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Interactive | Australia's Best Lawyers and Best Firms

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The Best Lawyers list features is based on almost 450,000 peer-review evaluations.

by [Edmund Tadros](#) [Marianna Papadakis](#)

Explore the full 2016 list of Australia's Best Lawyers, including the 222 Lawyers of the Year, using our exclusive interactive tool.

The list includes a total of 2870 lawyers from more than 280 law firms nationwide, up from 2534 last year.

Best Lawyers is compiled by United States peer-review company Best Lawyers from close to 700,000 evaluations.

The 222 "Lawyers of the Year" in their respective practice area received the highest consensus score from their peers.

Best Lawyers

Show entries Showing 1 to 2 of 2 entries (filtered from 6,228 total entries)

Specialty	Firm	Name	Metro Area	Lawyer of the Year
Government Practice	KelleyJones Lawyers	Michael Kelledy	Adelaide	N/A
Planning and Environmental Law	KelleyJones Lawyers	Victoria Shute	Adelaide	N/A

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Source: Best Lawyers
News application by Edmund Tadros.

The inaugural Best Firm category is based on peer evaluation of firms, based on the asking respondents that if they were unable to take on a matter, how likely they were to recommend other firms.

The list does leave some broken hearts and questions as to why some top notch lawyers were not included as lawyers of the year.

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Best Lawyers research manager Kristen Greer said a large number of individuals were listed year after year but it was not a "once listed, always listed" situation.

Getting listed was reliant on a candidates' score from peer votes in that practice area and being included in one practice area did not guarantee inclusion in another. Ms Greer said.

Also while anyone can nominate a lawyer, only those who have made the Best Lawyer cut in the past can vote. The votes are normalised to try to strip out the unduly harsh or lenient markers, she said. A Lawyer of the Year selection is only made when there is a standout person in a pool of enough candidates.

Best Lawyers Methodology

The 2017 edition is based on more than 700,000 evaluations of lawyers by other lawyers. Listings cannot be bought and no purchase is required or allowed for inclusion.

The nomination pool consisted of all lawyers whose names appeared in the previous edition, lawyers nominated since the previous survey and new nominees.

In general, lawyers were asked to vote on nominees only in their own specialty and jurisdiction. Voting lawyers were also given an opportunity to offer more detailed comments on nominees, which were used to make more accurate comparisons between voting patterns and to weight votes accordingly. Best Lawyers uses various methodological tools to identify and correct anomalies in both the nomination and voting process. All votes and comments were solicited with a guarantee of confidentiality.

Ultimately, a lawyer's inclusion is based on the subjective judgments of his or her fellow lawyers.

These lists are excerpted from The Best Lawyers in Australia, which includes listings for more than 2870 lawyers from more than 280 law firms nationwide.

Consumers should contact their local bar association for verification and additional information prior to securing legal services of any attorney.



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