



Clarendon Lawyers to join Mills Oakley

28 October, 2021

Respected Melbourne corporate boutique Clarendon Lawyers and leading national law firm Mills Oakley are delighted to announce that they have joined forces. The move will see Clarendons' five partners and 20 staff join Mills Oakley over a transitional period during November and December.

The partners joining Mills Oakley are Clarendons' Managing Director Tony Symons and Directors Nick Manuell, David Bryant, Brendan Sheehan and Andrew Chan, all of whom will become partners at Mills Oakley. The move comes at a time of strength for the M&A market and will allow Mills Oakley to bolster its corporate and M&A practice in Melbourne with the dynamic and highly regarded Clarendons' team. Meanwhile, Clarendons' staff and clients will now have access to the opportunities and services found in a full service, national commercial firm.

Primed for the opportunity, Clarendon Lawyers Managing Director Tony Symons said:

"At Clarendons' we are proudly independent, and until now have been resistant to any movement, but as our deal size has matured we recognise the necessity to expand our offering within a full service firm. Alignment was key to evaluating the right partner and we have found that in Mills Oakley: a dynamic full-service national firm with a boutique soul."

The firms have a natural cultural and professional alignment with open accessible cultures, entrepreneurial spirit and total commitment to high quality legal service.

Commenting on the move, Mills Oakley CEO John Nerurker said:

"Cultural alignment is often elusive, but it was clear from the very outset of our talks that our two firms share a genuine sense of common purpose. We have known and respected each other for many years and it is wonderful to see that relationship come to fruition."

Mr Symons said: "I am so proud of the amazing contributions made by every member of the Clarendons team, in building such a well-respected brand, recognised as one of the strongest M&A teams in the market. Additionally, I am grateful for all our fantastic clients and partners that have loyally supported us, and we look forward to building on these relationships under the Mills Oakley banner."

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