**Reference Letter for Ismail Rasheed (Formal/QLS Endorsement Style)**

David Richmond

Legal Practitioner Director

[Date]

Queensland Law Society

[Address – optional]

Dear Selection Panel,

Re: Nomination of Ismail Rasheed – Queensland Solicitor of the Year 2025 (Sole Practitioner)

It is with great professional admiration and full confidence that I provide this reference in support of Mr Ismail Rasheed’s nomination for the Queensland Solicitor of the Year 2025 in the Sole Practitioner category.

As a solicitor with extensive experience in the legal profession, I have had the privilege of observing Ismail’s extraordinary contributions to the profession, to access to justice, and to the broader community. He is an outstanding legal practitioner whose breadth of knowledge, leadership, and client-first ethos set a new benchmark for modern legal practice.

**Performance**

Over the past 12 months, Ismail has demonstrated a standard of professional performance that truly distinguishes him among his peers. As a dual-admitted solicitor practising across Australia and New Zealand, he provides seamless, high-calibre advice in complex matters spanning immigration, tax, commercial, and administrative law. His cross-border expertise and ability to deliver urgent, impactful outcomes—particularly for vulnerable clients facing visa cancellations and tax disputes—reflects an exceptional level of skill, commitment, and dedication.

**Leadership**

Ismail exemplifies outstanding leadership by pioneering a flexible, digital-first model of legal practice, long before it became industry standard. His leadership is further evident through his mentorship of emerging sole practitioners, his appointment as Legal Practitioner Director at Vandil Law, and his commitment to building sustainable, client-centric legal services that adapt to the modern needs of the community.

**Personal and Professional Contribution**

Access to justice sits at the heart of Ismail’s practice. His willingness to meet clients after hours, in regional areas, and through mobile and remote services demonstrates his unwavering commitment to removing systemic barriers. His work has tangibly improved the lives of migrants, refugees, and small business owners who would otherwise remain disconnected from legal assistance.

**Professional Commitment Beyond Duty**

Ismail's vision for the legal profession is one of adaptability, compassion, and integrity. His mentoring of new practitioners, his development of best-practice resources for modern legal offices, and his constant efforts to promote ethical, community-connected lawyering exemplify a profound commitment to uplifting the profession as a whole.

In every respect, Ismail Rasheed embodies the highest ideals of the Queensland legal profession. It is without hesitation that I endorse his nomination for Queensland Solicitor of the Year 2025, confident that he will continue to represent and advance the values of excellence, innovation, and service.

Yours faithfully,

David Richmond