

CV

Nicholas Alan McTaggart

Personal Information:

Founder
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Work experience

Position held	Date	Duties and responsibilities
Investigator	1979	First Joint State and Federal Taskforce into corruption within the Australian Customs service resulting in the successful prosecution of a senior customs officer for smuggling native birdlife.
Investigator	1979- 2000	5 separate Royal Commission investigations involving tax evasion, organised narcotic trafficking and corruption.
Case Officer/Manager	1979 - 2000	Strategically and tactically managed and executed numerous Transnational Organised Crime Investigations involving some of the AFP's largest, most protracted, and complex investigations domestically and internationally which resulted in significant criminal convictions and recovery of proceeds of crime. Involved in informant recruiting and handling and dealing with at risk witnesses.
Project Manager	2000 - 2003	Responsible for the Strategic and Tactical formation and implementation of an enterprise wide corporate project involving the re-engineering of exhibiting handling procedures within the AFP including comprehensive policy review of existing policies; IT review and development of enhanced solutions; and, extensive business practice and procedure reform and implementation. The project resulted in considerable cultural adjustment when dealing with exhibits that significantly improved governance and accountability which continued to exist in its entirety for a decade.
Coordinator/Manager	2003 - 2005	Economic & Special Operations A – Sydney Office – Responsible for the strategic guidance, management and implementation of high frequency 'Response' activity and short-term investigations involving economic crime and politically influenced investigations. This included dealing with a number of very sensitive investigations initiated by stakeholders
Coordinator/Manager	2005 - 2008	Economic & Special Operations B – Sydney Office – Responsible for the strategic guidance and management and implementation of long term complex economic investigations, Project Wickenby and Asset Forfeiture. During this time, I was responsible for 140 sworn and unsworn staff which included seconded staff from partner agencies.
Representative	2006 - 2016	Asian Pacific Group on Money laundering (APG) involved with the annual experts' workshops and the Financial Action Taskforce (FATF). Intimately involved in Australia's response to the 2015 FATF mutual evaluation
Coordinator/Manager	2008 - 2010	Operations Adelaide Office responsible of strategic guidance, management and implementation of all investigations non-terrorism based undertaken by Adelaide office
National Coordinator	2010 - 2016	Asset Confiscation Taskforce – Responsible for the national coordination of a whole-of-government taskforce responsible for asset restraint of the Commonwealth. During this assignment, I was responsible for an increase in assets restrained from \$18 million to \$247 million dollars, a level which has not been achieved since.
Consultant – Founder of the Murinbin Group incorporating Murinbin Consulting Pty Ltd.	2016	Engaged to update the Graduate certificate curriculum on AML/CTF for the Australian Financial Markets Association.

Executive Consultant	2016 - 2017	Australian Transaction and reporting agency (AUSTRAC) - engaged to strategically review practices and procedures to improve the organisation's performance.
Advisor	2018 - 2019	Advisor to Fijian Revenue and Customers to provide strategic and operational guidance with a view to increasing Fiji's revenue take.
Advisor	2016 -2019	Advisor to a number of Technology start-up companies involved in identifying threats and providing mitigating solutions relating to economic crime, including fraud, corruption counterfeiting and, data quality solutions including the capability of successfully analysing encrypted data.

Education

Institution	Degree/Diploma/Trade Cert etc	Year Completed
Sydney TAFE	Advance Certificate in Personnel Management	
UTS	Bachelor of Business	1998
Manly	Graduate Certificate in Applied Management – Australian Institute of Police Management	1999
Hong Kong	Hong Kong Police Senior Command Course	2007
Vietnam	ARLEMP Course	2009
Canberra	Management of Serious Crime Course	2015

Relevant Vocational Training

Training	Date Completed
Investigator Training	1982
Detective Training	1984
Numerous seminars and workshops domestically and internationally	1984 - 2004
Advanced Techniques in Financial Investigations – USDEA international training	2004

Supervisory, Leadership and Management Experience:

Job Title	No of reports/Range of responsibilities	Date
Acting Superintendent	National Crime Authority	1988 - 1990
Acting Superintendent	Response Branch, Drug Operations Division, Eastern Region	Numerous period 1990 - 1992
Acting Superintendent	General Operations Branch, D.O.D., Eastern Region	Numerous period 1990 - 1992
Acting Superintendent/Coordinator	Major Investigations including National Coordinator Niacin	1996
Acting Superintendent/Coordinator	Operations, Eastern Region	Various periods 1997
Acting Superintendent/Coordinator	Investigations Support	1998 - 1999
Acting Director	Operations – Sydney Office	Relieving periods 1999
Acting Director	Operations Support – Sydney Office	Relieving periods 1999
National Project Manager	Corporate Support - Canberra	2000 - to 2003
Manager Economic	Canberra	3 Weeks 2004
National Coordinator	Criminal Asset Confiscation Taskforce	2010 – Feb 2016

Operational or Other Experience:

Job Title	No of reports/Range of responsibilities	Date
Investigator Costigan Royal Commission,	Investigate organized crime investigating corruption of the waterfront including significant tax evasion	1979 - 1981
Investigator Organized Crime Branch Sydney	Investigate organized crime including Case Officer Operation Lavender involving a large international crime syndicate	1981 - 1985
Investigator to OIC - Illiad reference – National Crime Authority (NCA)	Investigate Asian Organized Crime	1985 - 1990

Investigator – Superintendent Operations Sydney Office	Response work most drug orientated	1990 - 1993
Case Office Operation Caribou	Largest importation of narcotics in Australia at the time. International investigation involving 83,000 telephone calls, months of surveillance and a number of defendants. Investigation involved the build and presentation of evidence by way of electronic briefs which were groundbreaking for the time.	1993 - 2004
Project Manager	Corporate projects centered on Property and exhibits handling involving the creation and implementation of Computer software solutions that were strategically cutting edge for the time.	2000 - 2003
Investigations manager	During my career, I have been both a member of a team and the manager responsible for some of the most complex, protracted yet successful investigations undertaken by Australian authorities and their international partners.	1993 - 2016
Conference/ Workshop Speaker	APG Typologies workshops - Sri Lanka, Vietnam, South Korea, China, Mongolia Macau and New Zealand. APG plenary Brisbane, Shanghai. FATF plenary Paris. ACAMS speaker – Indonesia, Thailand, Singapore and Australia. Money Laundering and economic crime conferences in The Netherlands, New Zealand, England, Hong Kong and India. Numerous Money Laundering and economic crime conferences in Australia including presentations involving Sydney University. Workshops ranging from 1 day to 1 week held in China of MPS, USA for DEA and ICE, Maldives. HMRC Compliance & Transparency Forum Sept 2017 - Singapore Numerous private sector briefings and information sessions in Australia.	
Author of Papers for APG/FATF	Carbon trading scoping document; Trade based money laundering (TBML); and, the vulnerabilities of the gold market to ML/TF.	
Author of paper for Financial crime journal on behalf of Cambridge University	This paper published in the Septembers 2017 special edition of the journal.	
Australian Financial Markets Association	Update their graduated diploma course on AML/TF. Currently on the review faculty of that course	
Sydney University	Contributed to Two separate publications	

Awards and Recognition

Award or recognition	Date
Commissioners Certificate – Operation Lavender	1984
US DEA	1989
Commissioners Certificate – Operation Caribou	1996
Australia Day Medallion	1998
National Manager Certificate	2004

Personal Assessment

During my career, I have demonstrated a very high level of strategic thinking which I consider to be one of my strengths. This attribute has allowed me to have considerable success in investigation outcomes whilst managing both costs and the time taken to resolution. I have demonstrated an ability to clearly assess an environment and recognise the risks and threats that are presented and the most appropriate solutions to mitigate risks arising from the threats. My exposure to both domestic and international criminal environments gives me a unique insight into explicit problems that exists and successful solutions to those problems.

Combatting the Organised Crime financial enterprise requires a comprehensive network of collaboration between the Public and Private sector that is far more advanced than simply focusing on those who undertake the underlying predicate crime.

The presence of complicit and non-complicit professional gatekeepers and facilitators also complicates effective outcomes which is why a comprehensive understanding of the current suite of legislation, practices and procedures, grounded in both the criminal and civil law is important. My skills in recruiting and handling informants and at-risk witnesses gives me insight into the subtleties often needed to progress sensitive matters.

My experience in transnational tax evasion, money laundering and illegal asset identification, restraint and confiscation have led me to conclude that whilst difficult, success is not impossible. As a matter of fact, during my career, had I had more resources available to me, the significant successes I achieved could have been even more pronounced. There is a significant amount of financial criminal mischief that can be identified if you are aware of where to look, how to recognise it and have the resources to disrupt it. An example is that prior to the commencement of the Commonwealth Asset Confiscation Taskforce the Commonwealth of Australia's total restraint was \$18 million. After being given responsibility to help redesign, coordinate and enhance the capability of the Commonwealth in this regard, I took the total amount restrained for the year to \$247 million prior to my departure from the Australian Federal Police. I have calculated that during my career the investigations I have been personally involved in or managed both domestically and internationally, have amount to close to one billion dollars in proceeds of crime restrained.

The subject matter expertise I have gained over a long period of time has translated into the authoring of a number of published papers and speaking engagements. This includes an APG Topology paper on Trade Based money laundering still very relevant today and another on the vulnerability of the gold market to money laundering. This same expertise allowed me to update the Australian Financial Markets Association graduated diploma course on AML/TF.

Whilst I have left the Australian Federal Police, I have not lost my passion for the work I do and that is why I founded The Murinbin Group. I am committed to formulating strong collaboration between, the government and the private sector, and within the private sector, to enhance success. It is for these reasons, I believe I have the skills, aptitude and temperament that you are looking for to succeed in achieving the outcomes you are looking for.