

Professional & directors' liability



What we do

- Defending directors and other professionals is one of our core specialties. We've earned our reputation as trusted advisers to some of New Zealand's largest professional firms and indemnity insurers. We are called on to handle some of their most sensitive matters, often where resolution on confidential terms is a priority.

How we help

- We use our extensive advisory and advocacy experience to handle matters of all sizes, from discrete complaints through to large claims arising from major corporate collapses.
- We regularly act for and advise directors, lawyers, accountants, professional trustees, real estate agents, architects, engineers, and other professionals facing disciplinary, regulatory, and civil proceedings.

Experience

- defending former directors of Feltex in the liability and loss phase of the \$200m litigation funded class action brought on behalf of more than 3,600 shareholder claimants arising from the Feltex IPO in 2004
- acting for a major accounting firm facing a professional negligence claim in a High Court class action arising out of the collapse of listed education company
- acting for a corporate trustee defending a litigation-funded claim brought by the receivers of Capital+Merchant Finance Ltd following its collapse owing investors around \$170m
- acting for an insurance intermediary in respect of claims arising out of earthquake damage to major infrastructure assets

- defending a firm of maritime lawyers against a substantial negligence claim arising from the sale of a fishing vessel
- acting for a corporate trustee defending a class action brought by investors following the collapse of LDC Finance Ltd resulting in investor losses of over \$20m
- representing lawyers facing complaints made to New Zealand Law Society Standards Committees and charges before the New Zealand Lawyers & Conveyancers Disciplinary Tribunal
- acting for major accounting firms and law firms facing significant civil and regulatory liability exposure
- regularly acting for insured professionals such as lawyers and accountants in defending sensitive and high-value claims and procuring their resolution on a confidential basis

Key Contacts

Martin Smith

Partner

DDI + 64 9 374 1109
M + 64 21 792 209
E martin.smith@gilbertwalker.com



Iva Rosic

Partner

DDI + 64 9 374 1101
M + 64 27 558 5863
E iva.rosic@gilbertwalker.com



Hamish McQueen

Partner

DDI + 64 9 374 1105
M + 64 27 337 1495
E hamish.mcqueen@gilbertwalker.com



Zoe Brentnall

Partner

DDI + 64 9 374 1106
M + 64 21 374 206
E zoe.brentnall@gilbertwalker.com

