Family Law Services

Effective July 2026

Delbridge
forensic accounting

Delbridge Forensic Accounting - Family Law Services

From our many years of experience in Family Law matters, we have compiled the following list of services that have been utilised by our clients. While it is our normal practice to charge for our services on an hourly rates basis, we have detailed indicative fees for typical matters. We trust this information provides an understanding of the wide range of services that we can offer you and your clients.

Contents

Initial Review of Documents

A brief review of financial documents at an early stage in the proceedings can provide a useful insight into the necessity or otherwise for a valuation and allow identification of any other apparent financial issues. Our initial thoughts would be discussed either over the phone or in person with you and your client. This may be of advantage when considering assets where it is not clear if there is any real value, such as small businesses, hobby businesses, employee share plans or options.

An initial review and discussion of a single entity would be conducted for approximately $1,600 including GST. The initial review may comprise a discussion only or a brief letter.

Preliminary Valuation Report

This type of report would be useful in providing an indication of value for settlement discussions. It would involve less research and investigation than a formal report, and would therefore not be suitable for Court. The value provided in a preliminary report may be a wider range than that of a formal report.

The cost of a preliminary report for a single entity would normally be in the range of $6,600 to $11,000 including GST. Entities valued only on a net asset basis would be at the lower end of the range, and the higher end of the range would involve earnings based valuations and the preliminary consideration of issues such as minority interest discounts.

Formal Valuation Report

A formal valuation report provides a thoroughly researched, definitive opinion of value and is suitable for filing for Court purposes. In preparing this type of report we undertake sufficient research and investigation necessary for us to support our opinion in Court.

A formal valuation report for a single trading entity would normally cost in the range of $10,000 to $17,600 including GST, depending on the size, complexities and issues involved. Where there are multiple entities in a group structure, the total cost will exceed this amount, yet may be less on a per entity basis. Broad guidance as to the cost per entity is detailed in the following table:

Broad per entity fee estimate	Fee ex GST $	Fee incl GST $
Trading entities		
Turnover < $10 million – General trading activity	14,000 to 16,000	15,400 to 17,600
Turnover > $10 million but < $30million	16,000 to 18,000	17,600 to 20,800
Turnover >$30 million	20,000 to 25,000	22,000 to 27,500
Asset owning or service entity associated with trading entity	6,000 to 8,000	6,600 to 8,800
Small or low profit trader, asset valuation basis likely	10,000 to 12,000	11,000 to 13,200
Investment entities		
Holding coy, minimal balance sheet items	3,000	3,300
Passive investment entity: Two to three assets	4,000 to 5,000	4,400 to 5,500
Passive investment: Several assets / inter-entity loans etc	5,500 to 7,000	6,050 to 7,700
Passive investment: Many assets	1,000 per asset	1,100 per asset

Estimates can be provided on a case by case basis following provision of a group structure diagram and recent financial statements.

Reasonableness Review/Shadow Expert Services

In some matters, you may receive an opposing party's valuation or the report of a single expert that requires review. In such circumstances, we are able to review the valuation report and discuss the reasonableness of the methodology and value derived. If considered appropriate, we can provide written advice outlining any deficiencies and items for further attention or investigation.

To **briefly** review and discuss our findings in relation to the report of another expert on a single entity, our fees would normally range from $1,500 to $2,500 inclusive of GST. Where a written response is required, the cost would depend on the complexity and quality of the report being reviewed.

Review of Settlement Structure for Taxation Implications

We can provide advice with respect to the tax liabilities associated with proposed settlements, with these services provided at the Director level. We can recommend other tax specialists for complex structuring / restructuring work and tax effective settlement proposals.

Transaction Review Reports

In some cases there are issues, other than value or that impact on value, which require further investigation. Such issues may include the allocation of transactions to the parties' loan accounts, concerns over why the assets of the marriage are lower than expected, or the benefits received from the conduct of a business. Subject to the extent of the allegations, we are able to conduct a review of source ledgers, with a view to providing a report to support or dispel such allegations. We can recommend other experts for complex matters or where there are fraud or tax evasion concerns.

Brief to Counsel for Cross Examination

To assist Counsel in cross examination of an expert, we are able to prepare a brief for Counsel of the strengths and weaknesses of an expert opinion. An analysis considering the financial impact of any differences of opinion is often useful.

Current hourly charge out rates

(effective from 1 July 2026)

Title/Person	Hourly Rate (Exclusive of GST) $	GST (10%) $	Total Hourly Rate (Inclusive of GST) $
Directors	620 - 850	62 - 85	682 - 935
Associate Directors / Consultants	360 - 500	36 - 50	396 - 550
Forensic Managers	340 - 440	34 - 44	374 - 484
Forensic Accountants	300 - 340	30 - 34	330 - 374
Forensic Analysts	140 - 180	14 - 18	154 - 198
Other Staff	120 - 150	12 - 15	132 - 165

In lieu of line item billing for telephone calls, printing, technical resources and information sources, and similar expenses, we will charge a Technology and Resources Levy of 2.5% of the time cost incurred.

Timeframe

The preparation of a valuation report generally takes approximately four weeks from receipt of all information required. Realistically, allowing time for the parties to compile all of the information necessary for the valuation, the process usually takes at least eight to ten weeks in total from the return of signed retainer agreements and payment of initial fees, to provision of the report. The ultimate timing of any report would be dependent on the provision of the financial information required, the timing of responses to our request for additional information issued following our review of the financial statements, the provision of other expert reports (if required, including for example, specialised intellectual property, real estate, plant and equipment, owner remuneration) and our workload at the time that the information is provided.

Contact Details

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