



Alicia Murray

Partner

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Alicia Murray is a commercial litigator with nearly 20 years' experience in large-scale commercial disputes.

She leads the firm's New Zealand Competition law practice and is the co-leader of the New Zealand Restructuring team. Her practice includes regulatory disputes and investigations, restructuring and insolvency matters and general commercial disputes.

Alicia brings a broad perspective to setting and implementing strategy to resolve more complex conflicts and disputes. This comes from her experience acting for a wide range of clients involved in various industries and her dealings with regulators (including the Commerce Commission, the Financial Markets Authority, and the Reserve Bank).

Alicia acts for clients being investigated by the Commerce Commission in relation to alleged breaches of competition law and consumer law (including Commerce Act, Fair Trading Act and Credit Contract and Consumer Finance Act issues), and for clients being investigated by the Financial Markets Authority for alleged breaches of financial markets legislation. Alicia can help clients through the whole of the investigation and enforcement experience, where having consistent representation through the investigation and into enforcement helps to streamline the process and deliver the best value for clients.

Alicia has considerable experience acting for, and advising clients on, the contentious aspects of restructuring and insolvency, including applications for liquidation, advice on voidable transactions and claims against directors, and debt recovery.

Alicia's practice also includes a wide variety of commercial litigation, including contractual disputes, advice to clients about the interpretation of contracts, potential remedies or enforcement options available for breach of contract, and termination of contracts, including in respect of construction contracts.

Alicia has appeared in court, as well as in mediations, arbitrations, and judicial settlement conferences. She has also provided advice and training seminars on compliance issues, including in relation to competition law, bribery and corruption, fair trading, and anti-money laundering.

Alicia is passionate about diversity and the benefits that brings to businesses. In 2018 and 2019 she was the president of the Auckland Women's Lawyers' Association and is a strong advocate for women within the legal profession, regularly supporting and mentoring young females making their way through the industry.

Alicia is a member of the board of the Competition Law and Policy Institute of New Zealand (CLPINZ) and on the steering committee for

- Litigation, Arbitration and Investigations
- Restructuring

WIRI (Women in Insolvency & Restructuring).

EXPERIENCE

- Acting for a large company under investigation for investigation into alleged price-fixing and resale price maintenance.
- Acting for Dechra Pharmaceuticals in successfully obtaining clearance to acquire a certain product from Elanco.
- Acting for a client in respect of an investigation and subsequent prosecution for importing goods in breach of an Unsafe Goods Notice issued under the Fair Trading Act.
- Acting for a fund manager in respect of disclosure issues under the Financial Markets Conduct Act, including advice on the engagement strategy with the statutory supervisor and the regulator (the Financial Markets Authority).
- Acting for the liquidators of CBL Insurance Limited (in liquidation), across a wide range of contentious and non-contentious matters.
- Acting for a client in respect of an investigation and subsequent prosecution by the Commerce Commission for importing products in breach of an unsafe goods notice.
- Acting for Linsa Finance Ltd in a civil claim brought by the Commerce Commission for breach of disclosure obligations under the CCCFA, where the Commission sought a refund of the total costs of borrowing. A settlement was successfully negotiated in this matter.
- Acting for i-Select Limited in defending injunction proceedings brought by Saturn Portfolio Management Limited seeking to prevent the termination of the agreement between the two financial service providers.
- Acting for China Construction Bank in relation to two sets of proceedings (including injunction proceedings) regarding the payment under a bond issued by the Bank
- Alicia has been involved in all significant cartel cases in New Zealand in the last 20 years, including the claims against real estate agents, freight forwarders, airlines and wood preservative suppliers.

CREDENTIALS

Recognitions

- Alicia is ranked as a 'Next Generation Partner' in the 2021 Legal 500 Asia-Pacific rankings for both Dispute Resolution and Restructuring and Insolvency.

Education

- University of Auckland, BA, 2003
- University of Auckland, LLB (Hons), 2003

Memberships

- Auckland Women Lawyers Association
- Institute of Financial Professionals
- RITANZ
- WIRI
- Competition Law and Policy Institute of New Zealand (CPLINZ) board member

INSIGHTS

Publications

New Zealand - Global bribery offenses guide

11 January 2022

Cartel activity criminalised in New Zealand

23 March 2021

Supreme Court supports self-management by parties in representative and funded proceedings (New Zealand)

23 NOVEMBER 2020

The Supreme Court's recent decision upholding an opt out class action indicates a promising future for the role of class actions and litigation funders in New Zealand. Representative proceedings have a long history in New Zealand. Litigation funding on the other hand, has traditionally had a small role in New Zealand's civil litigation landscape. This has changed over the last two decades, with notable decisions from the Court of Appeal in *Sanders v Houghton*, and the Supreme Court in *Waterhouse v Contractors Bonding Ltd* and *PriceWaterhouseCoopers v Walker*.

Establishing a new normal

2 October 2020

The COVID-19 pandemic disrupted. It dislocated. It damaged. But we saw resilience, we saw agility, we saw community. Around the world, DLA Piper colleagues Zoomed, Teamed and Skyped from home (even if the hours for us down here in New Zealand were often 'unsociable').

Supreme Court reviews directors' duties

28 September 2020

The Supreme Court has recently released a decision on directors' duties, which should serve as a timely reminder to all directors of their duties under the Companies Act in circumstances of insolvency. Continuing to trade while insolvent will be a breach of your duties, even if you believe that overall creditors may be better off or the extent of losses will be reduced. It is however welcome confirmation for liquidators that the Courts will enforce the provisions of the Companies Act based on the clear wording of these sections.

Events

Previous

A Q&A session with Cecilia Robinson

11 March 2021
Webinar

NEWS

DLA Piper named finalists in the New Zealand Law Awards 2021

25 August 2021

DLA Piper has been named finalist in two categories in the 2021 New Zealand Awards; M&A Deal of the Year for advising Discovery, Inc, on its acquisition of MediaWorks TV Limited and IPT partner, Nick Valentine, named in the Young Private Practice Lawyer of the Year category.

DLA Piper wins two awards in the beaton Client Choice Awards 2021 (New Zealand)

23 March 2021

As voted by our clients, DLA Piper in New Zealand has been named the winners of two categories in the prestigious **beaton** Client Choice Awards 2021.

DLA Piper (New Zealand) recommended in the 2021 edition of the Legal 500 Asia Pacific

18 January 2021

DLA Piper New Zealand has been recommended across a broad range of practice areas in the latest edition of the *Legal 500 Asia Pacific*, retaining Tier 1 rankings in both Investment Funds and Insurance.

DLA Piper advises Discovery Inc. on its acquisition of MediaWorks TV

17 September 2020

Global law firm DLA Piper has advised media giant Discovery Inc. on its agreement to purchase MediaWorks' TV business, comprising of: free-to-air channels, Three, Bravo, Three+1, Bravo+1, The Edge TV and The Breeze TV; streaming service ThreeNow; and multi-platform news and current affairs service Newshub.
