



Lida Kaban

General Counsel, Department of Communities and Justice

Lidia (Lida) Kaban, General Counsel, Department of Communities and Justice was admitted as a Solicitor in 1994 after undertaking Diploma of Law studies through the LAPB.

Lida has had an extensive career in the public sector spanning 45 years, starting with roles as personal staff and chief of staff for various Ministers. In the 1990s, Lida returned to the then Attorney General's Department and was appointed the Department's first General Counsel. She continues in the General Counsel role within the Department of Communities and Justice where she manages over 370 staff dealing with such subject areas child law, civil litigation, commercial and property, inquests and inquiries, information access and privacy, administrative and public law, criminal law and government policy and the work of the Surveillance Devices Commissioner. Her commitment to social justice and policy issues has been grounded in her first-hand observations of the significant issues, barriers and challenges faced by many people in the community, reinforcing the importance of sound policy decisions and consultative engagement.

Lida strives to optimise the delivery of legal services, while enabling robust reporting and governance process. She advocates tirelessly for resources, driving innovation and streamlining, while ensuring staff have access to support, including training and tailored wellbeing programs. This commitment to staff wellbeing was strengthened during Lida's time spent as Deputy President of the Mental Health Review Tribunal, in the forensic division.

Lida provides sound legal advice, counsel and support to all stakeholders she engages with and has maintained strong working relationships with successive Attorneys General, Ministers and key leaders within DCJ and the broader public sector. She was instrumental in setting up the General Counsel Group within the NSW public sector, the establishment of the whole of Government legal panel, ongoing work in promoting Equitable Briefing, the drafting of Model Litigant Policy in NSW and continues working on promoting Equitable Briefing in NSW. She has served on numerous committees including on the Victims Advisory Committee, the DNA Review Panel and the Attorney General's Department Audit and Risk Committee and is a current Board member of Law Courts Limited and a member of the Law Society of NSW Criminal Law Committee.



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