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Theo Barclay

Call: 2013

+442078222000 t.barclay@4newsquare.com

Clerk: Andrew Call

a.call@4newsquare.com

+442078222038 +447788443600



Outstanding. Smart, diligent, hard-working.

- Legal 500 2021

He has been recognised by the directories:

- as a “rising star” in Commercial Litigation: *“Outstanding. Smart, diligent, hard-working. Absolutely will go as deep into the subject matter as necessary to find the answers and to be prepared – excellent on his feet and in the courtroom”.*
- as a Leading Junior in Sports Law: *“Excellent oral and written submissions and hugely confident; he has appeared against and beaten several QCs already”.*
- as a Leading Junior in Costs Law: *“Extremely hard working, he gets stuck into problems very quickly, and has well-judged insights into what points really matter.”*

Current and recent cases include:

- *SKAT v Solo Capital Ltd & Ors* [2021, ongoing] acting for the Danish tax authority on costs in this multi-billion pound fraud and unjust enrichment litigation (led by Nick Bacon QC).
- *Lehtimäki v Cooper* [2020] UKSC 33: the leading Supreme Court case on trust administration, charitable companies and fiduciary duties (led by Guy Mopuss QC and Professor Sarah Worthington QC).
- *Glencairn v Product Specialities* [2020] EWCA Civ 609: leading Court of Appeal authority on solicitors’ duties of confidentiality to their former opponents (sole counsel at first instance and in the Court of Appeal).
- *GHS v Beale, Webstorm & Ors* [2021, ongoing]: Multi-million pound conspiracy and copyright infringement claim in the IT sector, raising jurisdictional issues *and questions of alternative service (as sole counsel)*.
- *Combe International Ltd v Dr Augustus Wolff GMBH* [2021, ongoing]: High Court trademark infringement and passing off dispute between the owners of personal healthcare brands Vagisil and Vagisan (led by Mark Vanhegan QC)



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- ***Recovery Partners & Anor v Rukhadze & Ors*** [2021]: instructed on privilege issues in major Commercial Court fraud litigation arising out of the death of Georgian billionaire Arkady Patarkatsishvili.
- ***Beiersdorf v Aldi Stores Limited*** [2021, ongoing]: High Court claim against a supermarket for trademark infringement in relation to lookalikes of the Nivea Sun range. Representing Nivea (led by Guy Hollingworth)
- ***Winlink Marketing v Liverpool Football Club*** [2020] EWHC 2271 (Comm): Part of successful team in this High Court trial concerning brokers' contracts and commission for a sponsorship agreement (led by Robert Anderson QC)
- ***Albion Energy Ltd v Energy Investments Global BRL*** [2020] EWHC 301: dispute between a Qatari oil exploration company and an energy company (led by Guy Morpuss QC for the appeal to the Court of Appeal)
- ***New Balance v Liverpool Football Club*** [2019] EWHC 2837: successfully acted for Liverpool Football Club in this Commercial Court trial on whether it was permitted to appoint Nike as its kit sponsor (led by Guy Morpuss QC).
- ***BV Nederlandse van Eiprodukten v Rembrandt*** [2019] EWCA Civ 596: leading authority on the test for causation in fraud (led by Guy Morpuss QC at first instance and in the Court of Appeal).

Academic law

In addition to his practice, Theo has lectured on commercial law at City University and on international law at King's College, London. He is a regular contributor to legal journals.

Outside of Law

Theo has written about British politics for, among others, the Times, the Daily Telegraph, the Independent and the Spectator.

- His first book, ***Fighters and Quitters: Great Political Resignations*** was published by Biteback in January 2018 (Hardback) and February 2019 (Paperback). It is available [here](#).
- He is a contributing author to ***The Prime Ministers: Three Hundred Years of Political Leadership*** (Hodder & Stoughton, November 2020). It is available [here](#).

Privacy Policy

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Areas of Expertise

International Commercial Arbitration

Theo is building up a strong arbitration practice, with a range of claims under a variety of institutional rules, including ICC, SIAC and LCIA. He also has experience working on arbitrations between insurers in relation to coverage disputes.

Recent experience includes:

- acting as first junior in a SIAC arbitration concerning matching rights in a global broadcasting contract (led by Guy Morpuss QC, ongoing)
- acting as first junior in a SIAC arbitration arising out of the Saudi-Qatari diplomatic crisis (led by Guy Morpuss QC, ongoing).



- acting as first junior in LCIA arbitration proceedings between a global telecommunications company and a competitor company set up in alleged breach of covenant.
- assisting Michael Black QC and Edward Knight in *IPCO v NNPC* [2014] EWHC 576 (Comm), the leading case on the enforcement of international arbitration awards in circumstances where there are allegations of fraud.

Qualifications & Memberships

Theo studied Modern History at Brasenose College, Oxford, where he was an academic exhibitioner.

He then achieved a Distinction in the Graduate Diploma in Law, placing second in his year group.

Between 2010 and 2014 he was awarded Hardwicke, Lord Haldane, Lord Denning and Lord Wolfson scholarships by Lincoln's Inn.

In 2017 the Inns of Court awarded Theo the Pegasus Scholarship to undertake a two-month fellowship in the United States to study comparative law. The placement included working in the Supreme Court, Senate and House of Representatives, as well as marshalling federal and state judges in Florida, California, Delaware and Virginia.

Theo is a member of COMBAR, the British Association of Sport & Law, the PNBA and the Financial Services Law Association.