

# Chambers

High Net Worth

2020

Leading HNW Professionals  
worldwide

Australia

## How lawyers are ranked

Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

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## Private Wealth Law

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McCullough Robertson	
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Hall & Wilcox*	
KHQ Lawyers	
Leading Individuals	
<b>Band 1</b>	
Leibler AC Mark	Arnold Bloch Leibler
Levin Adam	Jackson McDonald
Paterson Ross	Arnold Bloch Leibler
<b>Band 2</b>	
Stuk Jack	KHQ Lawyers
<b>Band 3</b>	
Borensztajn Joey	Arnold Bloch Leibler
Woolley Emma	Hall & Wilcox
* Indicates firm with profile.	
Alphabetical within each band. Band 1 is highest.	

### Band 1

#### Arnold Bloch Leibler

Arnold Bloch Leibler is described by one source as an “exceptionally strong firm which really specialises in looking after HNW individuals and families at the highest level.” Another comments that the lawyers are “responsive and technically very strong, very committed, accessible and easy to deal with.”

Another source notes: “The service provided by ABL has always been of the highest quality. All of the ABL lawyers I have dealt with have outstanding legal knowledge and experience, a pragmatic and solution-based approach to legal disputes, a great attention to detail, outstanding drafting skills and are personable and approachable.”

#### Notable practitioners

**Mark Leibler AC** is “a legend in the taxation arena,” according to one source, and another calls Leibler “tax royalty in Australia.” In addition, an interviewee notes that he is “par-

ticularly excellent these days for charitable disputes. He never gives up and is immensely resolved.”

**Ross Paterson** is a highly respected private client lawyer, described by one source as “balanced with good judgement.” Another interviewee comments: “He has a very pleasant and genuine manner which enables him to relate easily to a wide range of personalities. Ross is a clear communicator.”

**Joey Borensztajn** is praised for his “excellent judgement and deep experience” by one source, while another notes: “He is calm and considered, and has an ability to succinctly communicate and document complex situations.” A client enthuses: “Joey Borensztajn protects my interests like they were his own.”

#### Jackson McDonald

A source says that the private clients department of this Western Australia firm is “noted for its work with mining execs—it’s a small practice group, but it’s the premier WA group and my first choice there.”

Jackson McDonald is a full-service firm in Perth, and often works with business-owning clients in the region on their corporate and personal legal matters.

#### Notable practitioners

**Adam Levin** is “the first choice in Western Australia” according to one source, who calls him “a quality practitioner.” Levin handles a wide array of private client matters.

### Band 2

#### McCullough Robertson

McCullough Robertson advises high net worth clients on a wide array of private wealth matters. “They’re excellent – their strongest points are their people and their knowledge,” comments one source.

Another interviewee notes: “The strongest point of MCR is the depth of its knowledge and experience in its practice areas. I have complete confidence that all matters, from the

simplest to the most complex litigations can be handled expertly by the firm.”

#### Notable practitioners

**Damien Clarke** is a key contact for this practice.

### Band 3

#### Hall & Wilcox

Hall & Wilcox is a respected Australian law firm with offices in Sydney and Melbourne. “They’re a good firm, and their tax profile is real – an excellent group,” comments one source.

The firm has dedicated international desks, and is therefore a strong choice for clients with holdings outside Australia or with cross-border issues.

#### Notable practitioners

**Emma Woolley** is described as “an excellent estate planner, and a clever, practical lawyer” by one source. Another describes her as “great to deal with, and a very entertaining speaker as well.” Woolley advises clients on a wide range of private client matters.

#### KHQ Lawyers

KHQ is “technically sound, easy to deal with, and good value for money” according to one source, who also praises the team’s “pragmatic advice.”

The private wealth group is led by Jack Stuk. One interviewee notes: “Jack and the team have a deep understanding of tax and commercial service delivery. They are always professional.”

#### Notable practitioners

**Jack Stuk** is a highly respected private client lawyer. “I have always found Jack’s advice to be excellent technically without losing commercial perspective,” comments one source, while another adds: “He is a very good strategic thinker in relation to tax structuring and advice.”

## Trust Companies

Trust Companies

Leading Firm

Mutual Trust

### **Mutual Trust**

Mutual Trust *“offers highly tailored services to high net worth individuals,”* according to one source. The firm acts as a fiduciary, but is also able to provide accounting, tax and wealth management assistance. *“They bring the family governance, helping families find their purpose, but also take care of the back office excellently. They cultivate a nice community,”* observes a commentator.

*“I rank them so highly,”* enthuses an interviewee, adding: *“It’s a really excellent team of advisers for complex tax matters. It’s definitely the premier group.”*