

RICHARD ELLEM

Richard Ellem brings over 22 years of experience to Ellem Warren Lawyers as an owner and director of the firm. Richard began his career with top-tier firms including Phillips Fox, and Cameron McKenna in London. Prior to establishing Ellem Warren Lawyers, he was a partner of Praeger Batt/Praeger Ellem Solicitors between 2004 and 2012.

Richard assists the Corporate and Business Advisory, and Mining and Resources sections of the firm. A wide breadth of concerns for major clients has created a Corporate Advisory service offered to the firm's key clients (formerly known as "General Counsel services" or "external General Counsel"). Past and current clients who the firm has been able to assist include Taggart Australia, the ETS Group, O2 Group, CheckUP Australia (trading as General Practice Queensland), Tsuen Fung Property Group, Parsons Engineering, JLF Group of companies, Fortrus Group of companies, Reddog Technology, and Moc Group of companies.

Richard's extensive referral and relationship network has contributed to building the firm through trust and mutually valued long-term relationships.

Experience and Expertise

Richard has a broad range of expertise utilised for high value clients. Local, national and international clients from various industries seek Richard's advice. Most recently, Richard and his team have:

- Successfully grown the firm's presence in the Mining and Resources sector, including the creation and installation of a Variable Secondment Program, providing cost effective contracts administration, management and formation solutions to the resources and construction sectors.
- Involvement in corporate matters and advisory across all facets of clients' businesses, including structuring new ventures (shareholders agreement, JV's); advising on acquisitions, preparing for due diligence/sale; employment and restraint of trade advice; property acquisitions;
- Advised on the effective structures required for establishing a start-up including consideration of intellectual property matters and assisting clients to navigate initial seed funding processes;

- Been principal advisor on the proposed acquisition of an MDL worth approximately \$500m. This required creation of a team to oversee structuring, initial contract negotiations and due diligence with a large Chinese SOE, and the client.
- Advised the Ausenco Taggart joint venture on several ongoing matters with Rio Tinto, Xstrata, BMA and others and advised the joint venture in relation to a recent restructure.
- Implemented and advised on corporate structures, employment and operational requirements for clients across a wide range of industries, including construction, health, retail, IT, not-for-profit, engineering and property.
- Experienced litigator and negotiator, having supervised contractual, property, construction and engineering claims, insolvency matters and disputes through various methods of dispute resolution.
- JV structuring on property investment deals for national and international investors.

Richard, together with Ben Warren, leads a strong team of commercially focussed lawyers, loyal to both him and his client base that over time have become a tight, client-focussed team. The team is experienced in providing valuable legal and strategic advice to individuals and companies alike at various stages, across a wide range of practice areas and industry groups.

External Positions and Network

Richard sits on a number of different corporate boards outside of the firm including Custodian Funds Management Group Ltd (Chairman), Taggart Global Australia Pty Ltd, iStaySafe Pty Ltd.

Richard is also a founding member and director of the White Cloud Foundation charity.

Contact Details

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