



Blare Sutton

POSITION	Partner	MELBOURNE OFFICE
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Qualifications & Memberships

- Post Graduate Certificate in e-Crime Investigation, Melbourne University
- AWS Solutions Architect
- Certificate III Investigative Services
- Associate Member, Australian Computer Society
- High Technology Crime Investigation Association
- International Information System Security Consortium (ISC)2
- Victorian Society for Computers & the Law

Blare is an IT professional who regularly manages highly sensitive engagements involving internal and external actors, law enforcement, financial institutions and civil remedies.

He specialises in understanding business processes, regulatory frameworks and jurisdictional requirements to provide practical solutions to technological issues. With a background in IT Advisory and Implementation, Blare specialises in Cyber (Risk, Resilience & Incident Response), Digital Forensics and eDiscovery.

Leading the Technology Advisory practice in Melbourne for McGrathNicol, Blare has a passion for breaking through the hype and jargon of the technology industry to help his clients achieve their goals. Blare has two decades of experience in technology, highlights including eight years of 'Big 4' and professional services consulting experience, seven years as the CTO at one of Australia's leading software vendors in the legal technology industry, and running his own technology advisory and investigations firm.

Engagement Experience

Digital forensics and disputes

- Conducted a highly sensitive investigation for one of the worlds leading miners, encompassing the actions of staff alleged to be in breach of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, using advanced analytic technologies to accelerate the investigation process and uncover coded communications between parties.
- Acted as Independent Computer Expert in relation to a dispute between a local and international internet provider; identifying, preserving and analysing digital evidence and provided an Independent Expert Report to assist mediation.
- Acted as Independent Computer Expert in relation to a dispute between the Director of a technology firm and its shareholders relating to the existence and validity of its technology, in order to determine the likely value of the company.
- Acted as Independent Computer Expert in relation to a trademark dispute. between a globally recognised footwear manufacturer and a local competitor. Support included executing multiple search warrants, digital analysis of evidence and provision of an Independent Expert Report to the Court.
- Acted as Independent Computer Expert in relation to an alleged intellectual property theft and restraint of trade agreement for a technology company, executing civil search orders on former senior employees, conducting forensic analysis and providing an Independent Expert Report into evidence of the transfer and access to intellectual property.
- Acted as Independent Computer Exert in relation to an alleged fraud in the insurance sector, executing civil search orders to identify and preserve digital evidence. Provided an Independent Expert Report into the preserved data for Court.



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Partner

- Assisted an Australian government regulator to identify and preserve digital evidence while attending search warrants over the course of several years to aid in investigation and criminal prosecution.

Electronic discovery

- Led the deployment of electronic discovery solutions, including technology, resourcing, process and procedure (insourced, outsourced and co-sourced) in US and Australian government departments, Canadian and UK regulators and Magic Circle law firms.
- Engaged by a Big 4 bank to assist complying with a government regulator's notice to produce, interviewing multiple stakeholders within the business to identify systems, dataflow and information sources across over 200 separate systems. Managed the extraction, preservation, processing, review and production of documents responsive to the notice.
- Engaged by the General Counsel of a leading energy retailer to manage the eDiscovery process in response to a regulatory investigation. Support included working with senior executives and legal counsel to map business processes, data repositories, perform data classification, capture and management of data through the eDiscovery workflow.
- Engaged by General Counsel of a global audit firm to identify, preserve, process, analyse, review and produce documents in response to an action brought by the administrators of a former audit client. Processes included restoration of large volumes of data from backup tape and the use of advanced linguistic analysis techniques to accelerate the categorisation and review of documents likely to be relevant to the dispute.
- Engaged by a Magic Circle law firm to manage the eDiscovery process relating to allegations of foreign actors influencing the results of a federal election process.

Cyber security & information governance

- Assisted a state government department with the development of a process to automatically classify inbound, intransit and outbound data, creating alerts around sensitive information to inform the business about the movement of information within and leaving the organisation.
- Conducted an engagement to classify information stored within a local government department in order to more effectively and efficiently respond to cabinet and freedom of information requests.
- Led an initiative to preserve and protect information used and accessed by senior executives in a large Australian financial institution. Developed processes and procedures to preserve information and data egress at organisational boundaries, with automated reporting into the Security Operations Centre.