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In the seven years since its inception, the Federal Magistrates Court of Australia has grown from an initial compliment of 12 federal magistrates to its present number of 52. It is now the largest Commonwealth court. Its jurisdiction covers a wide range of matters and overlaps with other courts, both Commonwealth and State. An appreciation of the various areas of jurisdiction exercised by the court is essential for any practitioner acting for a client who is contemplating litigation. This article attempts to outline those areas of jurisdiction for the benefit of Queensland practitioners.	138
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