

WHO ARE YOU GOING TO CALL?

*Simon Creek, Managing Director & Notary Public - Family Law and Wills & Estate Planning,
Murray Thornhill, Director & Notary Public - Commercial Law & Litigation,
Matthew Wallis, Senior Associate - Litigation and Wills & Estate Planning, and
Heather Nichols, Counsel - Family Law.
Hudson Henning & Goodman*

We are sometimes asked how someone should decide which lawyer or professional adviser to choose. At HHG, an Approved Quality Practice, we welcome these questions. We have seen the enormous cost and frustration caused by "the wrong fit" between clients and their professional adviser.

If you are going to pay someone for their time, then you must have confidence in their experience, knowledge, skill and industry connections. These are the issues to investigate:

1. How many years' experience the firm has in this specific legal area?
2. When was the lawyer admitted to practice? If they are junior, who will supervise them, and how? The questions should also be asked of the supervisor.
3. Does the firm actively engage with relevant professional bodies such as the Law Society of WA, the Family Law Practitioners Association or the Insolvency Practitioners Association. Are they an Approved Quality Practice? You should expect your lawyer to be "plugged in".
4. What is the firm's record of success and in which Courts?
5. Ask trusted community and business leaders (such as the ACCI) whether they can recommend the firm? What is their general reputation? Rely only on knowledgeable and specific information, not gossip.
6. Do they have testimonials from clients on a web site? What does their web site say about them?
7. What promises do they make about ease of access and service delivery?
8. How much will or could it cost? By law, with most matters lawyers must give this in writing and in detail before charging.

The same sorts of questions apply in any industry. But the legal profession is very highly regulated and subject to more scrutiny than most.

This is general information only and does not constitute specific legal advice. If you would like further information in relation to this matter or other legal matters please contact our offices at reception@hgg.com.au.

DIRECTORS & NOTARIES PUBLIC
S. E. Creek
M. N. Thornhill
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
J. M. Bon
COUNSEL
H. J. Nichols
G. Dean
W. McDonald
L. Caré
L. Adamson
SENIOR ASSOCIATES
M. W. Wallis
N. B. Dinnock
ASSOCIATES
S. Bailey
K. Parker
SOLICITORS
S. Smith
K. Spector
E. Wong
S. Coyle
S. Wright
CONSULTANTS
R. V. Wheatley
E. J. Wheatley
D. J. Stewart



WA Solicitors Pty Ltd trading as
HHG Legal Group,
Hudson Henning & Goodman
and Wheelleys Legal
ACN 122 853 507
ABN 54 122 853 507

www.hgg.com.au
reception@hgg.com.au