



Steve Ramsey – Senior Reviewer – Canberra

Investigations and reviews have been a fundamental part of Steve's 30 year working life, almost all of it concerning the public sector.

For the last two years of his public service career Steve was the Assistant Commissioner (SES 1) for Fraud Prevention and Internal Investigations at the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) where he led teams preventing, detecting and investigating internal fraud. The role was also responsible for managing and delivering the Public Interest Disclosure scheme within the ATO and dealing with complaints made through external bodies such as the Inspector General of Taxation.

Steve also worked for four years as the National Manager, Workplace Relations at the Department of Human Services where his responsibilities included:

- conducting investigations into alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct;
- determining the sanctions to be imposed where a breach was found;
- implementing and delivering the Public Interest Disclosure scheme;
- responding to complaints made to the Minister or the Secretary concerning employee conduct; and
- providing expert advice to Departmental teams with respect to complex human resource matters.

As the Principal Advisor, Review and Legal at the Australian Public Service Commission (APSC) Steve spent two years exercising the review functions of the Merit Protection Commissioner under the Public Service Act. This included making all decisions, and authoring all reports, with respect to applications by employees for review of employment decisions, or for review of a decision that they had breached the Code of Conduct and/or of the sanction imposed. He was also the Senior Legal Advisor for two years at the APSC, advising the Commissioner on all legal matters.

Steve has excellent writing skills. Investigation reports, especially those as delegate of the Merit Protection Commissioner, have to clearly and cogently explain the review decision to both the employer and the employee, and withstand external scrutiny and review, including judicial review. Steve has also authored a range of policy and procedural material, including investigation standards to meet the requirements of the Commonwealth Fraud Control Framework, Public Interest Disclosure procedures, Code of Conduct procedures and training manuals for investigators.

He has delivered training and seminars on matters including integrity and conduct to a range of audiences. He represented the APSC in Papua New Guinea and Jakarta to enhance organisational integrity as part of the Public Sector Workforce Development Program.

Before joining the APS in 2006 Steve worked in various roles representing the interests of union members, both in-house and as a private practice lawyer. This included advocating for both individuals and organisations before a range of tribunals, Courts and Parliamentary Committees.

Steve is a graduate of the Australian National University in both Arts and Law (with Honours) and holds a Certificate IV in Government Investigations.

Providing Reviews of Decisions and Actions, Workplace Investigations
and Related Strategic Advice to the Public Sector and Other Organisations