



## Family Law

Given the very private, personal and financial nature of issues involving family law, choosing the right family lawyer for your needs is important. In family law, confidentiality and trust are vital. You are entitled to have your lawyer (solicitor) listen carefully to the issues as you see them, provide objective legal advice, and ensure your legal needs are met.

The MacDonnells Law Family Law team includes three Queensland Law Society Family Law Accredited Specialists in Brisbane, Cairns and Townsville. Our family law specialists understand the framework in which family law operates and they take the time to understand your individual case to achieve the best outcome for you.

Our Family Law team has expertise in all areas of family law and they take pride in providing prompt and reliable legal services to all clients, helping to reduce the stress in these difficult times.

MacDonnells Law's Queensland-wide family law services include:

- parenting issues such as equal shared parenting and parental responsibility (also known as child custody, residence or contact issues)
- child support
- other arrangements in relation to children
- separation and divorce
- spousal maintenance
- pre-marriage, marriage and post-separation binding financial agreements (previously termed prenuptial agreements)
- matrimonial property and property settlement matters
- de facto relationship property settlements.

MacDonnells Law is one of Queensland's largest independent legal firms and has more than 80 professional staff members in Brisbane, Cairns and Townsville. We offer legal services in every field complementary to family law, reducing the likelihood of delays, costs or hassles in the resolution of your family law matter. These legal services include:

- wills and powers of attorney
- property
- commercial
- taxation
- business structures and trusts.

Not all family law and relationship matters need end up in Family Court. At MacDonnells Law, our family lawyers have a strong focus on dispute resolution and can advise you on out-of-Court settlements, or when it is advisable to proceed to Court.

Whether you are considering marriage, living with someone, or separation, the MacDonnells Law family team know the complexity of the law and are sensitive to your needs.

## Our Family Law Team



**Don Macpherson** | Partner  
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Don Macpherson is an Accredited Family Law Specialist and heads the MacDonnells Law Family Law team. Don's practice has particular emphasis on complex property settlement and child related matters. His commercial experience and qualifications give him specialist insight in relation to business and commercial issues that often arise in complex property settlement disputes between married or de facto couples.



**Susan Thomson** | Partner  
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Susan Thomson is an Accredited Family Law Specialist and heads the MacDonnells Law Family Law team in Cairns. Susan is highly experienced in relationships law, specifically in matrimonial and de facto property; children's issues including relocation and recovery; divorce; binding financial agreements; defacto spouse co-habitation and separation agreements.



**Quentin Doyle** | Special Counsel  
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Quentin Doyle is Special Counsel in the MacDonnells Law Family Law team and is based in the Brisbane office. Having practiced exclusively in Family Law since 1996, Quentin has extensive knowledge and understanding of this sensitive area of law, bringing added value and depth in service to Family Law clients. Quentin holds a Masters of Law from Queensland University of Technology and is a Queensland Law Society Approved Mediator.



**Catherine Ross** | Senior Associate  
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Catherine Ross is an Accredited Family Law Specialist and has worked on hundreds of complex family law matters from simple dissolution applications to full Family Court Appeals. Her experience includes all family law matters including matrimonial, de facto and children's matters. Catherine is experienced in assisting parties to negotiate a resolution and also in litigation.

