

## **PETER WILLIAM LIGHT COUSENS AM**

Graduate Lawyer | Expected Admission August 2026  
Sydney, NSW | 0403 511 901 | [peter@petercousens.com](mailto:peter@petercousens.com) | [LinkedIn Profile](#)

### **PROFESSIONAL PROFILE**

Graduate lawyer completing admission requirements following a diverse professional career spanning more than four decades in leadership, advocacy, communications, governance, and public facing roles in the performing arts.

Brings substantial experience working in high-pressure and emotionally complex creative environments requiring disciplined preparation, sound judgment, stakeholder management, public communication, and calm decision-making. Extensive experience working closely with creative individuals in vulnerable high-stakes circumstances.

Now seeking to contribute these capabilities within legal practice while continuing to develop under supervision as an early-career legal practitioner.

Areas of interest varied but include – advocacy, litigation, commercial, and entertainment.

### **EDUCATION & ADMISSION**

- Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice (PLT) – Leo Cussen Centre for Law | 2026
- Juris Doctor (JD) – University of Canberra | 2026
- Certificate IV Training and Assessment | 2021
- Master of Arts (Creative Writing) – Central Queensland University | 2019
- Bachelor of Drama (Acting) – National Institute of Dramatic Art

### **LEGAL EXPERIENCE – to be completed**

Supervised Professional Placement | 15 June – 3 July | 2026

*Hicksons | Hunt & Hunt | Holman Webb* – Commercial Litigation practise group

#### **Exposure to:**

- legal research and drafting
- litigation procedures
- client communication
- legal document preparation
- court and matter observation
- professional conduct and practice management

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Artistic Director

*Talent Development Project* | 2017 – 2025

- NSW Government funded not-for-profit – governance, negotiation, stakeholder management, public communication, and leadership within highly pressured public-facing environments.

### Casual Lecturer

*Sydney Conservatorium of Music* | 2022 – Present

- One on one performance training and creative engagement.
- Negotiating self-belief and guiding artists toward high fidelity outcomes in vulnerable public contexts.

### Director & Producer – Major Feature Film

*Freedom* | 2012 – 2014

- Directed and produced international feature film *Freedom*, starring Cuba Gooding Jr., involving multidisciplinary teams across Australia and the United States.
- Managed \$5mill budget, contract negotiation, stakeholder coordination, budget oversight, and financier reporting within a complex production environment.

### Adjunct Associate Professor

*Central Queensland Conservatorium of Music* | 2011 – 2021

### Community & Professional Engagement

- Ambassador – Neuroscience Research Australia (NeuRA) | 2022 –2025
- Patron – Freedom Hub | 2014 – present
- Australia Day Ambassador – ongoing

## AWARDS & HONOURS

### Member of the Order of Australia (AM)

Appointed in 2019 for significant service to theatre and the community.

### Companion of the University

Central Queensland University | 2019