

Toll Practice Manager of the Year Award





Erin Feros

Queensland practice director,
Allens Arthur Robinson



Ken Fowlie

National general manager
of commercial and project
litigation, Slater & Gordon



Andrew Price
Chief operating officer,
Wotton & Kearney



General manager, Colin Biggers & Paisley

Judging criteria

Lawyers Weekly called on nominations from practice managers within law firms for the Toll Practice Manager of the Year Award. Nominees were asked to outline their contribution to the management of the firm and their ability to assist in easing the processes and procedures undertaken by lawyers during day-to-day tasks, as well as any unique programs that they believe set their practice management capabilities apart from other law firms. Nominees will be judged on employer and employee buy-in, practical results and leadership.

Criteria

- Brief CV of entrant, including achievements of note during their time with their current organisation;
- Outline of significant contributions the entrant has made to the management of the firm, including examples of the solid introduction of new processes and procedures relevant to the management of the firm. This includes relevant details on how such actions have assisted a lawyer's day-to-day tasks and why such programs are unique;
- Reference from a key individual within the firm who can outline how their work has been influenced by the entrant.

Erin Feros currently holds the positions of Queensland practice director; Allens board member; chairperson of the Brisbane Charity Committee; relationship partner to many of the firm's key global resources clients as well as private equity clients from the UK and US; and director on the board of the Queensland Theatre Company. Resources law, mergers and acquisitions in the resources and energy sector, privatisations and capital markets are Feros's primary areas of expertise, and she was a key member of the Allens team advising the Queensland Government on the \$7 billion privatisation of Queensland Rail's coal transport business.

Ken Fowlie is the national general manager of Slater & Gordon's commercial & project litigation (C&PL) practice. Since its establishment in 2009, the group under Fowlie's leadership has grown to become a major player in the class action and major litigation industry. Under his leadership, Slater & Gordon's C&PL practice has grown to have teams set up in Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Preston (Victoria), Coffs Harbour and Gunnedah (NSW).

Andrew Price is the chief operating officer at Wotton & Kearney. He has been involved in numerous initiatives including the development and implementation of new practice areas at W+K, including trade and transport law. Although only in its first year, the practice group's reputation is already such that W+K has received international recognition, named as a

finalist for Corporate INTL's 2010 'Legal Award for Maritime Law in Australia'. W+K has also been appointed to panels of some of the largest marine insurers in Australia.

Luke Solly, Colin Biggers & Paisley's general manager, encouraged the firm's partners to embark on their first three-year strategic plan. The initiative was so successful that a subsequent five-year plan is now being rolled out. This has given the firm a robust framework to carve out a distinctive niche in a crowded market for legal services.