



## Nomination for Position on National Committee

*(Nominations from new members and from all states and territories are encouraged)*

I, Jarrah Ekstein

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(full name)

of [not for publication]

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(address)

Phone/e-mail [ordmembers@alhr.org.au](mailto:ordmembers@alhr.org.au)

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(contact details)

nominate for the  
position of:

Vice President or Ordinary member

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(President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Ordinary  
Member)

of the National Committee of Australian Lawyers for Human Rights Incorporated.

23 April 2018

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Signed by nominator (may be nominee)

Date:

Please set out below a (very 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.

If you are nominating for an ordinary member position please outline your experience or expertise in the subcommittee area chosen. Please also outline briefly your plans for the year ahead as chair of the subcommittee:

**Bio and experience with ALHR:** I was admitted as a solicitor of the NSW Supreme Court in 2012 and am a Senior Associate in Maurice Blackburn's Sydney 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.

As a plaintiff class actions lawyer, my expertise is in complex civil litigation. I have worked on cases seeking compensation for classes of 50 to 7000 people for loss or damage they have suffered as a result of negligence, and breaches of consumer and corporations law.

I have volunteered at community legal centres for the last nine years, at Inner City Legal Centre in Sydney, and at Caxton Legal Centre during my time 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 commemorating the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of class actions in Australia, all of which focus on class actions, social justice and access to justice.

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 been a member of ALHR since I was admitted as a solicitor in 2012. I became a NSW convenor in 2013 and then became an Ordinary Member (Governance) in the Executive Management Committee (EMC) in 2017.

As a state convenor, my focus was on member engagement and education, and fundraising. To this end, I organised numerous panel events on human rights issues including asylum seeker policy, abortion law reform, and international humanitarian law. 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 which raised significant funds for ALHR.

While living in Queensland for a year for work (Aug 2016 – Aug 2017) I stepped back from NSW convenor duties and continued my involvement in ALHR through the national committee and the Executive Management Committee. As a national committee member from 2013 and as an EMC member from 2017, I have taken an active role in ALHR's major projects including the first national ALHR conference in 2017, two major fundraising dinners, the website redesign and two membership-wide surveys. I have also been deeply engaged in the governance of ALHR which has involved supporting the executive in their decision-making, the transformation of the national committee to include chairs of thematic sub-committees, the

creation of the EMC, and day to day work such as reviewing and approving submissions, event proposals, and media releases.

**Reasons for nominating:** I am passionate about ALHR's purpose and its unique role in the Australian human rights landscape. I hope to remain actively involved in the leadership and governance of ALHR, either as vice president or as an ordinary member to support ALHR's work and magnify our impact. I can contribute critical thinking, project management skills, events organising experience, research and evaluation experience, strong networks across the private, community and government sectors, and familiarity with ALHR as an organisation (see above in bio).

I am particularly interested in developing ALHR's relationships with universities and have been involved in preliminary discussions with a university about hosting ALHR's second national human rights conference.

I am also keen to further strengthen ALHR's governance and better engage our current and future members.

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](mailto:secretary@alhr.org.au)

**Completed Nominations must be delivered to:**

By post: Secretary, ALHR  
PO Box A147  
Sydney South  
NSW 1235

By e-mail  
(as a pdf):

[secretary@alhr.org.au](mailto:secretary@alhr.org.au)