

Personal Details

Full Name	Benjamin David Tonkin
Mobile	0434 034 148
Email	tonkin@3sjh.com.au
Called to the Bar	September 2026
Admitted as a Solicitor	February 2016

Education

Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice, The College of Law	Aug 2015 – Dec 2015
Juris Doctor, The University of Sydney	2012 – 2014
Honours (First Class), The University of Sydney Philosophy	2010
Bachelor of Arts, The University of Sydney Major in Philosophy	2007 – 2009

Barrister

Reader, 3 St James' Hall Chambers	September 2026 – current
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Employment History as a Solicitor

Principal Solicitor, Department of Customer Service	Jan 2024 – August 2026
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- Regulatory and Criminal prosecutions for the State Insurance Regulatory Authority (SIRA) and SafeWork NSW.
- Acting Managing Lawyer – Nov 2024 to August 2025.
- Undertook all steps in the prosecution process including advocacy in the Local and District Courts, review of briefs of evidence, preparation of written prospects advices, drafting and filing charges, negotiating with defence, and instructing counsel.
- Provided other written advice in relation to investigative powers, statutory construction and enforcement procedures.
- Presenter, CLE: "Statutory Construction of Offence Provisions".
- Hiring manager for multiple recruitments.

Senior Federal Prosecutor, Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions (CDPP)	March 2022 – Jan 2024
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- Organised Crime and National Security Practice Group (November 2022 – Jan 2024)

- Human Exploitation and Border Protection Group (March 2022 – November 2022)
- Lead prosecutor for the Op. Avarus-Midas and Op. Todorka international money laundering conspiracies.
- Prosecution of drug importations, fraud, cybercrime, war crimes and online offending.
- Member of the Money Laundering and Cybercrime Focus Groups.
- Appeared as an advocate in numerous District Court Sentence Hearings and Supreme Court Bail hearings.
- Instructed Counsel in trials.

Solicitor, Crennan Legal

August 2019 – March 2022

- Specialist Local Government and Planning firm based in Bathurst, NSW.
- Litigation in the Land and Environment Court (Class 1 and Class 4), Supreme Court and Local Court.
- Written advice work for Local Council clients on administrative law, environmental, commercial, and regulatory matters.
- Advocacy in the Local Court and Land and Environment Court.
- Prosecution and defence in relation to environmental and regulatory offences.

April 2019 – June 2019

Casual Academic, Charles Sturt University

- Marked law exams and assignments

July 2017 – Feb 2019

Intermediate Supervising Solicitor, Aboriginal Legal Service (ALS), Bathurst

- Responsible for the legal practice of the Bathurst ALS office, supervising a team of solicitors engaged in a high-volume criminal defence practice providing advice and court representation to Aboriginal clients.
- Managed the office's indictable offences practice, including oversight of complex and serious criminal matters.
- Advocacy across all stages of proceedings, including District Court sentencing hearings, severity and conviction appeals, Local Court hearings, bail applications, mental health applications, and general criminal list work.
- Involvement in ALS strategic litigation, including: *Dixon v Attorney General of NSW* [2018] NSWSC 1618

Feb 2016 – July 2017

Junior Solicitor, Aboriginal Legal Service, Wagga Wagga

- Advocacy across all stages of proceedings, including District Court sentencing hearings, severity and conviction

appeals, Local Court hearings, bail applications, mental health applications, and general criminal list work.

Volunteer Work

Legal Coach for Bathurst High School, High School Mock Trial Program	April 2019 – August 2019
Legal Speaker for Traffic Offenders Program, PCYC Cowra	April 2019
Volunteer Paralegal, Aboriginal Legal Service, Redfern	Sep 2014 – Aug 2015
Volunteer Paralegal, Aboriginal Legal Service, Tamworth	July 2014