
7:30pm	Conference Dinner 📍 Mirage Ballroom Sheraton Grand Mirage Resort, Gold Coast 👤 Host: Peter Gibson, Queensland President, Australian Lawyers Alliance		Sponsored by: 
11:00pm	Conference Dinner concludes		
	After-dinner drinks 📍 Pearls Bar Sheraton Grand Mirage Resort, Gold Coast		

Day 3: Saturday 14 February 2026

8:30am **Registration**
📍 Sheraton Grand Mirage Resort

Chair: Greg Spinda, Partner, Travis Schultz & Partners

Plenary Sessions 📍 Mirage Ballroom

9:00am **"Privacy is dead, and social media holds the smoking gun" – Litigation in the world of social media**
👤 Toby Nielsen, Barrister, Sunshine Coast Barristers Chambers



9:30am **AI in personal injury law: Cutting through the noise**
👤 Harry Raworth, Co-Founder, Mary Technology
👤 Sarah Grace, Special Counsel & Brisbane Leader, Travis Schultz & Partners
👤 Melinda Moseling, Head of Delivery & Operations, Alterspective



10:00am **Material Facts under S31 of the *Limitation of Actions Act***
👤 Scott Keft, Special Counsel, Maurice Blackburn Lawyers






VINCENTS











Leah Vida, Special Counsel, Maurice Blackburn Lawyers







10:30am

Morning break

	Stream A	Stream B:	Stream C	Trial school 11:00am–12:30pm
	📍 Ballroom 3	📍 Ballroom 2	📍 Ballroom 1	📍 Lagoon Room
	Chair: Catherine Cheek, Special Counsel, Kennedy Spanner Lawyers	Chair: Nickelle Morris, Partner & Gold Coast Lead er, Travis Schultz & Partners	Chair: Alan Watkins, Associate, Maurice Blackburn	
11:00am – 11:45am	Cases you opened that you wish you hadn't 👤 Jane Bowes, Director & Founder, Bowes Legal 	A hodgepodge of legal odds & sods 👤 Chris McManus, Principal, Murphy's Law Accident Lawyers 	Youth worker claims 101 – navigating claims in the residential youth care industry 👤 Christopher Murphy, Special Counsel, Cooper Grace Ward 	👤 Gerard Mullins KC, Barrister, Darrow Chambers 👤 Clare Eves, Barrister, Darrow Chambers  

11:45am – 12:30pm	Discrimination in Queensland personal injury legislation  Michelle Wright, Partner, Accident Legal 	Commercial Damages: Untangling the financial questions that matter  Jennifer Veitch, Director Forensics, Pilot Chartered Accountants  Dean Strati, Associate Director, Forensic, Pilot Chartered Accountants 	Putting the ‘personal’ back in personal injury  Jeremy Roche, Founder & Director, Gain Lawyers  Equity Trustees 
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12:30pm	Networking lunch
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	Solicitors Practice Management	Barristers Practice Management
	 Ballrooms 2 & 3	 Ballroom 1
	Chair: Sarah Grace, Special Counsel & Brisbane Leader, Travis Schultz & Partners	Chair: Gerard Mullins KC
1:15pm – 2:15pm	Bridging the generational gap: Speaking each other’s language – Lingo and the Law  Georgia Coen, Lawyer, Travis Schultz & Partners  Shelby Bennett, Lawyer, Travis Schultz & Partners 	Objections to Evidence  Chair: Gerard Mullins KC, Barrister, Darrow Chambers

2:15pm **Examining Legal Professional Privilege and implications for personal injury law**



👤 Claire Bruggemann, Barrister, Callinan Chambers

👤 Kara Thomson, Barrister, Callinan Chambers

Plenary 📍 Mirage Ballroom

3:15pm **Closing Address**
Peter Gibson, Queensland President, Australian Lawyers Alliance

3:30pm **Conference close**

The program is subject to change without notice.



Practical Legal Ethics



Practice Management and
Business Skills



Professional Skills



Substantive Law