

# **FCA**

CA Business Valuation Specialist CA Forensic Accounting Specialist

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Hugh is responsible for Nexia Edwards Marshall's Forensic Accounting division.



Scan the QR code to download Hugh's digital business card.

Hugh is best known for his work as an independent accounting expert, particularly relating to economic loss and business valuations, with extensive experience in family law business valuations and investigations.

Hugh is a long standing contributor to the Australian accounting profession through his involvement in the activities of Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand and CPA Australia, and the legal profession through his membership of the Law Society of South Australia, Family Law Committee.

# **Expertise**

- Business Valuation
- Forensic Accounting
- Financial Investigations
- Funding Controller
- Business Ethics
- Probity Auditing

#### Formal Qualifications and Memberships

- Bachelor of Arts in Accountancy, University of South Australia
- Fellow, Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand
- Business Valuation Specialist and Forensic Accounting Specialist,
  Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand
- Member, Australian Restructuring Insolvency and Turnaround Association
- ASIC Registered Company Auditor
- Member, Family Law Committee of the Law Society of South Australia
- Member, National Business Valuation Committee of Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand



#### **Share and Business Valuations**

Hugh is a recognised specialist in the provision of equity (shores and units) and business valuation services, particularly for the purpose of matrimonial property proceedings. Hugh specialises in the valuation of closely held enterprises, particularly, professional services enterprises, and minority interests.

# Forensic Accounting

Hugh has been engaged in a significant number of litigation support assignments, primarily in connection with the assessment of damages and claims for economic loss arising from loss of a chance. Hugh's evidence as an independent accounting expert has been accepted in the Federal Court of Australia. Hugh's evidence has been accepted in the Supreme Courts of South Australia and Western Australia, and the District Court of South Australia.

# Financial Investigations

Hugh also has extensive experience in financial reconstructions and investigations for the purpose of establishing evidence of transactions. Hugh's experience in this field has included major corporate entities where a fraud has been alleged and in the matrimonial property context where a failure to disclose has been alleged.

## **Auditing**

Hugh is an ASIC Registered Company Auditor. Hugh's audit experience includes the full range of assurance services, including consideration of issues relating to the issuing of audit opinions, planning, supervising and carrying out audit-related tasks.

# **Probity Auditing**

Hugh has experience as a probity adviser for government and non-government pro?? and asset disposal.

#### **Due Diligence**

Hugh has been engaged in due diligence investigations for potential purchasers of businesses. These assignments have also been of a range of sizes, from the sale of assets of the State of South Australia to the sale of medium-sized businesses.

# **Funding Controller**

Hugh has acted as funding controller of indigenous communities.

#### **Business Ethics**

Hugh has a particular interest in ethical issues affecting accountants in public practice.



# Experience

Some of Hugh's greatest successes have arisen in matters in which disputes have been able to be resolved, rather than the parties becoming embroiled in ongoing expensive and protracted litigation.

Hugh considers that meeting with the parties, particularly in matrimonial property valuations, can lead to greater understanding and fair recognition of the value of property in respect of which the parties have an interest.

| Assignment   | Process and outcome  |
|--|--|
| Retained by a leading manufacturer of rooftop air conditioners in connection with a large product liability claim.   | In conjunction with a marketing expert, Hugh's opinion of loss was accepted by the Federal Court, leading to a substantial award of damages.   |
| Periodically values the share capital of<br>a South Australian based professional<br>services firm, pursuant to annual<br>Shareholders' Agreement obligations. | These assignments bring special challenges because of the changing dynamic of financial performance, capital structure and underlying economic conditions.   |
| Valued minority interests in unlisted public companies.  | In one case, Hugh's valuation played a part in the rationalisation of the group's underlying property interests and the resulting return of underlying value to all shareholders. Valuations of illiquid minority interests bring special challenges concerning the likelihood of future uncertain events. |
| Acted for land and business owners in connection with claims against the State Government arising from the compulsory acquisition of land.                     | Hugh has valued enterprises which have been displaced by the compulsory acquisition of their business premises.  |

# Why Nexia Edwards Marshall



### A culture of success

We hire a diverse range of individuals with the ability to ask the right questions, listen actively and analyse deeply to spot missed opportunities.



#### We'll get you there

We're a top 20 global network, already on the ground in over 120 countries, and have offices in every mainland state and territory in Australia.



### The specialists you need

We offer over 30 sector and service specialties, from property and construction, healthcare, professional services and many more.



### Ready for what's next

We equip our team with the vital skills to thrive in tomorrow's world, so we can guide you to success, no matter what this looks like.



# **Experience continued**

#### Process and outcome Assignment Hugh's expertise in these matters particularly relates to his capacity Acted in a range of matters involving to interrogate and describe financial data from which rational claims for loss of a chance arising from conclusions are drawn, and produce written opinions which fairly and claims in contract, pursuant to the Trade comprehensively describe and measure the merits or deficiencies of Practices Act, and in tort. a claim. Appointed by the Federal Court as the liquidator of United Investments Trust, After extensive investigation, Hugh effected a return to unit holders an unregistered managed investment from the proceeds of actions brought in his capacity as liquidator scheme, following the loss of several against parties who had acted against the entity's interests. million dollars in unit holder's funds.



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