

**FAMILY LAW
SOLICITOR REFERRAL FORM**

(current as at March 2024)

Some firms may do Legal Aid matters

ALBURY WODONGA	
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<p>KEATING AVERY SOLICITORS 72 High Street WODONGA VIC 3690 Ph: (02) 6056 5533</p>	<p>POGSON CRONIN KERR SOLICITORS Level 1, 320 Urana Road 86 Albury Street LAVINGTON NSW 2641 HOLBROOK NSW 2644 Ph: (02) 6049 4400 Ph: (02) 6036 2400</p>
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RIVERINA & REGION

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30 Fitzhardinge Street

WAGGA WAGGA NSW 2650

Ph: (02) 6921 1733

***Many firms offer a no obligation first consultation.
You should ask if this applies when you first call.***

GENERAL ADVICE ABOUT CHOOSING & DEALING WITH LAWYERS

Remember – it is your choice who represents you. You need to feel comfortable with your solicitor and be confident they will act in your best interests.

1. Ring the lawyer first and discuss your needs. You should briefly explain your problems, if you have a preference for a male or female lawyer, and whether you need an interpreter. Ask if they will put in a Legal Aid application on your behalf if needed.
2. Ask if your first appointment will be free. If not, ask how much it will cost and when you are expected to pay.
3. Shop around. Ring more than one lawyer and compare their levels of experience and costs. There can be significant difference in costs between lawyers, depending on their levels of expertise.
4. In your first appointment, tell the lawyer you will decide if you will engage them after you get a written estimate of all costs and disbursements* and a written explanation of the process and options available to you.
5. Make sure you are involved in all the decisions about your case and ask your lawyer to explain everything in plain language. If you do not understand something, tell your lawyer and ask them to explain it again.
6. If you need further referrals, please call the Law Institute of Victoria on (03) 9607 9550 or the Law Society of New South Wales on 1800 422 713.
7. If you are not satisfied with your lawyer you have a right to lodge a complaint with the Law Institute of Victoria or the Law Society of New South Wales. Please aware that changing solicitors can be expensive. Lawyers are bound by professional rules of conduct, you can find out more about these at the website <https://www.liv.asn.au/PDF/For-Lawyers/Regulations/LPUL/Legal-Profession-Uniform-Law-Solicitors--Rules>.

*Disbursements are fees for all services required in connection with a legal matter, apart from solicitor's fees. Disbursements may include expenses such as court filing and hearing fees, interpreter's fees and fees for the service of court documents such as subpoenas.

HOW TO FIND A REGISTERED FAMILY DISPUTE RESOLUTION PRACTITIONER

To find a list of registered Family Dispute Resolution Practitioner's or a service that provides Family Dispute Resolution, go to <http://www.fdr.ag.gov.au> and enter your postcode and/or Town.