

# HIGH COURT OF AUSTRALIA

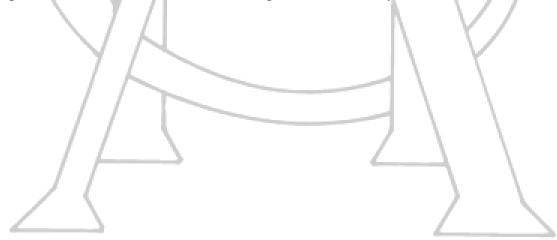
# NOTICE OF FILING

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	Details of Filing
File Number:	S24/2024 State of Queensland v. Mr Stradford (a pseudonym) & Ors
Registry:	Sydney
Document filed:	Form 27B - Appellant's chronology
Filing party:	Applicant
Date filed:	28 Mar 2024

# **Important Information**

This Notice has been inserted as the cover page of the document which has been accepted for filing electronically. It is now taken to be part of that document for the purposes of the proceeding in the Court and contains important information for all parties to that proceeding. It must be included in the document served on each of those parties and whenever the document is reproduced for use by the Court.



#### IN THE HIGH COURT OF AUSTRALIA SYDNEY REGISTRY

## S 24 of 2024

### STATE OF QUEENSLAND Appellant

and

## MR STRADFORD (A PSEUDONYM First Respondent

and

## JUDGE SALVATORE PAUL VASTA Second Respondent

and

### COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA Third Respondent

# **APPELLANT'S CHRONOLOGY**

#### Part I: Certification

This chronology is in a form suitable for publication on the internet.

Date	Event	Appeal Book reference
7 April 2017	Mr Stradford filed an initiating application in the	Page 67
	Federal Circuit Court of Australia (FCCA)	(Paragraph 7)
	seeking property adjustment orders under s 79 of	
	the Family Law Act 1975 (Cth) in respect of the	
	matrimonial assets owned by him and his then	
	wife, Mrs Stradford.	
19 June 2018	Matter came before Judge Spelleken. Her	Pages 72 to 73
	Honour listed the matter for hearing on	
	10 August 2018, and made orders for the filing	
	of further evidence.	
10 August 2018	Matter came before Judge Vasta for hearing. His	Pages 74 to 109
	Honour adjourned the hearing and made further	(Transcript of
	orders for disclosure.	hearing before

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**BETWEEN:** 

Date	Event	Appeal Book reference
		Judge Vasta);
		Pages 110 to 113 (Order of Judge Vasta)
26 November 2018	The matter came before Judge Turner. Her Honour asked the parties to address her with respect to whether the orders of Judge Vasta (made on 10 August 2018) had been complied with. Mrs Stradford complained that Mr Stradford had	Pages 129 to 134 (Transcript of hearing)
	not complied. Judge Turner ordered that the matter be adjourned and listed before Judge Vasta on 6 December 2018 for a contempt hearing.	
6 December 2018	The matter came before Judge Vasta for the 'contempt hearing'. His Honour delivered ex tempore reasons before making declarations and the Imprisonment Order. Mr Stradford was	Pages 137 to 147 (Transcript of hearing)
	sentenced to a term of imprisonment (12 months) commencing immediately.	Pages 148 to 150 (Order of Judge Vasta)
		Pages 151 to 160 (Judgment of Judge Vasta - [2018] FCCA 3890)
6 December 2018 at 11.43am	The FCC telephoned the Queensland Police Service and requested the officers attend the Federal Circuit Court building.	Pages 162 to 163
6 December 2018 at 12.25pm	Judge Vasta signed a 'Warrant of Commitment'.	Page 69 (paragraph 14) Page 161
6 December 2018	Two 'MSS' security guards, at least one of whom was called to the court room at 11.56am, and was present in the court room from at least 12.05pm and during the delivery of Judge Vasta's ex tempore reasons, took custody of Mr Stradford and escorted him to a holding cell in	Page 69 (paragraph 15)

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Date	Event	Appeal Book reference		
	the Brisbane Federal Circuit Court building.			
6 December 2018	Between approximately 12.54pm and 1.00pm, officers of the Queensland Police Service left with Mr Stradford, handcuffed in their custody, and took him in a police van to the Roma Street Watchhouse.	Page 69 (paragraph 18)		
6 December 2018 to 10 December 2018	Mr Stradford was detained at the Roma Street Watchhouse by officers of the Queensland Police Service	Page 69 (paragraph 19)		
10 December 2018	Mr Stradford was transferred to the Brisbane Correctional Centre.	Page 69 (paragraph 20)		
10 December 2018 to 12 December 2018	Mr Stradford was imprisoned at the Brisbane Correctional Centre.	Page 69 (paragraph 21)		
12 December 2018	Mr Stradford applied for a stay of the Imprisonment Order pending an appeal to the Full Court of the Family Court. Judge Vasta granted the stay.	Pages 166 to 192 (Transcript of hearing)		
		Pages 164 to 165 (Order of Judge Vasta)		
		Pages 193 to 198 (Judgment of Judge Vasta)		
12 December 2018	Mr Stradford was released from Brisbane Correctional Centre.	Page 70 (paragraph 23)		
15 February 2019	The Full Court of the Family Court of Australia delivered judgment unanimously allowing Mr Stradford's appeal from the orders made by	Pages 200 to 201 (Order)		
	Judge Vasta on 6 December 2018.	Pages 202 to 229 (Judgment - [2019] FamCAFC 25)		
History of proceedings				
7 December 2020	Mr Stradford filed an originating application in the Federal Court claiming damages against Judge Vasta, the Commonwealth and State of Queensland.	Pages 5 to 9		

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6 to 15 December 2021 and 24 May 2022	Trial before Wigney J.	
30 August 2023	Wigney J delivered judgment and awarded damages of \$312,500 to Mr Stradford.	Pages 243 to 470
2 November 2023	Wigney J delivered judgment on costs. Mr Stradford awarded costs but not for those referrable to his forensic accounting expert.	
27 September 2023	The appellant (NSD1092/2023), second respondent (ACD54/2023) and third respondent (NSD1091/2023) filed Notices of Appeal from the decision of Wigney J.	Pages 471 to 486
8 February 2024	High Court ordered the removal of all 3 Appeals.	Pages 487 to 495

Dated

28 March 2024

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