

Curriculum Vitae

Josh McBride



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Josh McBride

Barrister

Josh McBride is a leading commercial barrister with a pre-eminent practice in complex commercial litigation, construction disputes, and technology-related matters. He has extensive experience in high-stakes property and trust litigation, regulatory proceedings, and major infrastructure disputes across multiple jurisdictions. Known for his measured advocacy, strategic insight, and deep legal expertise, Josh regularly appears as lead counsel in the Supreme Court, Court of Appeal, and High Court, as well as in international arbitrations and courts across the Pacific region.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Independent Barrister (2010–Present)

– Founding member of Richmond Chambers. Regularly instructed on complex commercial disputes, technology and construction litigation, and regulatory matters.

Bell Gully (Senior Associate, Litigation) (2004–2010)

– Led significant commercial disputes, appearing in New Zealand’s superior courts and arbitrations.

Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, London (2001–2003)

– Advised the Bank of England in the landmark BCCI litigation, gaining high-level experience in international financial disputes.

Gilbert + Tobin, Sydney & Auckland (1999–2001)

– Worked on major telecommunications and regulatory cases, including the Clear Communications v Telecom litigation.

NOTABLE CASES

Legler v Formannoj ([2022] NZCA 607; [2023] NZSC 46) – Successfully represented the defendants in a high-profile trust dispute, securing a favourable decision in the Supreme Court.

OHL Ltd v Premier Properties – Lead counsel in significant commercial property litigation involving misrepresented rent schedule. Successful appeal to Court of Appeal.

Avaroa Cable Ltd v Samoa Submarine Cable Co. ([2022], International Arbitration)

– Acted in a dispute between Samoa and the Cook Islands concerning access to submarine cable infrastructure across the Pacific.

Sam Pemberton Civil Ltd v Robertson ([2024] NZHC 271) – Judicial review of Construction Contracts Act adjudications concerning liquidated damages.

Fruean v Purcell & Samoa Observer ([2024] Supreme Court of Samoa) – Representing plaintiffs in a defamation claim examining media privilege and regulatory authority.

Grande Meadow Developments v Clark Road Developments ([2023], Arbitration) – Lead counsel in a major commercial property and infrastructure dispute.

RECOGNITIONS & LEADERSHIP

Chambers & Partners (Asia-Pacific & Global) – Recognised as a leading barrister in commercial litigation, construction, and infrastructure disputes.

Doyle’s Guide – Recommended for construction and infrastructure law.

New Zealand Bar Association – Chair of the Audit & Risk Committee.

ADMISSIONS

- New Zealand (1998)
- New South Wales, Australia (2001)
- Tonga (2016)
- Samoa (2022)

PRO BONO & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Trustee, Backcountry Trust – Facilitating the restoration of over 250 backcountry huts and 1,000km+ of tracks in New Zealand.

NZ Bar Association Mentor – Supporting junior barristers in advocacy training.

Litigation Workshops & Legal Reform – Leading cross-examination and paperless litigation training for practitioners.