

## **Maurice Edwards**

## **Special Counsel, Watts McCray Lawyers**

Maurice is an Accredited Family Law Specialist, Registered Family Dispute Resolution Practitioner (FDRP), Nationally Accredited Mediator and an Accredited Arbitrator. He is also a Collaborative Family Lawyer. Maurice was named in the Doyle's Guide of Leading Family Law Mediators – NSW, 2020 and was also the only family lawyer nominated as a finalist in the category 'Australian Arbitrator of the Year' in the 2019 Australasian Law Awards. Maurice serves on the Family Law, Mediation, Arbitration and LGTBI Law Committees of the

International Bar Association. Maurice was appointed as a Public Notary in 1996. He has over 35 years' legal experience in assisting clients to resolve their family law issues, in complex financial and difficult parenting matters in the Courts or by way of alternate dispute resolution (ADR).

Maurice has developed a particular expertise in International Family Law issues and has represented clients in matters under the Hague Child Abduction Convention in the Family Court of Australia, the Full Court of the Family Court and the High Court of Australia. Maurice has presented a number of papers on the Hague Conventions that relate to children. He has also trained in Japan specifically in the mediation of disputes relating to the Hague Child Abduction Convention.

Maurice also has a special interest in the law surrounding Binding Financial Agreements and has presented a number of papers on the topic in recent years. He also has detailed knowledge of issues relating to Gender Dysphoria in children, having written articles and papers and appeared on television on this topic.

Outside of the Family Law jurisdiction, Maurice has previously represented employees, employers and insurers in work related disputes. He has acted for a NSW Statutory Authority over a long period in legal proceedings in the former Compensation Court of NSW, the District and Supreme Court of NSW, the NSW Court of Appeal and the High Court of Australia in work related matters.

Maurice has also acted for clients previously in non-litigious matters including the sale and purchase of real estate and businesses (including hotels, pharmacies and service stations). He has had extensive experience in mortgage finance and leasing transactions, having acted for Banks and other Financial Institutions.



Having a broad legal experience in various areas of the law, coupled with his expertise in ADR, Maurice has gained a reputation as being able to resolve the most difficult disputes.

From 1988 to 2006 Maurice was a partner of Baldock Stacy & Niven and managed the Parramatta office of that firm.

In 2006, Maurice joined Watts McCray Lawyers and is the firm's Special Counsel.

