



## POSITION DESCRIPTION

Australian Broadcasting Corporation

Label	Description
Position Title:	SENIOR LAWYER
Position no:	30005947
Team:	[Finance]
Department:	ABC Legal
Location:	Ultimo
Reports to:	HEAD OF DISPUTES & LITIGATION 30004146
Classification:	Administrative/Professional
Schedule:	[Schedule A]
Roster cycle	[Non-Rostered]
Band/level:	[Band 9]
HR Endorsement:	15/07/2021

### Purpose

Under broad direction, and at the direction of the General Counsel, to provide legal advice to the ABC on all aspects of its operations.

### Key Accountabilities

Under the supervision of the Head of Disputes & Litigation, manage files across the full range of the practice of ABC Legal, with particular emphasis on complaints and litigation including:

- Preparing responses to complaints.
- Conducting factual investigations and legal research relevant to complaints and litigation.
- Preparing drafts of pleadings and other court documents (such as defences, answers to interrogatories and lists of documents).
- Instructing external counsel at court; and
- Advising on a range of media law disputes involving issues of defamation, suppression and non-publication orders, contempt of court, and intellectual property, and responding to investigations/search warrants being performed by the Police and other regulatory bodies.
- Assist with and oversee more complex projects including production of automated precedents and the identification of risk management protocols for the ABC.

- Work collaboratively with team members and support senior members with the supervision and mentoring of junior members as required.
- Maintain an up-to-date understanding of relevant legislation and caselaw.
- Actively promote the ABC values and apply all relevant workplace policies and guidelines.
- Cooperate with any reasonable instruction, procedure or policy relating to safety and take reasonable care for your own safety and that of other people who may be affected by your conduct while at work. Additional WHS responsibilities apply to Managers and Supervisors, Team Directors, and other Officers.

## Key Capabilities/Qualifications/Experience

1. Proven qualifications as a Legal Practitioner of an Australian jurisdiction with at least eight years' post qualification experience in litigation, including media litigation.
2. Proven interest in media law, the media industry in Australia, and issues of freedom of expression.
3. Outstanding capability and proven experience in the day-to-day conduct and management of media litigation and complaints, with minimal supervision and while adhering to appropriate practice management protocols.
4. Exceptional ability to work with external counsel and internal clients in relation to injunction proceedings (including threatened injunctions).
5. Demonstrated good interpersonal and negotiation skills, with the ability to work both independently and as part of team.
6. Proven ability to work effectively under pressure to achieve agreed outcomes in the specified timelines.
7. Understanding of the often reactive and high-pressured environment within which media litigation takes place.
8. Sound ability to exercise good judgement and work independently, including the ability to self-manage a number of competing pressures.
9. Proven excellent legal research and verbal and written communication skills.
10. Experience supervising junior lawyers and law graduates.
11. Strong personal commitment to meeting the legal requirements of the Corporation.
12. **ABC Principles:** Demonstrated commitment to the ABC Principles of We are ABC, Straight Talking, People Focused, Accountable and Open & Transparent.
13. **ABC Policies:** Understanding of the relevance and scope of ABC policies and the ABC Principles and a commitment to adhere to these; particularly in relation to complying with health, safety and wellbeing requirements in the workplace and acting in accordance with the ABC Principles.
14. **Diversity and Inclusion:** Ability to communicate effectively and build relationships with people from a range of diverse backgrounds.

