

Capability Statement

Defence,
aerospace
and technology

Bennett
LITIGATION AND COMMERCIAL LAW



Who you need
when it matters.

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Foreword

I am pleased to introduce Bennett's defence, aerospace and technology sector capabilities to you.

When a client enters into a relationship with Bennett, we place your business and your legal issues at the forefront of everything we do, drawing on our strong internal pool of expertise to deliver you the best commercial outcomes. We work together on a taskforce basis on all of our matters, bringing together a cohesive and dedicated team of legal practitioners focused on achieving your desired commercial outcome. This may involve bringing together the requisite mix of expertise across our various practice areas.

The enclosed capability statement demonstrates the expertise of the collective team at Bennett and our market leading experience in the area of commercial litigation and dispute resolution as well as corporate and commercial capabilities.

We strongly value a successful and long term relationship with our clients, and look forward to a long working relationship with you. If you have any questions concerning our capability statement please contact Defence leads Edward Parra, Principal or Shemali Samaraweera, Principal.

Kind regards

Nathan Ebbs

Managing Principal

Experience
where it
counts.

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Led by Bennett Principals Edward Parra, Shemali Samaraweera and Michael Nas, our defence, aerospace and technology team offers tailored legal and strategic advice to the WA defence industry, with significant experience in defence contracting and legal issues arising from the unique technological advances constantly evolving in these sectors.

Defence

We have a detailed understanding of, and exposure to, all existing and planned defence projects unfolding in Western Australia and South Australia for the Royal Australian Navy. The unique nature of these projects, and the secure environment in which they necessarily operate, requires a creative and innovative legal approach.

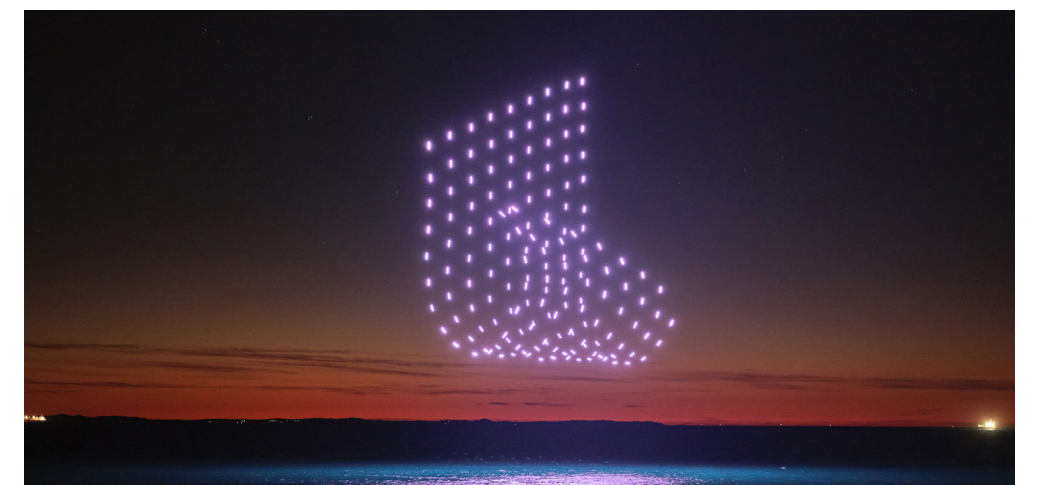
Our broad network in the defence industry across Australia includes key players at prime, SME and State and Federal government level. In addition to general legal work for the defence industry, we offer expertise in the area of defence contracting based around the ASDEFCON suite, at both prime and subcontractor level.

Bennett also has extensive expertise advising and representing clients in the defence industry on disputes arising from defence projects and ASDEFCON contracts. In particular, Bennett has experience in matters involving the designation of a project as a project of concern and remediation strategies, scope reduction claims, delay and postponement claims, contract change proposals, ownership of intellectual property, change of ownership, information and disclosure requirements and acceptance.

Similarly, we are active in the aerospace (and remotely piloted aircraft or 'drone') sector and regularly advise on commercial and regulatory matters. We have been recognised for our long-term leadership in relation to the Australian drone industry. The firm was also a finalist in Aviation/Aerospace Australia's Excellence in Innovation (SME) award for 2024. The firm is also a corporate member of both the Henderson Alliance, AIDN and WiDA organisations.

In 2021, the firm assisted a drone operator in commercial work enabling WA's first large-scale drone light show for Ilona McGuire's "Moombaki", the flagship work as part of the Crossing 2021 edition of the Fremantle Biennale. The light show featured a fleet of 160 choreographed drones, accompanied by a rich soundscape, telling the stories of Whadjuk Nyoongar Country and its Traditional Owners. The drone fleet took part in a series of performances over 8 nights in 3 locations over the ocean and waterways of Perth. Subsequently, as part of First Lights, the team have worked across Australia and internationally facilitating works of this type.

For Defence matters, please contact Principal, Edward Parra or Principal, Shemali Samaraweera.



Ilona McGuire, Moombaki, 2021, Derbarl Yerrigan (Swan River), Dyoondalup (Attadale), Derbarl Nara (Coogee Beach). Courtesy the Fremantle Biennale. Photos: Duncan Wright.

Why Bennett.

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Projects, Infrastructure and Construction

Bennett's projects, infrastructure and construction team provides full legal support across the full project lifecycle with a focus on the defence sector in Western Australia and South Australia.

At the front end, we provide strategic advice on procurement and construction contract methodology, including contract structuring, risk allocation and delivery models for major projects.

During project delivery and at the back end, we assist with contract administration, dispute resolution and strategic transactions, ensuring issues are managed proactively and resolved decisively.

We advise on ASDEFCON procurement across tendering, probity and contract negotiation, supporting clients to navigate Commonwealth requirements and achieve commercially effective outcomes. Our capability includes tender strategy and compliance, probity and procurement rules obligations, and negotiating risk positions across complex Defence contracts.

For Projects, Infrastructure and Construction matters, please contact Principal, Edward Parra.

Corporate and Commercial

Our corporate and commercial team regularly assists clients operating across the defence, aerospace and technology sectors with M&A, equity investments, FIRB issues, joint ventures, strategic alliances, business structuring, commercial contracts and regulatory compliance.

We work with clients from early-stage technology businesses through to established defence and aerospace participants, and have substantial experience advising on transactions and arrangements which support participation in defence supply chains and protect long-term strategic value.

For Corporate and Commercial matters, please contact Principal, Matthew Barone.

Technology

From the early stage of start-ups, to established business working on novel technological applications, the development of innovative technologies and systems is innate to our defence and aerospace clients.

In addition to advising clients on the defence and aerospace regulatory environment, we work closely with clients and industry bodies to advocate for regulatory reform and educate these sectors on emerging issues affecting the development of new technologies.

For Technology matters, please contact Principal, Edward Parra or Principal, Shemali Samaraweera.

Intellectual Property

Our market leading IP team works with clients to develop strategies for the protection of technologies and trade secrets, and the registration and enforcement of IP rights. We also empower clients to achieve the best possible outcomes in complex disputes, including breach of confidence, breach of restraints of trade, and IP infringement.

Our expertise is critical to the preservation of the secrecy and value of our clients' intellectual property and technology in the defence and aerospace sector.

For Intellectual Property matters, please contact Principal, Amy Rumble.

Property and Leasing

Our experienced team provides corporate compliance and regulatory advice, prepares key documentation for acquisitions and divestments, and offers guidance on commercial leasing. We have acted for the European Space Agency regarding its lease and purchase of land in New Norcia for its DSA 1 (Deep Space Antenna 1) facility.

For Property and Leasing matters, please contact Commercial Counsel, Inge Lauw.

Our expertise.

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Practice Areas

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Aircraft and drone commercial and regulatory advice



Commercial litigation and dispute resolution



Corporate advisory and commercial



Employment, industrial relations and safety



Intellectual property



Maritime and defence contracting and law



Projects, infrastructure and construction



Property and leasing

Our people.

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Our Team

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