**BIO**

**NAME and CONTACT DETAILS:**

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**ORGANISATON:**

Institute of Public Accountants, Australia (IPA). IPA has offices throughout Australia and in London, Beijing, Kuala Lumpur and Hong Kong. There are over 35,000 members in over 80 countries. Approximately three-quarters of members either work in or are advisers to small business/SMEs.

**EDUCATION:**

Bachelor of Jurisprudence, Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Arts (politics and philosophy), Master of Business Administration (International Business), Diploma of Financial Planning.

**PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS**:

Admitted to practice as a barrister, solicitor and proctor of the Supreme Court of Western Australia; and the Supreme Court of Papua New Guinea (PNG). Currently holding an unrestricted practicing certificate.

**CURRENT EMPLOYMENT:**

**2007 – Present: Executive General Manager, Advocacy & Technical, IPA**

• Overall responsibility for policy and advocacy; representation; government relations; media and media relations (one of the official spokespeople for IPA); publications; and technical resources.

• Areas of policy interest considered from a small business perspective: taxation; financial services; superannuation; corporate governance; competition and consumer law; corporations law; workplace relations; trade and export policy; innovation policy; access to finance; access to justice; accounting and auditing standards; impact of technology.

• Extensive stakeholder engagement including with IPA members; ministers; shadow ministers; bureaucrats; advisers; regulators; industry stakeholders; media; and the public.

• As a member of the Executive Management Group, involved in strategic issues guiding the future direction of the IPA and the accounting and finance profession.

• Engaged in business development including with commercial partners; involved in fund raising activities; attending and presenting at conferences and various networking events.

**PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT:**

• The Treasury (Australian Federal Government) – prudential regulation of the financial system, business tax and financial literacy. Seconded to the Office of Best Practice Regulation.

• Self-employed lawyer and consultant, Port Moresby, PNG, commercial litigation and commercial matters.

• Lawyer in PNG, Australia and Canada.

**OTHER EXPERIENCE:**

• **Current: Principal Lawyer of Animal Defenders Office** (ADO). ADO is a community legal centre run entirely by volunteers, and uses the law to protect animals and promote animal welfare.

• **Current: Director of JERA** (Justice Equality Rights Access) **International**. JERA is a NFP organisation working on gender equity issues, including the economic empowerment of women through small business development and training programs in various countries (eg Egypt, Nepal, and Cambodia).

• **Current: Member of academic board of Sydney International Institute of Learning Australia.**

• **2009-2013: Director of Council of Small Business of Australia** (COSBOA). COSBOA is a peak body.

• **Previous: Deputy Vice-President of PNG-China Business Council Inc.** The Council increased Chinese investment in PNG by 25% through regular activities such as trade missions and outreach programs.

• **Owned, operated, advised and invested** in numerous small businesses and SMEs in Australia, PNG and China across numerous industry sectors.