

Michael Keogh Bio

Michael holds a Bachelor of Arts and Law degree from the University of Queensland. In 1985 he was admitted to practice as a solicitor of the Supreme Court of Queensland and the High Court of Australia.

Michael commenced legal practice in Cairns as a solicitor with MacDonnells Solicitors becoming a Senior Associate in charge of the Family Law Section. In 1990, with his colleagues, he founded Miller Harris Lawyers in Cairns. In 1995 Michael became an Accredited Family Law Specialist and in 2005 a Collaboratively Trained Legal Practitioner. Michael has worked as an Independent Children's Lawyer and has conducted a wide range of child and property matters in the course of his career as a specialist family lawyer. From 2015 to 2018 Michael was recognised by his peers in the Doyle's Guide to legal practitioners. In 2015 he became a Nationally Accredited Mediator and in the following year a registered Family Dispute Resolution Practitioner. In 2017 Michael retired as a partner of Miller Harris Lawyers and continued on with the firm as Special Counsel. In the same year he accepted a part-time position as a mediator with the Dispute Resolution Branch of the Queensland Department of Justice and Attorney General. In March 2018 he left Miller Harris Lawyers and opened his mediation practice. In 2019 and 2020 Michael has been recognised by his peers in the Doyle's Guide as a leading mediator.

Michael has held a number of professional and community positions. He was President of the Far North Queensland Law Association, has been a board member of Lifeline Cairns and a member of the Queensland Law Society Family Law Committee. In 1987 Michael became a member of the inaugural coordinating committee to establish the Cairns Regional Domestic Violence Service. In the year 2000 Michael re-joined the committee to facilitate the incorporation of the service. He remains a member of the Cairns Regional Domestic Violence Service Inc.

Michael has embraced the opportunity to work as a mediator and dispute resolution practitioner. He is an active member of the Resolution Institute (an organisation representing Australian and New Zealand Arbitrators and Mediators), and is currently on the Queensland Chapter of the Resolution Institute Professional Development Committee. Michael is a keen collaborative practitioner and a member of the Queensland Collaborative Practitioners Association.

Michael is regularly invited to speak on a variety of topics at conferences including the North Queensland Law Association, Queensland Law Society, and Family Law Practitioners Association of Queensland. He is an avid scholar, and continues his quest to be better.



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