



Adelaide innovator wins big at Telstra Business Women's Awards

Law firm Founder, Mellissa Larkin, recognised with Small Business Award.

Media Release

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Adelaide legal and consulting firm, Peripheral Blue, has scored a big win, with its Founder and Managing Director, Mellissa Larkin, being named as the South Australian Small Business Winner in the 2020 Telstra Business Women's Awards.

This prestigious award recognises Mellissa's achievements in innovation in law and her redefining of the way people engage with and think about their lawyers and commercial advisers.

When asked what distinguished her as a Finalist, judges described Mellissa as "humble," adding that they were "impressed with her solid business acumen, confidence, and calm, controlled leadership style."

In winning the award, Mellissa expressed her gratitude and heralded the work her colleagues and staff contribute to the firm's success.

"I'm so honoured to have won this award and incredibly grateful to our very talented Peripheral Blue team and our clients who were willing to take a chance on us and consider doing things differently. I will always be so very grateful to each and every one of them. It's been our great privilege to partner with them," she said.

"Since launching the business, I've found continued inspiration in knowing that what we are doing is truly different"

In founding Peripheral Blue in 2016, Mellissa's vision was of a legal and consulting firm with a difference. Since then she has embraced innovation, setting out on a mission to create a truly flexible workplace, for staff and clients alike, providing a dynamic new style of service based on trust, and a commitment to relationship building and nurturing. A multi-award winning firm, it services ASX 200 companies and rapidly growing SME's across a broad range of industries including health, tourism, wine, energy & resources, construction, IT, insurance and logistics.

"I began with a mission to disrupt the legal and professional services industries in Australia by giving clients access to top-tier, responsive legal and advisory services in a flexible and affordable way." she explained.

"Over time, that mission has evolved to embrace a much broader role, advocating for change in the legal industry itself.

"Winning this award provides me - and the firm - an incredible platform from which to continue to advocate for much needed change across the legal industry. We're proof that you can do things differently!

"We've turned the traditional legal model on its head, placing the client at the centre of the equation. We've proven that you can provide clients with top-tier service, and staff with amazing, fast-paced work in a dynamic environment built on foundational flexibility, and still be successful. It's what drives me as a business leader, and it's really exciting."

The awards, now in their 25th year, are a celebration of the most talented women in business and recognise those who are achieving success by doing things differently. There were 22,000 entries submitted in 2020.

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