

NOTICE OF FILING

Details of Filing

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File Number: NTD17/2024
File Title: LESLEY TURNER v JACINTA NAMPIJINPA PRICE
Registry: NORTHERN TERRITORY REGISTRY - FEDERAL COURT OF AUSTRALIA

Registrar

Important Information

This Notice has been inserted as the first page of the document which has been accepted for electronic filing. 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.

The date of the filing of the document is determined pursuant to the Court's Rules.

Form 59
Rule 29.02(1)

Affidavit

No. NTD17 of 2024

Federal Court of Australia
District Registry: Northern Territory
Division: General

LESLEY TURNER

Applicant

JACINTA NAMPIJINPA PRICE

Respondent

Affidavit of: **Lila D'souza**

Address: [Redacted]

Occupation: Legal and governance consultant and solicitor

Date: 21 February 2025

I, Lila D'souza, of 26 Wood Street, Lane Cove West, say on oath/affirm:

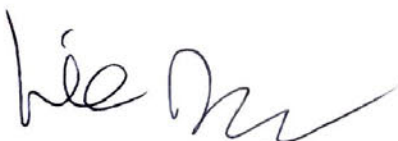
1. I am a legal and governance consultant and a solicitor. I am a Legal Practice Director of The Purpose Group Australia Pty Ltd, an incorporated legal practice firm which specialises in advising not-for-profit organisations, particularly Aboriginal community-controlled organisations.
2. I have an extensive background working in Aboriginal community-controlled organisations, including senior executive roles at the Aboriginal Legal Service (NSW/ACT) Ltd and the NSW Aboriginal Land Council.
3. I first met Lesley Turner (**Les**) when we worked together at the NSW Aboriginal Land Council. I was the Principal Legal Officer, and I believe Les was the Southern Zone Director at that time.


[Handwritten Signature]
 Christopher Jordan Pelcz
 NSW JP Reg No: 212363
 21 Feb 2025

Filed on behalf of Lesley Turner, applicant
 Prepared by Victoria-Jane Otavski
 Law firm BlackBay Lawyers
 Tel [Redacted] Fax _____
 Email [Redacted]
 Address for service Level 30, 133 Castlereagh St, Sydney, NSW 2000

[Handwritten Signature]

4. Many of my colleagues and professional acquaintances who work for or consult to organisations in the area of Aboriginal social justice are also familiar with Les.
5. Prior to the publication of Senator Price's media release, Les had a sterling reputation. He was extremely highly esteemed among the people I know. He was renowned for his integrity and was known as an extremely competent leader. He was highly regarded by people who have worked with him at all levels.
6. Les was known as someone who treats everyone with respect. He has a very strong sense of caring and connection for staff and colleagues and was well known for his ethical approach and also for his practical problem solving and outcome focused leadership.
7. Because Les has worked in Aboriginal affairs for many decades, and also because of his family connections, many people knew that he has good skills and experience, an understanding of the issues and how to run an organisation. He was known for having a particularly deep understanding of issues relating to compliance, probity and transparency because of the extra oversight and scrutiny of government-funded Aboriginal organisations.
8. In about July 2024, I read a post on social media, which linked to a media release in which Senator Jacinta Price alleged that there had been a no-confidence motion against Les at the Central Land Council (CLC). My initial reaction was that there might be some truth to the allegation because Senator Price is from the Northern Territory, she is a well known Aboriginal person, she is a parliamentarian and her source was apparently the Chairperson of the CLC.
9. Concerned, I went to the CLC's website to check whether the claim about Les was true. On the website, I saw the CLC's media release denying that there had been any motion to dismiss Les.
10. When I spoke to Les on the telephone not long afterwards, he seemed upset and angry. I recall him saying "This is a bridge too far", "I've had enough", and that he had engaged lawyers. I knew that this was a big step for him to take, and the fact that he did so just emphasises how upset he was. Les is usually very calm.




Christopher Jordan Pelcz
NSW JP Reg No: 212363
21/10/2025

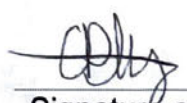
He is not a man of many words, but I could tell by the tone of his voice that he was seriously aggrieved.

Sworn/affirmed by the deponent
at Sydney
in the state of New South Wales
on 21 February 2025
Before me:

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Signature of deponent



Signature of witness

Christopher Jordan Pelez
NSW JP Reg No: 212363
21/02/2025