

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

*Embargoed until 28 June 2021*

### **New CBD office, awards, promotions and staff additions at KLM Solicitors**

Criminal and family law specialist KLM Solicitors has signalled its arrival among Brisbane's mid-tier firms with the opening of its CBD Office today (28 June), new appointments, awards and internal promotions.

KLM Solicitors last month took out an Excellence Award in the Australasian Law Awards 2021 for Law Firm Leader of the Year (<200 employees). This was followed with success for Senior Associate **Jane Bruxner** and Criminal Law Solicitor **Stephanie Tsimos** who were Finalists in the Lawyers Weekly 30 Under 30 Awards (Criminal Law Category).

Managing Partner **Kelli Martin** also announced two internal promotions, and two new additions to the growing team.

**Morgan O'Rourke** joins the firm's Maroochydore office as a Law Clerk, and **Brooke Janssen** has been appointed as a Legal Assistant at the new Brisbane CBD Office. They are joined by **Amahlia Riley**, who joins the Family Law team as a Solicitor.

Solicitors **Sam Hollis** and **Phoebe Courtney** have been promoted to new roles as Associates, in recognition of several years of outstanding professional service to the firm and to the community.

Mr Hollis has worked on family law and domestic violence matters as a Solicitor at the firm since 2016.

"It's been a pleasure learning and growing with such a supportive and tight-knit team over the past five years," Mr Hollis said.

"I look forward to continuing to grow with the firm as I step up to my new role, and as we open our first Brisbane CBD office this month as part of KLM's exciting growth strategy."

Ms Courtney joined KLM Solicitors in 2017, practising in Family Law.

"I am honoured to be promoted to the role of Associate. Kelli Martin's support and mentorship over the past four years have been invaluable," Ms Courtney said.

"She has provided me with the confidence and skills I need to excel in the industry. This new role will further assist me in achieving not only the firms' goals, but also my personal goals, while being able to work for the benefit of our clients who are at the core of what we do every day."

.../2

Ms Martin said the latest appointments and promotions were a continuation of KLM Solicitors' growth strategy.

She opened the firm in 2015 as a two-person operation. Fast forward six years, and KLM Solicitors has grown to a team of almost 30 staff with a high retention rate, strong culture and a deep commitment to social justice.

"I'm excited to see two of our talented team members move into new roles within the firm," Ms Martin said.

"It's a recognition of exceptional legal talent, leadership skills and a willingness to pursue further opportunities for growth, both individual professional growth and the growth of KLM Solicitors.

"I look forward to continuing to mentor young legal professionals and providing them with new opportunities to succeed and achieve their goals. This is something I will always strive to do."

Ms Martin said the opening of KLM Solicitors' CBD office would provide greater access for clients across its four locations, all strategically located in the vicinity of court complexes.

The new KLM Solicitors CBD office also includes a meeting room space which will be made available to community groups for use at no charge.

As a Director of the Red Rose Foundation Board and a domestic violence prevention advocate, Ms Martin said the meeting room space would be named in honour of Hannah Clarke.

"The opportunity to help others, even in such a small way as this, is something that I know Hannah and her family would support," Ms Martin said.

On behalf of the Clarke family, **Sue Clarke** (mother of Hannah) said: "We are honoured and humbled that KLM Solicitors is doing this for our family."

**Media contact: Cheryl Gray 0409 599 890**