

Kathleen Wincen

I graduated from the University of Southern Queensland in 2017 with a Juris Doctor degree. I completed my Practical Legal Training (PLT) with the College of Law and was admitted as a Solicitor, in the Supreme Court of Queensland in 2018.

As a graduate of the University of Southern Queensland I understand the life changing power of education. A university degree can open up the world. My own journey into education started later than most, I was 29 when I began my university studies. I am a proud Budjiti woman, born in Quilpie and raised in the red dirt of my ancestral country of Currawinya in South West Queensland. I left school at 16 due to severe bullying, and completed my law degree while battling through Breast Cancer. I have also completed a Bachelor of Arts, despite not finishing high school. I understood that education is the great equaliser – it elevates families, communities and individuals.

I now practice as Solicitor in the Community Legal Sector with TASC - Legal and Social Justice Services, a not-for-profit community legal and social justice organisation that has served the Queensland community since 1982. TASC delivers free legal, advocacy and social services for people living in Toowoomba, Ipswich, Roma, and rural and regional communities in the Darling Downs and Maranoa regions and throughout South West Queensland¹.

I joined TASC in 2018 as their first appointed Indigenous lawyer, and I work from the Toowoomba Office in the Seniors Legal and Support Service (or “SLASS”) program. In my role, I provide legal advice and information to our senior members of the community on elder abuse, mistreatment or financial exploitation. I am passionate about senior Australians' legal and human rights and, “being able to give clients the control back after being through a traumatic time” is one of my objectives within my role.

I also provide tutoring to students at the University of Southern Queensland. Within this role I offer students' academic support and study assistance in either a one-on-one or small group sessions. This role is very rewarding when you have students that are finding studying law difficult.

Before coming to TASC, I held various roles in private legal practice in both large and small firms. Amongst my diverse roles, I have owned my own coffee shop before moving to Canberra in 1998, where I worked in both the Federal and ACT Government. Outside of work, I volunteer on three (3) Boards of the Darling Downs Health Service at the Toowoomba Hospital and holding a law degree provides me with the confidence to be able to sit on these Boards.

¹ [TASC National Limited | Our Mission is Social Justice For All](#)



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KATHLEEN ON BEHALF OF TASC PROVIDED ADVICE THAT WAS WELL-REASONED, WELL CONSIDERED, AND STRATEGICALLY SOUND.

IT PRODUCED RESULTS THAT BROUGHT JUSTICE TO A PROLONGED PERIOD OF STRESS FOR MY MOTHER AND OUR FAMILY.

KATHLEEN EXHIBITED EXPERIENCE, UNDERSTANDING AND EMPATHY IN A DIFFICULT SITUATION IN THE SPIRIT OF TASC'S MISSION: SOCIAL JUSTICE FOR ALL.

YOU DO OUR CITY AND OUR COMMUNITY PROUD THROUGH YOUR SKILL, KINDNESS AND UNDERSTANDING, AND LONG MAY YOU PROSPER SERVING THE NEEDS OF THIS COMMUNITY.

**SLASS CLIENT
2020**

**Seniors Legal & Support
Service**