

Government Lawyers Conference 15 October 2025

Role of lawyers in inquiries and royal commissions

- Garling P [Royal commissions and inquiries](#) (2001) Bar News
- Justice Peter Hall [The role of counsel assisting in commissions of inquiry](#) (2005) Bar News
- Harvey I, 'The role and duties of lawyers assisting public inquiries: Part one', [Law Society Journal](#), 2015
- Hogan-Doran D, *Assisting Royal Commissions - Reflections from Counsel* - Paper presented to the Australian National University School of Regulation and Global Governance, February 2024 (February 13, 2024) (2024) [54 Australian Bar Review](#)

Legal Profession (Solicitors) Conduct Rules 2015 (ACT)

Rule 29.13

A solicitor who appears as counsel assisting an inquisitorial body such as the Criminal Justice Commission, the Australian Crime Commission, the Australian Securities and Investments Commission, the ACCC, a Royal Commission or other statutory tribunal or body having investigative powers must act in accordance with Rules 29.1, 29.3 and 29.4 as if the body is a court referred to in those Rules and any person whose conduct is in question before the body is an accused referred to in Rule 29.

Resources on a trauma informed approach

Introductory materials

- UK National Health Service (2015) '[Trauma and the Brain](#)' (video)
- [Blue Knot: National Centre of Excellence for Complex Trauma](#) (see resources section)
- [Trauma Informed Care Resource Centre](#)

Practical guides

General

- Australian Human Rights Commission (2021) '[Guidelines for Working with a Trauma Informed Approach](#)'

Legal practice

- National Legal Aid, '[Trauma-Informed Organisational Toolkit](#)'
- NSW Judicial Commission (2022) '[Trauma-informed courts: guidance for trauma-informed judicial practices](#)'
- Professor Cathy Kezelman AM (2016) '[Trauma and the Law: Applying Trauma-Informed Practice To Legal And Judicial Context](#)'

Further reading

Legal practice

- Eva McKinsey et al (2022) [‘Trauma-Informed Judicial Practice from the Judge’s Perspective’](#) (Judicature, vol 106(2), 35)
- Roslyn Carnes (2017) [‘Raising the Bar: a case for trauma informed lawyers’](#)
- Sarah Katz and Deeya Haldar (2016) [‘The Pedagogy Of Trauma-Informed Lawyering’](#) (Clinical Law Review, vol 22, 360)
- Melanie Randall and Lori Haskell (2013) [‘Trauma-Informed Approaches to Law: Why Restorative Justice Must Understand Trauma and Psychological Coping’](#) (The Dalhousie Law Journal, Fall, 501)

Trauma informed interviewing

- Minnesota Coalition against Sexual Assault (2022) [‘The Forensic Experiential Trauma Interview’](#) (a US based approach to trauma informed interviewing skills)

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October 2025