

# Phillips | Family Law Bulletin

## DOYLE'S

GUIDE TO THE AUSTRALIAN LEGAL PROFESSION

We are incredibly proud to announce Phillips Family Law has again been ranked as a First Tier Family Law firm by Doyle's Guide to the Australian Legal Profession in the category of Leading Family & Divorce Law Firms in both Brisbane and Australia for 2016.

In addition to this fantastic result for the team, our Director, Tony Phillips has again been named as one of only three pre-eminent family lawyers in Queensland by the Guide. We also congratulate our Senior Associates, Sarah Bastian-Jordan and Fiona Caulley who received their first rankings in the Guide. Tony, Sarah, Fiona and the team earned the following rankings:

***Leading Family and Divorce Law Firms – Brisbane 2016***

**Phillips Family Law – First Tier Family Lawyers**

---

***Leading Family and Divorce Lawyers – Brisbane 2016***



Tony Phillips  
Pre-eminent Family Lawyer  
Managing Director,  
Family Law Accredited Specialist



Sarah Bastian-Jordan  
Recommended Family Lawyer  
Senior Associate

---

---

## ***Rising Stars in Family Law – 2016***

Fiona Caulley

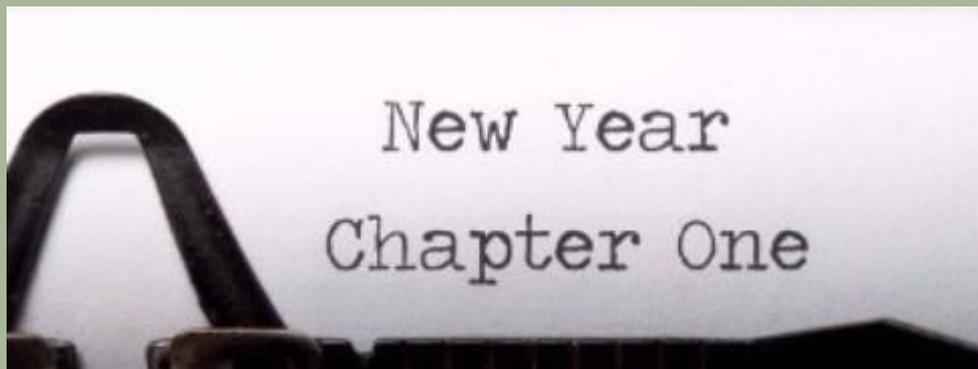
**Senior Associate,  
Family Law Accredited Specialist**



---

*The Family Law Rising Stars listing details individuals practising in family and divorce matters in the Australian legal market who are still at a developmental stage of their career.*

Since forming Phillips Family Law in 2013, Tony Phillips and the team at Phillips Family Law have continued to be recognised for their achievements by the Doyle's Guide to the Australian Legal Profession, and have also been ranked Leading Australian Family Law Firm in 2015 and 2016. These outstanding results are not only due to our Director, Tony Phillips and Senior Associates, Sarah Bastian-Jordan and Fiona Caulley, but as a result of the specialised expertise of the entire team who continue to strive for excellence and to achieve the best outcome for our clients.



### **New year, new relationship?**

If you move in with your partner, you automatically trigger one of the elements that will see you marked as a 'de facto' couple in the eyes of the law. Once that relationship ticks over the 2 year mark, the door opens for claims against each other's property and also maintenance. Consider entering into a Binding Financial Agreement to manage that risk. It is a great time to consider — it's a new year, a new relationship and the government has just moved a Bill to resolve an ambiguity surrounding these types of agreements, which will then allow people to rely on the document with more certainty.

To read the full article, click [here](#)

*Sarah Bastian-Jordan, Senior Associate*

## Case in point: How do Pre-Nuptial Agreements really work?



Many people seem to associate “pre-nups” with celebrities. However entering into pre-nups (known more formally as Financial Agreements) is now becoming increasingly common for couples who are marrying or living together for in second or third relationships or where one of the couple has already accumulated substantial assets which they wish to protect if the relationship breakdown in the future.

When prepared properly and if the technical requirements are met, a Financial Agreement ousts the jurisdiction of the family law courts to make an order under the property settlement or spousal maintenance provisions of the Family Law Act 1975 (Cth) (“the Act”) about the financial matters to which the agreement applies.

### How a Financial Agreement typically operates?

An agreement entered into prior to marriage or a de facto relationship or during it (but prior to separation) will provide how, in the event of breakdown of their relationship, the property of either or both people are to be dealt with.

The terms of each Agreement are specifically tailored to meet the objectives of the couple involved given their particular circumstances.

To read the full case in point, click [here](#)

*Fiona Caulley, Senior Associate*



### Did you know that 4 out of 5 people who are blind do not need to be?

Olivia Phillips from our office is trekking a whopping 50 kilometers, which is estimated to take approximately 9-12 hours, to raise funds so that needlessly blind people get the treatment they so desperately need. Olivia has entered the Sydney Coastrek and will be trekking along the Sydney coastline on Saturday, 4 March 2016 to raise funds for The Fred Hollows Foundation.

Phillips Family Law are proud to be sponsoring Olivia to help raise funds to support The Fred Hollows Foundation's sight-restoring work to change lives. You too can support Olivia! If you wish to make a donation towards The Fred Hollows Foundation you can make a donation via Olivia's personal fundraising page [here](#)

Together, with your help, we can give the gift of sight to many people who need our help the most. We wish Olivia all the best on the big trek ahead!

***For further information on these or other legal issues please contact:***

Tony Phillips  
Family Law Accredited Specialist  
[tony.phillips@pflaw.com.au](mailto:tony.phillips@pflaw.com.au)

Fiona Caulley  
Family Law Accredited Specialist  
[fiona.caulley@pflaw.com.au](mailto:fiona.caulley@pflaw.com.au)

Sarah Bastian-Jordan  
Senior Associate  
[sarah.bastianjordan@pflaw.com.au](mailto:sarah.bastianjordan@pflaw.com.au)

Sophia Bookallil  
Senior Associate  
[sophia.bookallil@pflaw.com.au](mailto:sophia.bookallil@pflaw.com.au)

Olivia Phillips  
Lawyer  
[olivia.phillips@pflaw.com.au](mailto:olivia.phillips@pflaw.com.au)

Rebecca O'Brien  
Associate  
[rebecca.obrien@pflaw.com.au](mailto:rebecca.obrien@pflaw.com.au)

*Copyright © 2016 Phillips Family Law, All rights reserved.*

You are receiving this email because you have done business with us.

**Our mailing address is:**

Phillips Family Law  
Level 2, King George Central  
145 Ann Street  
Brisbane, Qld 4000  
Australia

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)

MailChimp