

Michael Hill
Partner



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Michael is a partner of McGrathNicol Forensic and was a founding partner of McGrathNicol in 2004. Having spent six years in charge of the Canberra practice, Michael relocated to Brisbane in early 2007 to head up the Forensic practice in Queensland. Michael's experience covers a broad consulting spectrum. He has extensive experience in the preparation of expert reports as part of legal proceedings as well as conducting investigations on behalf of government and private sector clients. Michael also has experience in undertaking insolvency assignments and performing viability assessments/business case reviews.

Michael is also a Director of an Approved Superannuation Trustee.

Experience

Industry Sector Experience

Michael has extensive experience across a wide range of industries including business services, construction, energy and natural resources, financial services, government, manufacturing and retail. Examples include:

- Prepared an independent expert accountants report arising from a partnership dispute that identified the source of funds used to purchase a number of properties. The engagement involved analysing partnership accounts and individual's taxation returns to determine the cash available to purchase the properties;
- Engaged by the legal advisers of a waste management company to prepare an independent expert accountants report quantifying the loss and damage suffered by their client as a result of the actions of a state owned coproation;
- Prepared an independent expert accountants report on the loss arising out of an alleged misleading and deceptive conduct claim and a breach of warranty claim following the sale of a NSW based radiology business operating a number of clinics;
- Engaged to prepare an independent expert accountants report on the solvency of a fire systems contractor working at Sydney Airport. The report was required as part of a breach of contract claim and involved reconstructing the company accounts to determine the contractors true financial position;
- Prepared an independent expert accountants report on the solvency of an Australian reinsurer for the purposes of the pursuit of a series of insolvent transactions. This involved the review of the financial statements of the reinsurer together with actuarial reports to determine the cash position of the reinsurer;
- Engaged to provide an independent expert accountants report on the solvency of an ACT video business and motor vehicle dealership as a result of a claim by these companies against its secured creditor following the appointment of Receivers and Managers to the businesses;

- Undertook numerous economic loss assessments arising from motor vehicle and personal injury accidents in both the ACT and NSW. These assessments involved the calculation of the past and future loss of the claimants;
- Prepared an independent expert accountants report on the appropriateness of the fees charged by an insolvency practitioner following a complaint by a director of the relevant company;
- Calculated the loss arising from the failure of a government agency to register a surfwear clothing company's intellectual property. The calculation involved the assessment of future profits that would be generated by a company that was in its infancy;
- Reviewed the financial viability of a number of Queensland Local Councils following their rating as weak by the Queensland Treasury Corporation including an assessment of their solvency, comparisons with private sector entities and reporting, identification of options for improvement and reporting on our findings;
- Led a financial investigation into a Commonwealth funded Brisbane based organisation providing services to the hearing impaired including an assessment of the calculation of its income and expenditure in accordance with its funding agreement;
- Undertook forensic reviews of a number of regionally based indigenous organisations funded by the Commonwealth including assessments of their compliance with their funding guidelines, identification of conflicts of interest, identification of the funding sources of the purchase of assets and identification of any fraudulent conduct;
- Conducted numerous reviews of federally funded disability organisations to determine their financial viability, asset position, operational performance and governance arrangements;
- Performed desktop reviews of the financial viability of ACT land grant applicants and federally funded disability service providers including the identification of trends and the reporting of such results;
- Undertook a review of a federally funded tourist train service on the Gold Coast hinterland including a consideration of the ongoing viability of the service following its liquidation and an application for funding by the Liquidator;
- Reviewed the technology arm of a major national university to determine its financial position and expected future trading performance as well as to consider its future governance arrangements and strategic direction;
- Appointed as Liquidator of an Australian exporter of minerals and foodstuffs including the investigation of a series of fraudulent transactions in both Australia and various Asian countries and liaison with Australian and Hong Kong police. This matter involved the tracing of \$100 million in funds fraudulently misappropriated across three countries;
- Reviewed an ACT residential college located within a major national university focusing on financial viability, governance arrangements and its interaction with the broader university;
- Prepared numerous investigating accountant reviews for banks and other financial institutions including an assessment of operational performance, asset security positions and compliance with loan covenants;
- Led the Inspectorship/Administration of IOR Australia Pty Limited, one of the top 20 health insurance funds in Australia, under the *National Health Act 1953* including the transfer of its assets and membership to another regulated health fund;
- Appointed to undertake an Inspectorship of several superannuation trustees appointed by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority, including conducting private examinations and reporting on fraudulent conduct or theft or compliance with the *Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act 1993* and instruments of approval; and
- Acted as the Trustee of over 500 superannuation funds where the former trustee was non compliant with the *Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act 1993*. The assignment involved transferring the funds to an alternative trustee or the realisation of the fund's assets and the rollover of the members' benefits to alternative superannuation funds.

Qualifications

Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Law, University of New South Wales
Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia (ICAA)
Graduate Diploma in Applied Finance, Securities Institute (now FINSIA)
Certificate III - Investigative Services
Certificate IV - Government Fraud Prevention & Detection
Official Liquidator