# Max Owens & Co

# **Barristers & Solicitors**

LESCHENAULT LAW CHAMBERS

2 Zoe Street BUNBURY WA 6230

Phone: (08) 9721 5399

Fax: (08) 9791 2207

Principal
M C OWENS LLB
COMMISSIONER FOR AFFIDAVITS (WA)
Email: max@maxowens.com.au

ABN: 34100668958

Our Ref:

MO:KR:152870:033

Your Ref:

11 July 2017

VIA EMAIL ONLY:

laughton.andrew@gmail.com

Andrew Laughton 11B Keble Heights COLLEGE GROVE WA 6230

Dear Andrew,

RE: Appeal

**<u>Enclosed</u>** are the following documents Mr Morison dropped off at my offices on the morning of 11 July 2017;

- (a) Minute of Proposed Orders for Dismissal of Appeal
- (b) Minute of Proposed Orders for Security for Costs
- (c) Affidavit of Ian Morison sworn 10 July 2017 in support of Application for Security for Costs.

Regards,

Per: Max Owens

# IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA HELD AT BUNBURY

Appeal No 1 of 2017

BETWEEN:

**ANDREW LAUGHTON** 

**APPELLANT** 

- and -

**SHARYL MARSH AND JAMES MARSH** 

**RESPONDENT** 

# MINUTE OF PROPOSED ORDERS FOR DISMISSAL OF APPEAL

Date of document:

Filed on behalf of:

Respondents

Date of filing:

11/7/2017

Filed by:

Morison Legal

Unit 1, 2 Zoe Street Bunbury 6230

PO Box 2666 Bunbury 6231

Email: ian@morisonlegal.com.au

Office 9792 4693

Mob 0418 916 709 Ref IM

- 1. The appeal be and is dismissed.
- 2. The appellant pay the respondents' costs of the appeal, and of the Application in an Appeal filed by the respondents on 25 May 2017, to be taxed is not agreed.



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA HELD AT BUNBURY

Appeal No 1 of 2017

BETWEEN:

**ANDREW LAUGHTON** 

**APPELLANT** 

- and -

**SHARYL MARSH AND JAMES MARSH** 

**RESPONDENT** 

# MINUTE OF PROPOSED ORDERS FOR SECURITY FOR COSTS

Date of document:

Filed on behalf of:

Respondents

Date of filing:

11/7/2017

Filed by:

Morison Legal

Unit 1, 2 Zoe Street Bunbury 6230

PO Box 2666 Bunbury 6231

Office 9792 4693

Email: ian@morisonlegal.com.au

Mob 0418 916 709 Ref IM

- 1. Within 14 days the appellant do pay into Court as security for the costs of the respondents in the appeal the sum of \$14,633.50.
- 2. The appellant do pay the costs of the respondents' application for security for costs by Application in an Appeal filed 25 May 2017 to be taxed if not agreed.



# IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA **HELD AT BUNBURY**

Appeal No 1 of 2017

BETWEEN:

**ANDREW LAUGHTON** 

**APPELLANT** 

- and -

SHARYL MARSH AND JAMES MARSH

RESPONDENT

AFFIDAVIT OF IAN ANDREW MORISON IN SUPPORT OF APPLICATION FOR SECURITY

1 1 JUL 2017

RECDate of document:

Filed on behalf of:

Date of filing:

Filed by:

Morison Legal

Unit 1, 2 Zoe Street Bunbury 6230

PO Box 2666 Bunbury 6231

Email: ian@morisonlegal.com.au

Office 9792 4693

Mob 0418 916 709 Ref IM

I, Ian Andrew Morison of Unit 1, 2 Zoe Street, Bunbury, Lawyer, being duly sworn, MAKE OATH AND SAY as follows:

- 1. I am the lawyer on the record for the respondents. I swear this affidavit in support of the respondents' application for an order for security for costs. The purpose of the affidavit is to estimate the respondents' costs in the appeal.
- 2. I refer to the Legal Profession (District Court Appeals) (Contentious Business) Determination 2016. For convenience this determination is annexed as "IM1".

- 3. In making my estimate, I take into account that:
  - (a) the grounds of appeal, if valid, are extensive and difficult to interpret;
  - (b) the trial went over two days, there were several witnesses and many exhibits.
- 4. Item 2 provides for interlocutory hearings as required, including preparation. This is to be charged according to time spent by the senior practitioner or counsel whichever is applicable. For a senior practitioner the hourly rate is \$484. For counsel the hourly rate is \$396. I'm not sure what the difference is in this context, between senior practitioner and counsel, but I suggest that I will be attending the interlocutory hearings as senior practitioner. I estimate that, not counting the work on the application for security and for strikeout, I will spend four hours on interlocutory hearings which at a senior practitioners' rate is 4 × \$484 = \$1936.
- 5. Item 3 of the determination deals with the preparation of the appeal for hearing, including preparation of appeal documents and submissions. A maximum of 10 hours is allowed which, at the senior practitioner rate, amounts to \$4840. I estimate it will take me, acting in the capacity of senior practitioner, a full 10 hours to prepare for the hearing, and estimate the respondent's costs will be \$4840.
- 6. Item 4 deals with the counsel fee on the hearing including preparation for the hearing. The maximum is two days preparation and one day of hearing. For counsel a maximum of \$11,880 may be charged, and for a senior counsel \$20,460. I estimate that I will take one and a half days in my capacity as counsel to prepare and to appear at the hearing. The daily rate is \$3960 so that my estimate under item 4 is \$5940.
- 7. Item 5 deals with the counsel fee for the second and each successive day of hearing, but the appeal hearing in this matter is unlikely to go beyond one day.
- 8. Item 6 deals with the attendance at the appeal by the instructing legal practitioner, but at this stage I propose to act as counsel as well as acting as solicitor.
- 9. Item 7 deals with the attendance on a reserve decision, and this is to be charged on a per hour basis at the senior practitioners' rate. I estimate \$400.

Jan Mones

10. Item 8 deals with the settling and extracting of orders disposing of the appeal. If that is done by appointment the maximum is \$627, without appointment \$242. I estimate \$200.

40 PM

- 11. Item 10 deals with the taxing of costs including the drawing the bill of costs. A separate claim must be made for the drawing of the bill of costs and the service of it, and the taxation of costs including the time spent preparing for the taxation. In both cases this is to be charged at the senior practitioner rate and is to be an amount which is reasonable in the circumstances. I estimate that it would to take about two hours to draw the bill of costs and to attend on the taxation, \$484 × 2 = \$968.
- 12. Item 11 provides for recovery of the cost of copies. Copies where reasonably necessary may be charged at 16.5 cents per page. I estimate that some 300 copies will be required:  $300 \times \$0.165 = \$49.50$ .
- 13. By item 12 of the determination, as between party and party, a party may be allowed disbursements incurred by the party except insofar as they are of an unreasonable amount or have been unreasonably incurred, so that subject to the above exceptions, that party is fully reimbursed for its disbursements. I cannot readily conceive of any disbursements in the sense of outlays, but I consider would be appropriate to allow \$300 against that possibility.

## 14. To summarise my estimates:

item 11

item 12

•	Item 2	\$1936
•	item 3	\$4840
•	item 4	\$5940
•	item 7	\$400
•	item 8	\$200
•	item 10	\$968
		and the state of

Jan Menson'

\$49.50

\$300

# \$14,633.50

- 15. Upon the basis set out above, I estimate that the respondents' costs in the appeal will be \$14,633 .50.
- 16. This estimate does not include the costs on the respondents' application to strike out and for security for costs.

Sworn at Bunbury this Oday of July 2017 before me:

Justice of the Peace/Qualifying Lawyer

Terrence Edward Donaldson WA 1039 Justice of the Peace

In the affidavit of A. Morriso

LEGAL PROFESSION ACT 2008. Sworn/affirmed before me on ...!.....

(CONTENTIOUS BUSINESS) REPORT 2016

Made by the Legal Costs Committee under Division 5 of Part 10 of the Legal Profession Act 2008 (Act).

#### PART 1—PRELIMINARY

#### 1. Citation

- (a) This Report may be cited as the Legal Profession (District Court Appeals) (Contentious Business) Report 2016.
- (b) The Determination set out in the Schedule to this Report is referred to in this Report as the Legal Profession (District Court Appeals) (Contentious Business) Determination 2016.

#### PART 2—NOTICE AND INQUIRIES

#### 2. Notice under section 278 of the Act

The Legal Costs Committee has complied with the notice provisions of section 278 of the Act.

#### 3. Inquiries and submissions under section 277 of the Act

Before making the Legal Profession (District Court Appeals) (Contentious Business) Determination 2016, the Legal Costs Committee-

- (a) reviewed all submissions received as a result of the notice given under section 278 of the Act including those made by the Law Society of Western Australia (Inc) and the Western Australian Bar Association (Inc);
- (b) considered the impact of changes in relevant Australian Bureau of Statistics data for the period; and
- consulted with a range of people and organisations within the legal profession in respect to the impact of structural changes in the profession.

## PART 3—REPORT OF LEGAL COSTS COMMITTEE'S CONCLUSIONS

#### 4. Maximum hourly and daily rates changed—scale of costs amended

- (a) The information gained as a result of the inquiries and submissions described in clause 3 satisfied the Legal Costs Committee that the manner in which legal services are provided made it appropriate to continue to adopt the hourly and daily rates charged by law practices as the basis for rates used in the Legal Profession (District Court Appeals) (Contentious Business) Determination 2016.
- (b) It is the recommendation of the Legal Costs Committee that-
  - (1) as a result of the inquiries and submissions described in clause 3;
  - (2) having considered the impact of relevant Australian Bureau of Statistics data;
  - (3) having considered submissions and data from The Law Society of Western Australia and the Western Australian Bar Association; and
  - taking into account the incidental administrative implications of the calculation of the Goods and Services Tax,

the hourly and daily rates referred to in sub-clause 4(a) be varied from the hourly and daily rates used in the Legal Practitioners (District Court Appeals) (Contentious Business) Determination 2014 as the basis for the recommended scale of costs which have been generally rounded up or down to represent various increases of approximately 2%, inclusive of the Goods and Services Tax and for administrative convenience, are divisible by 11. Those rates are set out in Table A of the Legal Profession (District Court Appeals) (Contentious Business) Determination 2016.

(c) As a result of the information gained from the inquiries and submissions described in clause 3, it is the recommendation of the Legal Costs Committee that the scale of costs as set out in Table B of the Legal Profession (District Court Appeals) (Contentious Business) Determination 2016 be adopted for appeals in the District Court.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Published in Gazette 20 June 2014

- (d) It is the recommendation of the Legal Costs Committee, as a result of the consultations described in clause 3, that the new category of Restricted Practitioner should be introduced in the Legal Profession (District Court Appeals) (Contentious Business) Determination 2016.
- (e) The recommendations of the Legal Costs Committee are not intended to override any entitlement of a law practice to make a written agreement as to costs with a client under the Act or any successor legislation.

CLARE THOMPSON, Chair.
ANGELA GAFFNEY, Member.
MARCUS COCKER, Member.
JANICE DUDLEY, Member.
MATTHEW CURWOOD, Member.
BRENDAN ASHDOWN, Member.

# Schedule LEGAL PROFESSION ACT 2008

# LEGAL PROFESSION (DISTRICT COURT APPEALS) (CONTENTIOUS BUSINESS) DETERMINATION 2016

Made by the Legal Costs Committee under section 275 of the Legal Profession Act 2008 (Act).

#### 1. Citation

This Determination may be cited as the Legal Profession (District Court Appeals) (Contentious Business) Determination 2016.

#### 2. Commencement

This Determination comes into operation on 1 July 2016.

#### 3. Application

This Determination applies to the remuneration of legal practitioners, clerks and paralegals in respect of advice given by legal practitioners in or for the purposes of appeals to a Judge of the District Court of Western Australia, whether from a Registrar of that Court or from another Court or Tribunal.

#### 4. New item 13-Travel

- (a) This Determination introduces a new item 13 which makes an allowance for travel.
- (b) It is the Committee's view that minor travel, which means incidental travel associated with attendance at court for a hearing where that travel is of a minor duration (minor travel) is properly included in the costs recoverable for the appearance for which it is associated, and notes paragraph 4.7.1.1 of the Supreme Court's Consolidated Practice Directions, which provides standard allowances for chambers appearances for amounts which include preparation and attendance at the hearing. Item 13 is intended to apply to travel necessary to undertake work other than minor travel. Examples of minor travel include, but are not limited to—
  - (1) a practitioner walking from their usual place of business to a court; or
  - (2) a practitioner walking from a carpark to a court; or
  - (3) a practitioner walking or taking public transport from one centrally located court to another centrally located court.
- (c) Item 13, is intended to cover all travel other than minor travel including, but not limited to-
  - (1) travel by car or public transport within metropolitan Perth from a practitioner's usual place of business to a suburban court or a court in the City of Perth, for example, driving from Joondalup to the CBD, or taking the train to Armadale from the CBD;
  - (2) travel by car or public transport from a practitioner's usual place of business to visit a client or witness or to undertake any meeting or view necessary for the purposes of the proceedings, regardless of where the destination is;
  - (3) travel by any means from outside the metropolitan area to Perth, for example, flying from Port Hedland; or
  - (4) travel by any means from Perth to outside the metropolitan area, for example, taking the train to Mandurah.
- (d) Item 13(a) and (b) provide for the circumstances where travel is recoverable as part of the party—party costs in a proceeding. Item 34(b) is intended to cover circumstances where the Court convenes at a location other than its usual location for those proceedings. Examples of the situations covered by item 34(b) include, but are not limited to—
  - (1) travel required to attend at a court ordered mediation scheduled to take place in Geraldton when the proceedings are case managed by the Court in Perth;

). e San Min

- (2) travel required to attend a site visit or view, with the Court in attendance;
- (3) travel required to attend a court ordered examination of a witness prior to trial in Esperance, when the proceedings are case managed by the Court in Perth; or
- (4) travel required to attend the trial of proceedings in Perth when the proceedings were case managed by the Court in Kalgoorlie.
- (e) Travel to attend a location which does not include the Court and the parties attending together at that location falls within item 13(c).
- (f) Travel to attend at a directions hearing or similar in a centrally located court, from a non-centrally located business address of the legal practitioner, other than that component which falls within the definition of minor travel, falls within item 34(c). Examples of this include but at not limited to—
  - (1) travel by car or public transport from Perth to Mandurah to attend any court hearing;
  - (2) travel by car or public transport from Joondalup to Fremantle to attend any court hearing; or
  - (3) travel from interstate to Perth to attend any court hearing.
- (g) In making its decision in this Determination, the Committee has taken note of the Law Society of Western Australia's Standard Costs Agreement, which contains a provision that a law practice will charge travel at 50% of the agreed hourly rates.
- (h) The Legal Costs Committee has also considered an informal policy of the Legal Profession Complaints Committee that travel should not ordinarily be charged at a rate of more than 50% of a law practice's normal hourly charge-out rate.
- (i) Whilst the Legal Costs Committee recognises that during a travel period a law practice may not necessarily utilise legal skill and knowledge, there is a recognition of a loss of opportunity for the time spent travelling.
- (j) The Legal Costs Committee notes that, having regard to the above-
  - it is the responsibility of a law practice to allocate the cost of time spent on travel fairly and reasonably where the travel is necessary to service more than one client on the day of travel; and
  - (2) whilst nothing contained in this Determination prevents a law practice from charging time spent on a client matter or client matters in the course of travel (air travel by way of example), the law practice is not entitled to charge a client or clients for both time spent on a client matter (regardless of whether that time relates to the client for whom the travel is being undertaken) and the amount allowed under item 13.

#### 5. Introduction of new Restricted Practitioner category

- (a) This determination introduces the new category Restricted Practitioner. This category includes all Australian legal practitioners engaging in restricted legal practice pursuant to section 50 of the Act, during the period when that person is undertaking the "required experience", as defined in section 50 of the Act, and whilst an endorsement to that effect remains on their practising certificate.
- (b) A Restricted Practitioner is not intended to include an Australian legal practitioner who has a condition placed on their practising certificate by the Legal Practice Board, State Administrative Tribunal or otherwise, requiring them to practice under supervision for disciplinary, medical or other reasons.
- (c) The Legal Costs Committee consulted the profession regarding the necessity for amendments to the levels of practitioner set out in Table A, in light of the changing nature of legal practice in this State. In particular the Legal Costs Committee was conscious of the changes to admission requirements and pathways to admission, which have resulted in practitioners being admitted to practice without the close supervision of legal practice formerly afforded by articles of clerkship but with a longer period of restricted practice. The effect of this is that practitioners become senior practitioners with less experience than they previously have had, which has the effect of increasing the legal costs to consumers of their services.
- (d) It is the Legal Costs Committee's view, as expressed in this Determination, that the Determination should as far as possible reflect the regulated structure of the profession and thereby provide consumers of legal services with additional transparency as to the experience of the practitioner providing the legal services.
- (e) So as not to adversely affect clients of legal services provided by those practitioners who would, but for this change, have been Junior Practitioners or Senior Practitioners, transitional arrangements apply so that—
  - (1) practitioners admitted after 1 July 2014, but before 1 July 2016, are entitled to recover their legal costs as if they were Junior Practitioners until 30 June 2018, or the date on which they would, but for this clause, become Junior Practitioners under this Determination; and
  - (2) practitioners admitted after 1 July 2011, but before 1 July 2014, are entitled to recover their legal costs as if they were either Junior Practitioners or Senior Practitioners, whichever category would have applied but for this change, until 30 June 2018, or the date on which they would, but for this clause, become Senior Practitioners under this Determination.

2 and lower

# 6. Maximum hourly and daily rates

- (a) The hourly and daily rates set out in Table A are the maximum hourly and daily rates, inclusive of GST, which the Legal Costs Committee determines shall be used to calculate the dollar amounts in the scale of costs set out in Table B.
- (b) The rates referred to in paragraph (a) were ascertained in the manner set out in clause 4 of the Legal Profession (District Court Appeals) (Contentious Business) Report 2016.
- (c) The daily rates set out in Table A are intended to cover all work done on a hearing or trial day, whether in or out of court, including preparation of written submissions and are not intended to be supplemented in any way by additional hourly charges given that the maximum number of hours allowed for the daily rate is 10 hours per day.
- (d) The items in Table B are not intended to be calculated on the basis of a minimum 6 minute unit.

### Table A

Fee Earner	Maximum allowable hourly and daily rates
Senior Practitioner (permitted to practise account for 5 years or more) (SP)°	on his or her own
	hourly rate \$484
Junior Practitioner (permitted to practise account for less than 5 years) (JP)°	on his or her own \$341
	hourly rate
Restricted Practitioner (RP)°, #	
	hourly rate \$297
Clerk/Paralegal (C/PL) ##	hourly rate \$231
Counsel fees charged as a disbursement charged by in-house Counsel:	
Counsel (C)*	The state of the s
	hourly rate \$396
Senior Counsel (SC)**	daily rate \$3,960
	hourly rate \$682
	daily rate \$6,820

- o The reference to Restricted Practitioner, Junior Practitioner or Senior Practitioner in this Determination includes all legal practitioners even if the services were rendered in another State or Territory. Where a local practitioner has held an interstate practising certificate, the length of unrestricted legal practice in that other jurisdiction is to be counted in assessing that practitioner's years of practice for the purposes of this Determination.
- # The reference to Restricted Practitioner in this Determination includes practitioners undertaking restricted legal practice for the purposes of obtaining the required experience set out in section 50 of the Act and does not include a reference to an Australian legal practitioner who has a condition placed on their practising certificate by the Legal Practice Board, State Administrative Tribunal or otherwise, requiring them to practice under supervision for disciplinary, medical or other reasons.
- ## The reference to Clerk/Paralegal in this Determination includes a law graduate prior to their admission to practice as an Australian lawyer.
- \* The reference to Counsel in this Determination means a practitioner acting as barrister other than a Senior Counsel.
- \*\* The reference to Senior Counsel in this Determination means a person within the meaning of item 11 or under item 12 of Regulation 5(2) of the Legal Profession Regulations 2009 (WA).

#### 7. Costs

Subject to the provisions of the Act permitting a law practice to make a written agreement as to costs with a client, the costs of or in relation to a party to an action or other proceeding (inclusive of GST and counsel fees, but exclusive of other disbursements)—

- (a) recoverable by one party from another party; or
- (b) payable by a party to that party's own law practice, shall not exceed the amounts set out in Table B.

#### Table B

District Court Appeals Scale of Costs 2016

Item		Time	Fee Earner	\$	
1.	Notice of appeal or Notice of Contention (a) Appeal notice (pursuant to Rule 15 of District Court Rules 2005)	1 hour	SP	484	Λ Δ
	(b) Other appeals	5 hours	SP	3,420	Momen

). 6

Item		Time	Fee	\$		
2.	Interlocutory hearings—as required (including preparation)	per hour	SP C	<u> </u>		
3.	Preparation of appeal for hearing (including preparation of appeal documents and submissions)	10 hours	SP	4,840		
4.	Counsel fee on hearing (including preparation)	2 days preparation; 1 day hearing	C SC	11,880 20,460		
5.	Counsel fee for second and each successive day of hearing		C SC	3,960 6,820		
6.	Attendance at appeal by instructing legal practitioner	per hour	SP	0,820		
7.	Attending on reserved decision (including preparation, consideration of reasons for decision and all necessary work and attendances to obtain final orders)	per hour	SP			
8,	Settling and extracting order disposing of appeal—  (a) With appointment  (b) Without appointment	ana 12		627 242		
9.	Other notices and certificates referred to or required by the Rules or procedures of the Court (including practice directions)	1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00		66		
10.	Taxing including drawing  (a) Drawing bill of costs and service  (b) Taxation of costs (including time spent preparing for the taxation)		SP	An amount which is reasonable in the		
11.	Copies where reasonably necessary, including of documents for which allowance is otherwise made in this Determination	per page		circumstances 0.165		
12.	Disbursements In addition to the fees and charges allowed under this Determination—  (a) As between a law practice and client, a law practice may charge and be allowed disbursements necessarily or reasonably incurred; and  (b) As between party and party, a party may be allowed disbursements incurred by that party except insofar as they are of an unreasonable amount or have been unreasonably incurred, so that subject to the above exceptions, that party is fully reimbursed for its disbursements.					
13	<ul> <li>(a) As between party and party, minor travel as defined in this Determination, is to be allowed as part of the costs awarded for an attendance at chambers or court, without further order.</li> <li>(b) As between party and party, time spent travelling by a law practice which is not minor travel and which is required by reason of an order of the Court requiring the parties to attend at a location other than the location at which the proceedings is case managed, is to be charged at no more than one half of the rates set out in Table A, with a maximum of 8 hours in any one day, without further order.</li> <li>(c) As between a law practice and its own client, time spent travelling by a law practice, other than minor travel, is to be charged at no more than one half of the rates set out in Table A, with a maximum of 8 hours in any one day.</li> <li>Note: Allowances under item 13(c) are only to be awarded as between a law practice and its client, or if costs are awarded on an indemnity basis and not between party and party unless the Court otherwise orders.</li> </ul>					

Made by the Legal Costs Committee on 15 June 2016.

Tar Monson