

## EVAN L. JONES

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4 December, 2007

To whom it may concern,

I am a solicitor in general practice in rural New South Wales.

In 2001 I retained Karen Stott to act for me and my family in coronial proceedings and later civil proceedings following the tragic death of my wife, Caroline Anderson. Caroline died in avoidable circumstances from the consequences of an epidural abscess following the birth of our son at the Prince of Wales Private Hospital.

Karen had the conduct of these matters which extended over a considerable period, 3 years in the case of the coronial proceedings and a similar period for the civil proceedings. Junior and senior counsel were briefed in both matters. The coronial inquest extended over 19 sitting days in the Dubbo and Westmead Coroners Courts and heard evidence from approximately 30 witnesses. The civil proceedings were listed for hearing in the Supreme Court of NSW but settled shortly prior to the hearing commencing.

I believe that I am in the unique position of being able to comment on Karen's personal and professional qualities from both the perspective of a 'client' and also as a fellow member of the legal profession.

From the viewpoint of a client I could not have wished for a better advocate than Karen Stott. She was hardworking, fearless and utterly dedicated to the task of serving the interests of me and my family. Karen was always available to answer our questions, to give advice and to provide up to date information about the proceedings. She was sensitive and compassionate and was always sympathetic and considerate in her dealings with my family, to the extent that she has become a close and trusted friend.

From my viewpoint as a fellow legal practitioner I would hold Karen up as a fine example to the profession. Her representation was of the highest standard of professionalism. She was always well prepared and researched, she had a thorough understanding of the issues and legal principles involved and she worked fearlessly to advance my best interests and those of my family. I would recommend Karen without hesitation.

Yours faithfully



Solicitor

Practising certificate no. 36973