

Colourful plaintiffs:

- *Ryan v Random House Australia Pty Ltd* [2015] NSWDC 31 – Morgan Ryan;
- *Mehajer v Seven West Media* [2021] NSWDC 379; *Prime Marble & Granite Pty Ltd* (ACN 077 393 938) v *Mehajer* [2017] NSWDC 273 ('marble palace') – Salim Mehajer.

Memorable publications

- **Dog cases:** *Zimmerman v Perkiss* [2022] NSWDC 448; *Munro v Wheeler (No 3)* [2025] NSWDC 3; *Edwards v Gillespie* [2020] NSWDC 475 (Zimmerman was the first judgment on serious harm in defamation);
- **Emojis:** *Burrows v Houda* [2020] NSWDC 485 (first case to consider whether emojis can be defamatory);
- **"Fantasy Island" sex parties for teenage girls:** *Ashworth aka Otto v Nine Network Australia Pty Ltd* (ACN 008 685 407); *Otto (aka Ashworth) v Gold Coast Publications Pty Limited*; *Otto v Dailymail.com Australia Pty Ltd (No. 2)* [2019] NSWDC 188;
- **The publication stolen from a solicitor's brief – citation of the famous "two highwaymen" case** *Calabro v Zappia* [2010] NSWDC 127;
- *Molin v Dailymail.com Australia Pty Ltd* [2024] NSWDC 433 ("Sexual Chronicles of a Psychopath");
- *Smolin v Dailymail.com Australia Pty Ltd* [2024] NSWDC 433 (missing apostrophe): <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/10/11/world/australia/facebook-post-missing-apostrophe-defamation.html>;
- **Photo of mullet hairdo:** *Mosslmani by his tutor Karout v DailyMail.com Australia Pty Ltd* (ACN 166 912 465); *Mosslmani by his tutor Karout v Nationwide News Pty Ltd* (CAN 008 438 828); *Mosslmani by his tutor Karout v Australian Radio Network Pty Ltd* (ACN 065 986 987) [2016] NSWDC 264; *Mosslmani by his tutor Karout v DailyMail.com Australia Pty Ltd* (ACN 166 912 465); *Mosslmani by his tutor Karout v Nationwide News Pty Ltd* (ACN 008 438 828); *Mosslmani by his tutor Karout v Australian Radio Network Pty Ltd* (ACN 065 986 987) (No. 2) [2016] NSWDC 357 (Bathurst CJ speech https://supremecourt.nsw.gov.au/documents/Publications/Speeches/2020-Speeches/Bathurst_20201008.pdf).

Bank of Mum & Dad

- *Mereniuk v Wilks* [2024] NSWDC 376

Legal principles generally

- **Legal costs:** *Pentelow v Bell Lawyers Pty Ltd* (ACN 114 524 724) trading as Bell Lawyers [2016] NSWDC 186; *Coshott v Spencer* [2016] NSWDC 43 (both went to the High Court);
- **Tax cases:** *Deputy Commissioner of Taxation v Chen* [2011] NSWDC 22; 85 ATR 131; *Deputy Commissioner of Taxation v Liu* [2012] NSWDC 148; 90 ATR 614; *Deputy Commissioner of Taxation v Kocic* [2010] NSWDC 185 (Appeal Dismissed and special leave refused); *Deputy Commissioner of Taxation v Kedwell* [2019] NSWDC 610 (Appeal Dismissed); *Deputy Commissioner of Taxation v Panayi* [2016] NSWDC 113 (Appeal dismissed; special leave to appeal application dismissed); *Reznitsky v District Court of New South Wales* [2015] NSWCA 194 (Judicial review dismissed; special leave to appeal refused) and *Preiner & Anor v Shin & Anor* [2025] NSWDC 341 as the first time the Covid legislation considered.

Legal principles

- *Aleksandrov & Ors v Dimovski & Ors* [2005] NSWDC 19) – first time proportionality considered;
- *Hague v Cordiner (No. 2)* [2020] NSWDC 23 = first time consideration whether cryptocurrency can be used for security for costs.
- **Service by Facebook:** *Mothership Music Pty Ltd v Darren Ayre (trading as VIP Entertainment and Concepts Pty Ltd) and Flo Rida (also known as Tamar Dillar)* [2012] NSWDC 42; *Mothership Music Pty Ltd v Darren Ayre (trading as VIP Entertainment & Concepts Pty Ltd) and Flo Rida (also known as Tamar Dillard) (No. 2)* [2012] NSWDC 111 (overturned on appeal).
- **What damages regime applies for airline injury:** *Wahba v Carroll and O'Dea Lawyers* [2018] NSWDC 128.

Malicious prosecution against the plaintiff's former wife: *El-Saeidy v El-Shinawy* [2025] NSWDC 229