

James Ford

Lawyer | Founder & CEO

Bachelor of Business - Accounting
Bachelor of Laws
Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice



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Area of Expertise

Property Law
Sustainable Development
Commercial Law



blueocean.law

Overview

James specialises in property and commercial law, and has a long history in IT, property development and planning, prior to qualifying as a lawyer.

James has a wide-range of legal experience, having worked for established boutique property, finance and commercial law firms prior to founding Blue Ocean Law. He has volunteered at the Caxton Legal Centre as part of his desire to give back to the community, and now offers pro bono (free) legal assistance in pre-qualified legal matters.

James also has extensive industry experience in IT consulting, having worked on major projects across Asia/Pacific in a wide spectrum of industries including Energy (Woodside), Financial (NAB, NSW State Super, Bank of China), Transport (Air Services, Queensland Rail), Government (Australia, NZ and Singapore). He also operated his own transport company for many years whilst developing strategic residential property projects (both luxury and affordable), all of which uniquely informs his continuing specialist legal practice in these areas.

James' diverse background, and his innovative approach to commercial property requirements make him a valuable knowledge resource to any business.

Expertise

James is an experienced property & commercial lawyer. He is passionate about sustainable development and much of his practice focuses on helping development clients identify innovative ways to achieve their commercial goals using green technology. His particular areas of interest include:

Property & Development Law

- Environmental and sustainable housing
- Commercial and residential property development
- Effective commercial use of underutilised or vacant space, including "Pop-Up" retail community and, co-working spaces
- Urban encroachment laws
- 'Green' leases which seek to achieve and maintain GreenStar credentials and/or mandatory NABERS ratings

Commercial Law

- IT licencing, joint venture and distribution contracts
- Co-working agreements and development contracts
- Estate planning and business succession
- Banking and finance arrangements
- Dispute resolution/litigation
- Binding financial agreements in the family law context

Qualifications

- Lawyer of the Supreme Court of Qld,
- Lawyer of the Federal, Family, and High Court of Australia
- Barrister & Solicitor of the High Court of New Zealand

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Client Feedback

- 'Other lawyers shied away from our difficult case but James took it on with vigor. His keen attention to detail and ability to problem solve paved the way to settling our case favourably. Quality advice is essential if the correct decisions are to be made and that's what we get from James.'
- 'James helped us understand a very tricky and onerous contract. He identified problem clauses and suggested ways to lessen our potential liability. James was exceptionally professional, courteous and the service was quick, fairly priced and easily accessible.'
- 'James was very prompt in responding. He took time to understand the issues, and was very considered in his approach and options raised. I would definitely recommend him.'

James was the #1 Ranked Lawyer on LawPath in 2016 and has been the #1 Ranked Lawyer on LawTap since its inception in 2015.

