

APPOINTMENTS

Sarah McNaughton SC

Sarah McNaughton SC was recently appointed the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions.

Sarah studied Arts and Law at the University of Sydney. Upon completing her degree, in 1988 she was associate to the Honourable Michael Kirby AC CMG, then president of the Court of Appeal, and later a judge of the High Court of Australia.

After being admitted as a solicitor in 1989, Sarah worked at Freehill Hollingdale & Page (now Herbert Smith Freehills) until 1990.

In 1990 Sarah became a legal officer at the Sydney office of the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions, in due course rising to senior legal officer (1990–1991) and principal legal officer (1991–1995).

In 1996 Sarah was admitted as a barrister, practising initially as in-house counsel at the Sydney Office of the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions.



In 1998 Sarah joined the private bar, moving to Forbes Chambers, where she remained until her recent appointment.

In 2011 Sarah was appointed senior counsel.

In 2015 Sarah was counsel assisting at the Royal Commission into Trade Union Governance and Corruption.

While at the private bar, Sarah McNaughton specialised in criminal and quasi-criminal matters, appearing for both prosecution and defence at trial and appellate level.

Sarah's practice at the bar featured among other things the conduct of large scale complex criminal trials, including multi-accused, multi-agency conspiracy matters, and in particular 'white collar' fraud, taxation offences, corporations offences, drug importation and terrorism offences.

Sarah's practice at the bar also included inquests, commissions of inquiry and professional disciplinary matters.