

Wendell Slatter

Barrister



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QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

BA, LLB (Hons), Canterbury University

Wendell has been a senior commercial partner in a major New Zealand law firm and a commercial barrister since January 2001.

PRACTICE

Wendell specialises in drafting legal documentation.

His experience has included developing policy proposals for legislation. These have included:

- assisting with the 1993 Health Reforms;
- assisting with drafting the 1994 legislation giving effect to GATT;
- assisting drafting the Maritime Transport Act 1994 and, in particular, the marine pollution provisions of that Act;
- preparing a Bill to make new provision for the Auditor General's Office;
- drafting the Health Immunisation Regulations 1995;
- helping prepare drafting instructions to make the 1996 amendments to the Food Act 1981 to enable food standards to be issued and to allow for greater flexibility in the regulatory regime for food;
- drafting the 1996 amendments to the Transit Act effecting a funder/provider split with Transit New Zealand;
- preparing the 1997 amendments to the Airport Authorities Act 1966, and draft regulations under that Act, enabling the "light-handed regulation" of airports;
- extensive work with the Ministry of Transport analysing the legal issues arising from the roading reforms and assisting with drafting draft legislation;
- assisting with drafting the Lotto Rules 2001;
- assisting with preparing a departmental draft for the new Local Government Act;
- assisting with drafting the Electricity Information Disclosure Requirements 2004;
- assisting with drafting the Foreshore and Seabed Bill 2004;
- assisting with developing and drafting levy regulations for the gas industry; and
- assisting the Crown with drafting an agreement with Maori to introduce legislation in relation to Mt Maunganui (Mauao).

Wendell is currently working with a commercial client on a private bill in relation to various tax matters.

Wendell has also had considerable experience with regard to Treaty of Waitangi issues and negotiating and drafting settlement deeds and settlement legislation. He acts for the Crown in relation to the settlement of Treaty grievances with Taranaki Maori and in relation to the Ngāti Whātua o ōrākei (Auckland) and Taranaki Whānui (Wellington) settlements. He has also acted for the Crown in drafting deeds of settlement with Te Roroa and the owners of

Maori Reserved Land and in advising on commercial and trust law aspects of the fisheries settlement with Maori.

He has acted for the Crown in drafting and negotiating:

- funding agreements between the Crown and regional health authorities;
- memoranda of understanding between the Crown and various Crown entities relating to the expenditure of appropriated moneys;
- tender and contractual documents for the Ministry of Fisheries in relation to the Ministry's fisheries research projects;
- standard form RFP and services agreements for the Ministry of Transport;
- tender documents in relation to the first tender round offering Kyoto Protocol emission units;
- a standard form RFP for the Ministry for the Environment; and
- various contractual documents for Parliamentary Counsel Office.

He has worked with New Zealand Trade and Enterprise in:

- drafting standard form grant, and other documentation, in relation to its various funding programmes; and
- negotiating and tailoring particular grants agreements.

Wendell has had extensive experience in providing support to the legal teams in various government departments and Crown entities including in developing compliance manuals and programmes (including fines and civil enforcement manuals for the Ministry of Justice).

Wendell has had extensive commercial experience since 1982. His experience has included:

- drafting corporate, commercial and trust documentation (and, in particular, plainly expressed standard form documentation);
- advising on, negotiating and drafting numerous commercial transactions including acquisitions, financing arrangements, corporate structuring and trust arrangements; and
- advising on and documenting issues of securities to the public, joint venture arrangements and corporate compliance programmes.

Wendell is a former member of the Legislation Advisory Committee appointed by the Minister of Justice to scrutinise Bills introduced into Parliament affecting public law issues.