

Our Team | Empower Family Law & Mediation

Canonical: <https://staging-empowerfamilylaw.yottadigital.net/our-team/>

Details:

At Empower Family Law we understand the pressure our clients are under and the distress they feel. We work diligently to navigate them through to better times.

We take pride in offering our clients expert advice tailored to their situation and empowering them to achieve the best possible result.

Meet the Empower team

Stephanie Reid

Director and Principal

Renishka Naidoo-Weisse

Special Counsel

Vicki Zrajko

Solicitor

Stephanie Pearce

Practice Manager

Ann Marie Elenius

Senior Legal Assistant

Emily Waghorne

Finance Manager

Speak with us

Your first 30-minute consultation is free. Call (03) 7020 6542 or contact our team to discuss your circumstances and next steps.

Who makes up the Empower Family Law & Mediation team?

The published team includes Director and Principal Stephanie Reid, Special Counsel Renishka Naidoo-Weisse, Solicitor Vicki Zrajko, Practice Manager Stephanie Pearce, Senior Legal Assistant Ann Marie Elenius and Finance Manager Emily Waghorne. Together, these roles cover legal advice and representation, client support, practice operations and finance. The individual profile pages explain each person's background and approach in more detail. Choosing who should work on a matter depends on its issues, complexity, urgency and the team's allocation process. A first conversation can identify whether the immediate concern involves parenting, property, separation, family violence, mediation or another family law issue. The firm's published message is that it provides advice tailored to the client's circumstances and works to help people navigate periods of pressure and distress.

What kinds of family law experience are represented across the team?

The lawyer profiles describe experience across parenting and grandparenting disputes, separation and divorce, property and financial matters, spousal maintenance, superannuation splitting, child support, financial agreements, mediation, litigation and intervention-order matters involving family violence. Stephanie Reid has practised solely in family law since 2008, Renishka Naidoo-Weisse has practised since 2002, and Vicki Zrajko has practised exclusively in family law since her admission in 2021. The wider team supports that legal work through practice management, senior legal assistance and finance. A published biography is a useful starting point, but it cannot show whether a particular practitioner is the right fit or available for a specific matter. Contact the firm with a short outline of the issues so the appropriate next step can be discussed.

How does the team support clients during stressful family law matters?

Empower's team page states that the firm understands the pressure and distress clients may experience and aims to provide expert advice tailored to the person's situation. The biographies add detail to that approach: calm and pragmatic legal guidance, compassionate and measured communication, professional discretion, attention to client experience and operational support behind the legal work. Practical support begins with identifying urgent risks, the decisions that need legal advice and the information still required. It can then involve explaining options in plain language, setting out next steps, negotiating, preparing documents, arranging mediation or representing a client in Court. Outcomes cannot be guaranteed, and the best pathway depends on the evidence and the other parties involved. Clients should raise safety concerns, accessibility needs and communication preferences early so the team can respond appropriately.

How can I speak with the Empower team and what should I bring?

The site invites prospective clients to call (03) 7020 6542 or use the contact page and states that the first 30 minutes of the initial consultation are free. When making contact, give a concise description of the relationship, the main parenting or financial issues, any existing orders or agreements, and any deadline or immediate safety concern. This helps the firm assess urgency and allocate the enquiry. Useful material may include a short chronology, recent Court documents, key correspondence, current parenting arrangements and a high-level list of assets, debts, income and superannuation. Do not delay seeking urgent advice because the file is incomplete. If anyone is in immediate danger, call 000. For non-emergency enquiries, the contact process can be used to discuss the appointment format and which documents should be sent beforehand.