

Dean Newlan

Senior Consultant in Melbourne

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Dean is a forensic specialist with more than 30 years of investigative and consulting experience. He is a former Partner of McGrathNicol and was appointed a consultant to the national forensic practice following his retirement from the partnership. He gained significant investigations experience as a member of the Victoria Police for ten years, including service with the CIB Fraud Squad where he delivered many corporate and government sector fraud investigations.

His forensic experience includes investigations of major corporate collapses and workplace fraud and misconduct in business, quantification of loss in commercial disputes, complex funds tracing and fraud and misconduct control. A particular focus in recent years has been the provision of assistance to the police in various states in the investigation and prosecution of workplace fraud.

Dean has a particular specialisation in fraud and corruption control and has delivered many such projects across the public and private sectors over many years – recent work here involved a fraud and corruption risk assesment for Ambulance Victoria and a fraud and corruption control training for the Independent Broad-based Anti-Corruption Commission in Victoria.

Dean was Chair of a working group formed by Standards Australia that produced Australia's Fraud and Corruption Control Standard (AS 8001) and Whistleblower Protection Standard (AS 8004). He was principle author of both standards. In 2017 he was appointed to the Standards Australia Organisational Governance Committee and to an equivalent committee for International Organization for Standardization (ISO).

He is active on both committees and takes a particular interest in developing standards dealing with whistleblower protection. In late 2018, he was appointed convenor of a Standards Australia working group tasked with reviewing and reissuing the Fraud and Corruption Control Standard as AS 8001:2021. In November 2021, he was appointed chair of the Standards Australia Organisational Governance Committee .

Dean was a sessional lecturer at the University of Melbourne in Forensic Accounting from 2005 until 2019 having held a similar role at La Trobe University for nine years. He is a founding member of the Australian Institute of Professional Investigators and a past National President.

Dean was Partner with responsibility for McGrathNicol's misconduct reporting line (RightCall) for 13 years before purchasing the business from McGrathNicol in his own right with effect from 1 July 2019.

Engagement Experience —

- Investigation into conflict of interest within a state government agency. The project involved forensic analysis of computer systems, analysis of documentation (emails and attachments), collation of evidence,

Qualifications & Memberships —

- Master of Corporate Law, RMIT University
- Bachelor of Commerce, University of Melbourne
- Certified Practising Accountant
- Diploma of Government (Investigation and Fraud Control)
- Foundation Member, Australian Institute of Professional Investigators
- Licensed private investigator in Victoria



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preparation of regular status updates and preparation of a written investigation report including the preparation of documentation to be used in proceedings/performance management.

- Investigation into leakage of confidential information (Victorian Local Council) into the source of leaked confidential information. The project involved the forensic examination of data held on a number of electronic devices, including interviews with six staff and analysis of internal and mobile telephone records.
- Engagement to conduct a review of fraud risk within a Victorian Government Department over a period of more than six months. The original project involved the assessment of fraud risks across 42 separate computer systems and was completed in mid-2007. We were engaged in 2012 to conduct a further review of fraud risks focused on 16 new systems introduced since the previous review or systems where substantial change had occurred.
- Engagement to a review fraud risks within two state government agencies which was commissioned on the back of a previous Department wide fraud risk assessment by McGrathNicol.
- Engagement to review governance arrangements within two Victorian cemetery trusts following concerns raised in relation to poor management of the operation of the trusts including favoured treatment of contractors, poor financial reporting and inadequate record keeping.
- Investigation into allegations of fraud and / or misconduct in relation to the management of a contract with a provider of building maintenance services to the Office of Housing.
- Investigation into the source of a leak of confidential information in relation to complaint handling within a Disability Services agency. The project involved the forensic examination of electronic data and interview of 10 personnel and the preparation of written reports.
- Investigation into allegations of misconduct including concerns regarding conflicts of interest and improper relationships between a Fire Services Officer and contractors. The project involved the interview of the fire Services Officer, the forensic analysis of documentation, review of hard copy files and the preparation of written reports.
- Investigation into mishandling of documents conveyed to an external party involving attempting to trace the final disposition of sensitive documents that were inadvertently disposed of and involved enquiry with waste disposal contractors in order to assess the likelihood that the documents may have been discovered by a member of the public. Enquiries were made with providers along the chain of movement of the documents. We produced a report of findings and recommendations for better controlling the movement of sensitive documents.
- Investigation into the source of a leak of confidential information in relation to complaint handling within a Victorian government agency. The project involved the forensic examination of electronic data and interview of more than 20 personnel, the preparation of regular status updates and the preparation of a written report. Our written report provided a range of recommendations addressing the security of documents and other confidential information.
- Investigation into the source of a leak of CIC information to the media. The project involved the forensic examination of data held on a number of electronic devices, interviews with 46 staff and analysis of internal and mobile telephone records.
- Investigation into allegations of an email borne virus attack on the payroll system of Victorian Government agency wherein the payroll accounts of more than 30 departmental employees were changed without authorisation immediately before payroll processing.
- Developed and delivered a series of fraud awareness and ethical decision making workshops for a South Australian Government department over a period of three years. The project involved the development of a program to heighten the awareness of fraud and corruption risks facing the department, the application of the department's fraud and corruption control framework and other related workplace policies.

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- Engagement by a Victorian local council to develop and deliver interactive fraud awareness training across council. This involved training in excess of 400 personnel in a series of workshops of one hour duration over two years.
- Investigation into allegations that a program director manipulated student attendance data for the program and analysis of the expenditure of program funds.
- Investigation into the conduct of a team member of a Victorian Government Department in relation to the alleged use of a departmental issued purchasing card and procurement system for personal benefit. The project captured and analysed more than 17,000 electronic documents, analysis of relationships between the employee and external parties, analysis of financial transactions and a series of interviews.
- Engagement by DPI, now Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP), to deliver a risk management project in relation to the Department's management of forestry protests in coupes operated by VicForests.
- Secondment to the Victorian Office of the Commissioner for Children and Young People to critique the investigation of institutional responses to allegations of child abuse.