



Legal Pty Ltd (FCG) is an incorporated firm of Barristers and Solicitors whose aim is to provide an efficient and cost effective service to its clients whilst maintaining the highest degree of professional standards. We are required to comply with the standards required by the Legal Profession Act 2004 (Victoria) and the Migration Agents Code of Conduct. Copies of the Code of Conduct for migration agents are available upon request.

In terms of client expectation, it is attuned towards commercially realistic outcomes.

We work closely with clients to develop a strategy that fulfills their objectives and business requirements. FCG has six broad areas of practice:

- ◆ Migration/Administrative Law
- ◆ Property Law
- ◆ Commercial Law
- ◆ Litigation (Civil, Criminal & Family)
- ◆ Taxation Law
- ◆ Food Law and Municipal Prosecution

The firm is recognised as a leading Australian migration and commercial practice with clients throughout the world. It has particular expertise in Asia with several lawyers admitted to practice in countries within our region.

#### Areas of Practice

- ◆ **Migration/Administrative Law Division:** This division provides assistance in all immigration and administrative law matters such as:  
business migration  
skilled migration  
student visas  
temporary residence  
family migration  
permanent residence  
refugee applications  
citizenship law  
immigration detention & release, avenues of appeal (merits & judicial review)  
visa refusals & cancellations  
unlawfuls & exclusions  
resident return, return endorsements & authorities to return

Please note that the above list is not exhaustive.

Rodger Fernandez\*, Andrew Cope\* and Chong Yu Quaik\* are Law Institute Accredited Specialists in Immigration Law. Murray Gerkens is a former head of the Refugee Review Tribunal. Dominic Yau is a former Manager of the Department

of Immigration. Boniface Town has nearly 20 years experience as a migration agent. The firm currently has 8 migration agents.

- ◆ **Property Law:** Property Law broadly covers conveyancing, mortgages and leases. The firm provides assistance in wills, powers of attorney and estate administration. The Property law division provides assistance in the acquisition of commercial as well as residential properties.
- ◆ **Commercial Law:** Commercial law broadly covers all legal matters associated with sole traders, partnership, companies (public and private), joint ventures and trusts. This division is able to assist you with the provision of advice in relation to company law, business law and taxation law matters. The division also provides assistance in relation to employment law, sale of business and trade practices. Assistance is also provided to clients in relation to matters in South East Asia. Some of our solicitors are admitted to practice in South East Asian jurisdictions.
- ◆ **Litigation (Civil, Criminal & Family):** Our lawyers in this division have considerable experience and expertise in all aspects of litigation including civil and commercial litigation, personal injuries and criminal matters. This division also handles family law matters.
- ◆ **Taxation Law:** Taxation law covers Australian and International Taxation including goods and services tax, fringe benefits Tax, Income and Capital Gains tax, tax structures and corporate tax, audits and tax litigation. Tax litigation is usually handled by our administrative law division.
- ◆ **Food Law and Municipal Prosecution:** Murray Gerkens, together with Sam Campbell, act as general counsels in Food Law and Municipal Prosecutions. Murray is the principal author of:
  - ◆ Food Legislation – Victoria (Gerkens, Gerkens & Cleeve, The Law Book Company Ltd, 1990-97);
  - ◆ The Health Act – Victoria (Gerkens, Adams & Street, The Law Book Company Ltd, 1983);
  - ◆ Food Law in Australia (Gerkens & Gerkens, The Law Book Company Ltd, 1985);
- ◆ **Translation Services:**  
We Provide NAATI Level 3 translation services from English to Chinese(Mandarin), and Chinese(Mandarin) to English.

#### Staff Members

##### Legal Practitioners/Migration Lawyers

- ◆ **Graciano Canda Jr.** LL.B, B.A., is a barrister and solicitor of the Supreme Court of Victoria and the High Court of Australia. Graciano is admitted as a Solicitor in New South Wales. He is also admitted as an Attorney-at-law in the Philippines. He practises in the commercial and litigation fields. Graciano is a principal of the firm and heads the property and conveyancing sections. Graciano speaks fluent Filipino. [MARN 9359095]
- ◆ **Rodger Fernandez** LL.B, B.Ec., M.Tax, Ph.D (Law), is a barrister and solicitor of the Supreme Court of Victoria and the High Court of Australia. He is also admitted to practice in New South Wales. Rodger is accredited by the Law Institute of Victoria as an expert in immigration law and is a registered migration and taxation agent. He practises in the administrative and commercial law areas including litigation. Rodger is a member of the immigration law advisory committee to the Specialisation Board of the Law Institute of Victoria and also lectures in immigration law at Victoria University. He is a Fellow of Victoria University Law School. [MARN 9251941] \*
- ◆ **Murray Gerkens** LL.B, GradCertAustImmLaw, is a lawyer practising in Victoria and New South Wales and is a barrister and solicitor of the High Court of Australia. He has a long history in public administration and the law and was, amongst other things, a Magistrate, Chairperson of the Victorian Police Discipline Board and head of the Refugee Review Tribunal. Murray is the principal author of the following legal publications-  
(a) Food Legislation – Victoria (Gerkens, Gerkens & Cleeve, The Law Book Company Ltd, 1990-97);  
(b) The Health Act – Victoria (Gerkens, Adams & Street, The Law Book Company Ltd, 1983);  
(c) Food Law in Australia (Gerkens & Gerkens, The Law Book Company Ltd, 1985);  
(d) Magisterial Tribunals in Victoria (Gerkens, The Law Book Company Ltd, 1988); and  
(e) Paul’s Summary and Traffic Offences (Storey QC, Harper QC, Zichy-Woinarski QC & Gerkens, The Law Book Company Ltd, 1982) [He is the author of the traffic law section of the service and was consultant editor for the whole work].

Murray acts as the firm’s in-house counsel and has extensive experience as an advocate in the High Court, the Federal Court and the Administrative Appeals Tribunal. He also appears in all State courts and tribunals. Murray practises in commercial law, administrative law and litigation, both civil and criminal. He also lectures in immigration law at Victoria University. [MARN 9792485]

- ◆ **Dominic Yau** LL.B, B.A., GradCertAusImmLaw, is a barrister and solicitor of the Supreme Court of Victoria and the High Court of Australia, and a former manager in the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (DIMIA), having served overseas with the Department in Hong Kong and Beijing. He lectures in immigration law at Victoria University and speaks Chinese (Cantonese and Mandarin) and Vietnamese.
- ◆ **Chong Yu Quaik** LL.B, LL.M, B.Ec., is a barrister and solicitor of the Supreme Court of Victoria and the High Court of Australia. He is also admitted as an Advocate and Solicitor in Malaysia. Chong is accredited by the Law Institute of Victoria as an accredited specialist in immigration law. He practices in the field of administrative and commercial law areas including litigation in those areas and speaks Chinese (Mandarin, Cantonese and Hokkien) and Malay. Chong is also a registered migration agent. [MARN 9256631]\*
- ◆ **Andrew Cope**, LL.B, M.A., DipLM(Lib), FMIA, practicing barrister and solicitor of the Supreme Court of Victoria, solicitor of the High Court of Australia, Fellow, Migration Institute of Australia, Past National Vice President - Migration Institute of Australia, Former Victorian President – Migration Institute of Australia, Board Member, Australian Migration Agents' Registration Authority (MARA) and registered migration agent since. Andrew is accredited by the Law Institute of Victoria as an accredited specialist in immigration law. [MARN 9255143]\*
- ◆ **K.T. Wong** LL.B, B.Ec. GradDipTax, is a Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Victoria and High Court of Australia and a Certified Practising Accountant. (FCPA). He has extensive knowledge of Australian and International Taxation law including income tax, GST, International tax and transfer pricing, FBT and salary packaging and employment taxes, tax structures and corporate tax, tax and legal due diligence work, tax audit procedures, handling taxation disputes and negotiations with the Tax Office.
- ◆ **Terrance Marbeck** acts as foreign counsel in Malaysia. Terrance practices in commercial and litigation (civil & criminal) law.

#### Migration Consultants

- ◆ **Boniface Town** is a Principle Migration Consultant at FCG Legal. He has been a migration consultant for over 25 years and a fellow of the Migration Institute of Australia since its inception. He has been Treasurer, Secretary and is currently State President of the Victoria/Tasmania Branch of the Migration Institute of Australia. He is also on the National Executive of the Migration Institute of Australia. Boniface has been a Justice of the Peace for over 20 years and has been involved with the Chinese community for over 40 years. He is a member of the CYSM, Chinese Dailoong Association, Federation of Chinese Associations, Chinese Association of Victoria and CPBA. He is also a licenced real estate agent and accredited NAATI Level 3 translator in Mandarin/Catonese to English. [MARN 9358658]
- ◆ **Shannon Wood** B.A., is a senior registered migration consultant. She has worked for several companies in the area of migration since 1998. She is experienced in most areas of migration, including business, skilled and family. [MARN 0401172]
- ◆ **Natalia Soehono** Grad.Cert. Imm. Law, M.L.M, B.Bus., is a registered migration agent. She is experienced in most areas of migration. [MARN 0742709]
- ◆ **Mary Liang** GradCert. Imm. Law, BAcc., is a registered migration agent. She is fluent in Mandarin. [MARN 0848860]
- ◆ **Laurie Liu** GradCert. Imm. Law, BAcc., is a registered migration agent. She is fluent in Mandarin and Cantonese. [MARN 0956052]

#### Languages spoken by staff

Mandarin                      Hindi  
 Cantonese  
 Hokkien  
 Tagalog  
 Bahasa Indonesian  
 Filipino  
 Bahasa Malaysia



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**Firm/Staff Profile**

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