



Mark Hall

Consultant

Contact Details

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Overview

Mark was a Registered Liquidator for over 20 years' and handled corporate insolvencies across numerous industries in his 30 years in insolvency. He also has extensive experience in preparing forensic accounting and economic loss reports, tracing of monies investigations, fraud and valuation reports.

Mark has given evidence in the Federal Court of Australia as well as the Supreme, District, and Magistrates Courts of South Australia in respect of both his expert's reports and formal insolvency appointments.

Qualifications/Memberships & Publications

- Bachelor of Economics
- Former Registered Liquidator
- Fellow of Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand
- Member of the Australian Restructuring Insolvency & Turnaround Association
- Associate of Australian Institute of Company Directors
- State insolvency spokesperson for CPA Australia (SA)
- Former Group Leader for the Institute of Chartered Accountants Ethics and Insolvency modules
- Former Member of Institute of Chartered Accountants Business Forum Committee
- Founding member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants City Discussion Group
- Presenter at conferences for Law Society of South Australia, AICM, Pinpoint, InvestSA
- Presenter to financiers, legal and accounting firms on various aspects of insolvency practice, law reform and industry risks
- Committee member and Chair of The Hutt Street Foundation

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Specialist Expertise

Much of Mark's experience has been in the areas of construction and property services, hospitality, health, printing, manufacturing and service industries.

His areas of expertise include:

- reporting on the financial position of businesses
- managing and selling businesses
- complex investigations of business transactions
- analysing and improving business performance
- designing turnaround and reconstruction strategies

Mark has a depth of experience in all types of formal appointments, acting in both the unsecured and secured creditor markets. Following many successful appointments, Mark has also been approached by unsecured and secured creditors to provide advice, security reviews and possible turnaround strategies to help with further clients and exposures.

As well as the more traditional insolvency appointments, Mark has also been appointed by the Court to act as Trustee of Trusts and as Receiver of Partnerships.

Mark's skills in analysing businesses from both an operational and financial perspective have also been utilised in forensic accounting engagements, independent accountant's reports and litigation support.

He has specific experience in investigations and forensic reports such as the tracing of monies in trusts. Mark has given evidence in Court in a number of litigation matters and worked closely with many solicitors and barristers representing both plaintiffs and defendants.

Experience

Some of the specific matters that Mark has undertaken include:

- Finishing production in a manufacturing operation and undertaking a worldwide campaign for the sale of the specialised plant. While dealing with subsidiary entities in Europe and USA, and time zone, currency and complicated insurance issues; an overseas buyer was found for the assets, resulting in strong recoveries, repayment of the secured creditor and a good result for creditors
- Trading an automotive component manufacturer, involving extensive negotiations with the large car makers, unions and other stakeholders, resulting in a successful sale and continued operations

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Experience (continued)

- Taking a secured appointment over a large boat requiring retrieval from the Solomon Islands, successfully dealing the peculiarities associated with marine law
- Establishing a de facto director relationship and using this to successfully mount an insolvent trading claim
- Investigating the instance of corporate trustee purportedly being changed by directors. After obtaining an indemnity from creditors, and extensive legal applications, Orders were made to reinstate the Company as the Trustee and prevent further changes. After the sale of the property and some complicated tax calculations to confirm the full quantum of creditor claims, creditors were paid in full with interest.
- Working with a property developer where a director had fled the country, necessitating the need for a Court appointment to deal with jointly held property. Following the property sale, issues with creditor claims and dealing with the complications arising from funds held on trust for common works, creditors received half of their debts.
- Dealing with a number of formal and informal matters involving disputes between members of old Adelaide families over many millions of dollars
- Investigating instances of fraud in formal appointments, the most significant being with factored debtors in a meatworks and wholesaler
- Dealing with a solvent Company in the transport industry which became insolvent due to directors' actions causing the loss of franchising agreements, pursuing and making recoveries from directors in respect of breaches of duties
- Pursuing many successful claims for preferential payments made to creditors, including providing evidence in support of the claims
- Making extensive investigations and recovering funds from an insolvent trading claim in the winding up of a co-operative
- Pursuing and successfully a fraud utilising funding from the Federal Government, including working with police and government departments to assist in their own investigations
- Reviewing the solvency of a hospital and making recommendations for turnaround options