

Dispute Resolution- Australia.

When disputes arise, the need for responsive, clear and effective legal advice is critical for the ongoing future of a business. We work in partnership with clients to design prevention strategies, mitigate risk and exposure, protect brand and reputation and minimise uncertainty.

Piper Alderman is a full-service, commercial law firm with offices in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Adelaide. Experienced members of our Dispute Resolution Division are located in each of those offices forming an integrated national team who work across all states, enabling our lawyers to draw on the most suitable expertise from a multitude of practice areas.

We provide tailored, cost effective legal solutions from the simplest enforcement actions to the most urgent, complex cases. Our overall aim is to provide commercially relevant and strategic advice that provides minimal disruption to your business.

Our team works across a board range of areas including:

- > Administrative law issues involving Australian statutory authorities and government departments and their decision makers
- > Building and construction litigation
- > Contractual litigation
- > Corporate litigation including mergers and acquisitions and takeovers in the public sector
- > Defamation and reputational matters
- > Employment litigation
- > General commercial litigation
- > Insolvency litigation
- > Insurance litigation whether it relates to monetary loss, property damage or personal injury.
- > Intellectual property litigation
- > Property litigation
- > Trade practices litigation
- > Trade and transport litigation.
- > Professional practice and conduct matters
- > Workers compensation.

Piper Alderman understands the working environments and business imperatives of a wide variety of organisations, including service delivery providers. We represent clients before Federal and State Courts, mediations, arbitrations, specialist tribunals and Royal Commissions. Our lawyers are skilled in the diverse and strategic ways of handling all types of disputes, ranging from traditional litigation in each Australian Court to alternative forms of dispute resolution – mediation, conciliation and arbitration.

When necessary, we have the resources and capabilities to collaborate with barristers and experts in relevant fields. Our lawyers have strong relationships with these professionals and are able to recommend appropriate barristers and experts in the context of any dispute. We have in house counsel as well.

Experience snapshot

- > Acting for **Coopers Brewery Limited** in a number of actions involved in the hostile takeover bid by multinational brewing giant, Lion Nathan.
- > Acting for **Hardy Wine Company Limited** (part of the US Constellation Wine Group) in respect of a contractual dispute with 30 wine growers in the Sunraysia area in North Western Victoria. The dispute centred around the interpretation of long term supply contracts in respect of the fair market price payable for grapes.
- > Acting for the **liquidator of Buzzle Operations Pty Ltd** (In liquidation) an entity established to acquire the businesses of six Australian re-sellers of Apple Computers in a claim against Deloitte for breach of contract under the Trade Practices Act and negligence.
- > Acting for the **liquidator of Factory 5 Pty Ltd**, the contracted concessionaire for official merchandise for the 2006 Melbourne Commonwealth Games.
- > Acting for international advisory and design consultants, **Hyder Consulting**, in a claim brought by a contractor against Hyder for providing a defective tunnel design on the Melbourne city link project. The design services were provided by Hyder pursuant to a design joint venture agreement entered into with the contractor. The loss claimed by the contractor was approximately \$300 million.
- > Acting for the successful defendant in **Churnin v Pilot Developments Pty Limited**, a case involving the question as to whether a contract of sale could be rescinded on the basis of lack of registration of a strata plan. An appeal to the NSW Court of Appeal was also successfully defended.
- > Acting for both landlords and tenants in matters before the Retail Leases Tribunal, including a landmark decision in relation to exclusive rights in respect of food courts in major retail centre shopping complexes.
- > Acting for **Gerard Industries** against the Australian Commissioner of Taxation in a major tax dispute.
- > Acting on behalf of **BHP Billiton Limited** (the world's largest mining company) successfully challenging the jurisdiction of the New South Wales Dust Diseases Tribunal in *BHP Billiton Limited v Schultz* (2004) HCA 61 in the Australian High Court.
- > Acting for **Boral Resources (SA) Pty Ltd** in successfully defending injunctive proceedings seeking to restraining the calling on a bank guarantee.
- > Acting for **Beach Petroleum NL** in the recovery of a multi million dollar Federal Court of Australia judgment against fraudulent former directors and others for frauds against it in the United States and Europe.
- > Acting for a number of **local government authorities** about investments made with Lehman Brothers Australia Limited and the subsequent insolvency issues of Lehman.
- > **Contact:**



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