



BAR ASSOCIATION
OF QUEENSLAND

Junior Bar Advocacy Course

Cross Examination of Experts

2022



The Royal
Australian &
New Zealand
College of
Psychiatrists

The Bar Association of Queensland, and The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists are again collaborating to host this practical program on cross examination skills for barristers and forensic psychiatric experts.

The program is designed to assist junior barristers, and psychiatry trainees and fellows, to:

- hone their preparation,
- refine their oral presentation skills, and
- gain greater insight into expert evidence under the guidance of experienced coaches.

The coaching faculty are drawn from a diverse range of practice areas and specialist forensic psychiatric practice.

Over the course of three sessions, junior practitioners – both medical and legal - will benefit from this wealth of practical knowledge and education, with large and small workshop groups, as well as individual feedback.

The Junior Bar Advocacy Course is compulsory for readers (all sessions).

Course overview

After an introductory session (Session 1), the psychiatry trainees and fellows will then work on a set of facts and produce reports for use in either the Mental Health Court or for family law purposes (Session 2A). Those reports will then be provided to the barristers for a workshop session (Session 2B). All participants will then come together (Session 3) for a day in court where barristers will cross-examine psychiatry trainees and fellows on their reports, with all participants receiving guidance and feedback from experienced coaches.

Program

Session 1: An Introduction

This session will provide an overview, and key information about the program, including:

- key learning objectives for all participants;
- an overview of the preparation tasks required to be completed before session 2; and
- networking function with refreshments provided.

Date: Tuesday 9 August 2022

Time: 5:30-6:30pm presentation
6:30-7:30pm networking function
Tour of courts available with Carl Heaton QC and Kathryn McMillan QC

Venue: *In person attendance required:* Banco Court
Level 3 QEII Courts of Law Complex, 415 George St, Brisbane
Online in special circumstances: via the [Association's Live Webcast webpage](#)

Format: Presentation and networking function

Facilitators: Dr Scott Harden and Kathryn McMillan QC

Attendees: All registered barristers, and psychiatry trainees and fellows



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Session 2A : Psychiatrist Report Writing Workshop (psychiatry trainees and fellows only)

This session is for psychiatry trainees and fellows only.

Attendees will work with experienced coaches to produce a psychiatric assessment report based on a Mental Health Court or family law scenario.

Date: Tuesday 16 August 2022

Time: 6:00-7:30pm

Venue: The Royal Australian & New Zealand College of Psychiatrists (RANZCP), Unit 25, Level 3, Royal Brisbane Place
17 Bowen Bridge Road, Bowen Hills
Access by Teams is only available in special circumstances by contacting the [RANZCP](#).

Format: Coaching Session

Facilitators: Dr Scott Harden, Dr Jane Phillips, and Kathryn McMillan QC

Attendees: All registered psychiatry trainees and fellows

Session 2B: Expert Report workshop (barristers only)

This session is for barristers only and will review the psychiatric assessment provided.

Following a short discussion about cross-examination preparation and performance, attendees will work with experienced coaches in small groups to consider the assessment and develop the themes and topics for your cross examination of the expert in Session 3.

Date: Tuesday 27 September 2022

Time: 5:30-7:30pm

Venue: Gibbs Room, Bar Association of Queensland
Access by Zoom is only available in special circumstances by contacting the [Bar Association](#).

Format: Workshop

Facilitators: Dr Scott Harden and Kathryn McMillan QC

Attendees: All registered barristers

Session 3: Cross Examination

Your day in court has arrived! This session will include exercises where the barristers will cross examine the experts on the psychiatrist reports, and personalised feedback will be provided by coaches in a supportive, non-competitive environment. Following the mock hearing, there will be a final debrief session for all participants.

Date: Saturday 29 October 2022

Time: 9:00am-3:00pm

Venue: Level 3, Queen Elizabeth II Courts of Law

Format: Mock hearing

Facilitators: Dr Scott Harden and Kathryn McMillan QC

Attendees: All registered barristers, and psychiatry trainees and fellows



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Course information

CPD Points: Attendance at all three sessions of the Junior Bar Advocacy Course will entitle Queensland barristers to claim 8 CPD points in the mandatory categories of: Ethics and Professional Responsibility (E); Substantive Law, Practice and Procedure, and Evidence (S); and Barristers' Skills (B).

Dress code: Smart casual (robes are not required for Session 3).

Cost: To cover the costs associated with the Course, there is a registration fee of \$155.

Registration: To register for the Junior Bar Advocacy Course, visit the [Association's CPD Events webpage](#). Course numbers will be limited so please book early to secure your place.

Preparation: Preparation for session 2 and 3 is required. Further information will be provided in Session 1.

Further Information: Barristers seeking further information, please contact the [Bar Association](#).

Psychiatry trainees/fellows seeking further information, please contact the [RANZCP](#).