


Nomination for Position on the Australian Lawyers for Human Rights National Committee April 2017

I,	Jarrah Nina Ekstein
of	[not for publication]
Phone/e-mail	[not for publication]
nominate for the position of:	Ordinary Member
of the National Committee of Australian Lawyers for Human Rights Incorporated.	
Signed by nominator (may be nominee) Date 7/4/17 	

Please set out below a short bio, a brief summary of your reasons for wishing to be elected to the National Committee and describe what you believe you are able to contribute by reference to the relevant position description:

I am an Associate in Maurice Blackburn's Brisbane class actions practice. I hold a Bachelor of Arts and a Juris Doctor, and was led to the practice of law by my passion for social justice and a desire to work towards positive, systemic change.

Before becoming a lawyer, I worked in the community sector focussing at different times on refugee settlement, domestic violence, child protection, community aged care and the role of the non-profit sector in civil society, as a volunteer coordinator, research and evaluation officer, and policy officer. In these roles I gained a deep appreciation of the structural causes of inequality in Australia. I am passionate about fighting for just outcomes for my clients and appreciate the capacity of such outcomes to achieve lasting change in the broader community.

I have volunteered at community legal centres for eight years, at Inner City Legal Centre when I am in Sydney and at Caxton Legal Centre when I am in Brisbane. I appreciate the opportunity to engage with diverse areas of law and to do my part in promoting access to justice in my local community.

I have published two journal articles and have co-authored a chapter for a text book, all of which focus on class actions, social justice and access to justice.

I have been a member of ALHR since I was admitted as a solicitor in February 2012, and became a NSW convenor in 2013. Over the years, I have organised numerous events on human rights issues including asylum seeker policy, abortion law reform, and

the Israel/ Palestine conflict. I have assisted with hosting members' meetings and writing newsletters. I have contributed to submissions and media releases. I have assisted in organising two very successful ALHR fundraising dinners.

In my role as NSW convenor, I have also participated in the national committee. I am an active member of the national committee email group and assist with reviewing submissions and governance issues. I have also focussed on ALHR's submission output and impact, and a survey of ALHR members. I played a key role in researching, promoting and fundraising for ALHR's new website. I have attended every annual planning day/ weekend since I joined ALHR and have regularly attended NC teleconferences.

Due to moving to Queensland for work I have been less able to assist with NSW convenor duties but have continued to be involved in the national committee and have taken on a greater role in that regard. I would like to be elected to the national committee as an ordinary member so that I can work with the executive to improve our governance and impact. ALHR has grown significantly in its reach and impact in the last five years which has been so exciting and energising. It is clear that we now need to evolve our governance to work most effectively in this new, positive context. I look forward to actively contributing to that if I am elected as an ordinary member.

As an ordinary member I can contribute critical thinking, project management skills, events organising experience, research and evaluation experience, and strong networks across the private, community and government sectors.

If you have any queries about the roles and responsibilities of office bearers and committee members, contact the current ALHR executive on secretary@alhr.org.au.

Nominations must be delivered by email to: <mailto:secretary@alhr.org.au>"
secretary@alhr.org.au

Nominations must be received by 5:00 pm on Tuesday, 11 April 2017.

(No late nominations will be accepted.)

The name of nominees, their state or territory of residence, the position to which they are nominating and their summary of reasons will, if an election is necessary, be sent to all members to enable them to cast an informed vote.

Please note: only members of ALHR may nominate for a position

NB: If you wish to become more involved in ALHR, but do not wish to nominate for the National Committee, please consider joining one of our thematic subcommittees or becoming involved in your State Committee. Visit www.alhr.org.au to find out more.