

OUR PEOPLE

George Spalton KC

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LEGAL 500

"George is the complete article. He is an astute strategist, an excellent advocate and a great team player."



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George Spalton KC specialises in complex commercial litigation and international commercial and investment arbitration.

George is a highly regarded and in-demand leading advocate. He was nominated as Barrister of the Year in 2024 by both The Lawyer and Legal Business and is rated in Chambers and Partners / Legal 500 in the following seven areas, reflecting extensive experience of blue-chip litigation across a range of practice areas:

1. Commercial Litigation;
2. International Commercial Arbitration;
3. Offshore;
4. Professional Liability;
5. Professional Disciplinary and Regulatory work;
6. Insurance and Reinsurance; and,
7. Civil Fraud.

George has particular experience of high-value and high-profile international and cross-border work and has been involved in cases in a number of offshore jurisdictions in recent years including BVI (called in 2015), Antigua and Barbuda (called 2025), Trinidad, St Vincent, St Lucia, Dubai and Hong Kong. He is also a registered advocate in the DIFC (Dubai International Financial Centre).

He was appointed to the LCIA Court in 2024 and accepts appointments as arbitrator in commercial and investment disputes (with experience chairing tribunals and as sole arbitrator). He also sits on the Executive Committee of the Commercial Bar Association.

He is particularly highly regarded as an advocate with Foxton J noting that George conducted cross-examination during a heavy 3 week fraud trial with "*considerable skill*" (HPII at [26]).

Consistent with George's range of experience and qualities as an advocate, he has acted in a vast number of reported decisions in the last 5 years including some of the highest-value and highest-profile disputes globally – ranging from a successful 20 week civil fraud trial in the Commercial Court in London (judgment for c. \$1BN), to a successful claim for Nissan in the BVI against former CEO Carlos Ghosn, to a series of ongoing investment arbitrations against Australia (pleaded in excess of \$100BN).

Further details of ongoing and recent work are below:

- Atten Bidco Limited v Assassa & Others [2025] EWHC 2347 (Comm) – successful trial for the Claimant company arising out

of warranties given by Defendant sellers in an SPA (instructed by Pinsent Masons)

- *A v B* – 2025 – successful one week sanctions related arbitration, LCIA, seated in London (instructed by Enyo Law)
- *H&P Advisory Limited v Barrick Gold (Holdings) Limited* [2025] EWCHC 562 (Ch) – trial in the Chancery Division concerning M&A transaction in the context of high value merger in the mining industry. Important issues concerning restitutionary claims (instructed by Norton Rose Fulbright)
- *Zeph v Australia*: George is acting for the Claimant in a series of four high value investment arbitrations concerning mining projects in Australia (claims for sums in excess of \$100BN).
- *EuroChem v SocGen & ING*: Acted for EuroChem in a sanctions related dispute (one of The Lawyer's Top 20 Cases for 2025) (instructed by Vinson & Elkins)
- *W Clappison Limited v Aldi Stores Limited* [2025] EWHC 1459 (Ch) – acting for Aldi in claim under the Groceries Supply Code (instructed by Freeths)
- *A v B*: Complex two week ICC Arbitration in 2024 concerning supply of parts for manufacturing plant (instructed by CMS).
- *Nissan Motor Co Ltd v Carlos Ghosn*: successful claim following trial in BVI against Carlos Ghosn (former CEO of Nissan) (civil fraud) (instructed by MKS Law BVI).
- *Suppipat and Ors v Narongdej and Ors* [2023] EWHC 1988 (Comm) – successful claim for civil fraud for c \$1BN following a highly complex 20 week trial (instructed by Willkie Farr & Gallagher)
- *Astra Asset Management UK Limited v Odin Automotive S.a.r.l* [2023] EWHC 1465 (Comm) – successfully acting in a summary judgment application concerning a credit facility (instructed by DLA).
- *Honda: Honda Group-UK Pension Scheme Trustee Limited & Another v Mercer Limited & Another* [2022] EWHC 3197 (Ch) – successfully resisting a summary judgment application in a high value pensions dispute (instructed by Sackers).
- *HPII: HPII (In Liquidation) & Others v (1) Andrew Ruhan; (2) Anthony Stevens and Interested Parties* [2022] EWHC 383 (Comm) – trial encompassing directors' duties; equitable compensation; dishonest assistance; knowing receipt; ss. 21(1) and 32 LA 1980 (instructed by Provenio Law).
- *Balochistan: Province of Balochistan v Tethyan Copper Company Pty Limited* [2021] EWHC 1884 (Comm) (Arbitration Claim: ss 66, 68 and 73 of the 1996 Act) (instructed by Gresham Legal).
- *AMEX: Trappit SA; (2) Trappit Tecnologias S.L. (3) 2MC v (1) American Express Europe LLC; (2) GBT Travel* [2021] EWHC 1344 (Ch) (jurisdiction challenge under Arts 25, 29 & 30 Brussels Recast and abuse of process in Chancery Division) (instructed by Eversheds).
- *Jones v Zurich Insurance Plc* [2021] EWHC 1320 (Comm) (insurance claim with issues relating to CIDRA 2012 and inducement).
- *Premier Cruises v DLA* [2021] EWHC 151 (Comm) (application for stay under s 9 of the Arbitration Act 1996).
- *SH: Stephenson Harwood LLP v (1) Medien Patentverwaltung AG; (2) Michael Kagan (as administrator)* [2020] EWCA Civ 1743 – jurisdiction appeal in stakeholder action.
- *EuroChem: Livingston Properties Equities Inc (Respondents) v JSC MCC Eurochem and others (Appellants)* [2020] UKPC 31 – successful jurisdictional appeal before the Privy Council.
- *AMEC: Catlin Syndicate Limited & Others v Amec Foster Wheeler USA Corp* [2020] EWHC 2530 (Comm) – anti-suit injunction.
- *Elite: Elite Property Holdings Limited; Decolace Properties Limited v BDO LLP* [2020] EWHC 1937 (Comm) (successful strike out of claim against BDO including on basis of abuse of process).
- *Nott Forest: Al-Hasawi & NFFI Ltd v Nottingham Forest Football Club Limited* [2019] EWCA Civ 2242 (appeal on construction of clause in an SPA).
- *Euro Pools Plc v Royal & Sun Alliance Insurance Plc* [2019] EWCA Civ 808 (Court of Appeal: notification of claims in PI insurance policy).

Prior to taking silk George was named as one of ten 'Stars of the Bar' in a survey by Legal Week.

Arbitration Related Appointments: George was appointed to the LCIA Court in 2024 and is a Vice President of the European Users' Council of the LCIA. In 2022 he was appointed as one of the UK delegates to the ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR.

Commercial Bar: George sits on the Executive Committee of COMBAR (the Commercial Bar Association), having previously acted as Chair of Junior COMBAR. He Chairs the Gulf Sub-Committee and the Professional Education Committee. He was on the Executive Committee of the PNBA from 2016-2018.

George is also called to the Bar of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court (British Virgin Islands); the Bar of Antigua & Barbuda (visiting advocate, 2025). He is also a registered advocate in the DIFC (Dubai International Financial Centre).

Privacy Policy

Click here for a [Privacy Policy](#) for George Spalton KC.

Transparency Statement

Click here for the [Transparency Statement](#) for George Spalton KC.

Expertise

Commercial Litigation

George is one of the most in demand advocates at the Commercial Bar and is highly ranked for commercial litigation in both major directories.

He is acting in a number of very high profile matters (some of which are confidential arbitrations, including advisory work for / against sovereign states) and in recent years he has successfully represented clients in numerous highly important (and high value) disputes – both in the Commercial Court and abroad.

In the last two years – by way of example – he has acted against Australia in investment arbitration proceedings; for Atten Bidco in an SPA/breach of warranty claim; for Barrick Gold in a mining M&A fees disputes; for EuroChem in a sanctions/banking matter; for Nissan against for CEO Carlos Ghosn in the BVI; in a successful 20 week trial in the Commercial Court worth \$1BN and in the HPII litigation.

Directory comments include:

- ***“George is a great modern silk. He combines excellent advocacy with commercial nous, and is very good at marshalling a team.” – Chambers & Partners***
- ***“George is an exceptional advocate, who is able to navigate complex lines of questioning in a persuasive yet tenacious manner. He can adapt his style as required, eliciting praise from judges who are impressed with the careful manner in which he conducts difficult cross-examinations.” – Legal 500***
- ***“George is as charming as he is bright. Extremely accessible and combines prodigious legal skill with pragmatism and common sense. The epitome of a role-your-sleeves-up modern barrister who leads by example.” – Legal 500***
- ***“George is the complete article. He is an astute strategist, an excellent advocate and a great team player.” – Legal 500***

George has experience of an extremely broad range of commercial disputes, extending from conflicts of law/jurisdictional issues, enforcement, asset tracing, shareholder disputes (with particular expertise in SPA related matters and Earn Out disputes),

insurance and reinsurance, to commodities and civil fraud.

In addition to his work in the Commercial Court in London he has been instructed on disputes in a wide range of jurisdictions including Dubai, Oman, Singapore, Hong Kong, Trinidad & Tobago, BVI and the Channel Islands.

Examples of recent reported decisions

- *Atten Bidco Limited v Assassa & Others* [2025] EWHC 2347 (Comm) – successful trial for the Claimant company arising out of warranties given by Defendant sellers in an SPA.
- *H&P Advisory Limited v Barrick Gold (Holdings) Limited* [2025] EWCHC 562 (Ch) – trial in the Chancery Division concerning M&A transaction in the context of high value merger in the mining industry. Important issues concerning restitutionary claims.
- *Zeph v Australia*: George is acting for the Claimant in a series of four high value investment arbitrations concerning mining projects in Australia (claims for sums in excess of \$100BN).
- *EuroChem v SocGen & ING*: Acting for EuroChem in an ongoing sanctions related dispute, listed for trial in 2025 (one of The Lawyer's Top 20 Cases for 2025).
- *H&P Advisory v BarrickGold: Acted for Barrick Gold at a two week trial in December 2024 in Chancery Division (pending judgment).*
- *A v B*: Complex two week ICC Arbitration in 2024 concerning supply of parts for manufacturing plant (pending Award).
- *Nissan Motor Co Ltd v Carlos Ghosn (and others) Claim BVIHCM2019/0121 (2024):* successful claim following trial in BVI against Carlos Ghosn (former CEO of Nissan) for civil fraud.
- *Suppipat and Ors v Narongdej and Ors* [2023] EWHC 1988 (Comm) – successful claim for civil fraud for c \$1BN following a highly complex 20 week trial.
- *Astra Asset Management UK Limited v Odin Automotive S.a.r.l* [2023] EWHC 1465 (Comm) – successfully acting for Astra Asset Management in a summary judgment application concerning a credit facility.
- *HPII (In Liquidation) & Others v (1) Andrew Ruhan; (2) Anthony Stevens and Interested Parties* [2022] EWHC 383 (Comm) – 3 week Commercial Court trial before Foxton J with issues encompassing directors' duties; equitable compensation; dishonest assistance; knowing receipt; ss. 21(1) and 32 LA 1980.
- *Province of Balochistan v Tethyan Copper Company Pty Limited* [2021] EWHC 1884 (Comm) (Arbitration Claim: ss 66, 68 and 73 of the 1996 Act)
- *Trappit SA; (2) Trappit Tecnologias S.L. (3) 2MC v (1) American Express Europe LLC; (2) GBT Travel* [2021] EWHC 1344 (Ch) (jurisdiction challenge under Arts 25, 29 & 30 Brussels Recast and abuse of process in Chancery Division).
- Acting successfully for the BVI Government in an arbitration arising out of a international airline project (see 'News' section for Government's Press Release).
- *Jones v Zurich Insurance Plc* [2021] EWHC 1320 (Comm) (insurance claim with issues relating to CIDRA 2012 and inducement).
- *Stephenson Harwood LLP v (1) Medien Patentverwaltung AG; (2) Michael Kagan (as administrator)* [2020] EWCA Civ 1743 – jurisdiction appeal in stakeholder action
- *Livingston Properties Equities Inc (Respondents) v JSC MCC Eurochem and others (Appellants)* [2020] UKPC 31 – successful jurisdictional appeal before the Privy Council
- *Catlin Syndicate Limited & Others v Amec Foster Wheeler USA Corp* [2020] EWHC 2530 (Comm) – anti-suit injunction; decision of Jacobs J
- *Elite Property Holdings Limited; Decolace Properties Limited v BDO LLP* [2020] EWHC 1937 (Comm) (successful strike out of claim against BDO including on basis of abuse of process)
- *Stephenson Harwood LLP v (1) Medien Patentverwaltung AG; (2) Michael Kagan (as administrator)* [2020] EWHC 1889 (Ch) – jurisdiction appeal in stakeholder action.
- *Towergate Financial (Group) Limited v Hopkinson* [2020] EWHC 984 (Comm) – trial concerning SPA in Commercial Court.
- *A v B* [2019] (decision of Jacobs J in Commercial Court) – Successfully obtaining anti-suit injunction restraining proceedings in Tel Aviv in favour of LCIA arbitration.
- *Al-Hasawi & NFFI Ltd v Nottingham Forest Football Club Limited* [2019] EWHC 1287 (Ch) (acting for Nottingham Forest at trial in dispute arising out of an SPA).
- *Palliser v Fate Ltd & Ors* [2019] EWHC 43 (QB)
- *Dreymoor Fertilisers Overseas Pte Ltd v Eurochem Trading GMBH & JSS MCC EuroChem* [2018] EWHC 2267 – anti-suit and anti-enforcement injunction in Commercial Court (section 44 of the Arbitration Act 1996).
- *Dreymoor Fertilisers Overseas Pte Ltd v Eurochem Trading GMBH* [2018] EWHC 909 (Comm)

- *EuroPools Plc (In Administration) v Royal and Sun Alliance* [2018] EWHC 46 (Comm)
- *Premier Motorauctions Ltd (In Liquidation) v PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP* [2017] EWCA Civ 1872
- *Towergate Financial (Group) Ltd v Clark & Others* [2017] (Comm) (Leggatt J)
- *Dalecroft Ltd v Certain Lloyds Underwriters* [2017] EWHC 1263 (Comm)
- *TJH and Sons Consultancy Limited v CPP Group Plc* [2017] EWCA Civ 46.
- *Adamovsky and Stockman Interhold SA v Andriy Malitskiy and Igor Filipenko* [2017] BVI HC MAP 2014/0031 and 2014/0022 – unfair prejudice petition in BVI.
- *Harlequin Property (SVG) Ltd & Harlequin Hotels and Resorts Ltd v Wilkins Kennedy* [2016] 3188 EWHC (TCC)
- *Stokors S.A. & Others v I G Markets Ltd; v Craigcrook Management Services Ltd* [2013] EWHC 631 (Comm)

George also has particular expertise of disputes in the corporate and offshore context, including civil fraud claims (for example acting for the *Central Bank of Trinidad & Tobago* in high value claims in the Caribbean) and minority shareholder disputes and warranty claims.

George has been appointed to European Users' Council of the LCIA for a three year term and has been appointed to the Executive Committee of COMBAR (the Commercial Bar Association), having previously acted as Chair of Junior COMBAR from 2011 to 2013. He was on the Executive Committee of the PNBA from 2016-2018.

International Arbitration

George is a specialist international arbitration practitioner – with experience across the spectrum of international commercial disputes, investment arbitration and arbitration challenges in the Commercial Court.

He has acted as counsel and arbitrator in numerous arbitrations over the last c 20 years in a range of jurisdictions (including – by way of example of recent work – claims heard, or with seats in, Dubai, Zurich, Paris, Hong Kong, Moscow, Singapore and Egypt); as well as acting for and against nation states.

Experience of applications and claims in the Commercial Court is set out below by reference to certain decided cases and includes:

- Acting for Zeph in ongoing multi-\$BN investor state claims against Australia.
- Acting in anti-suit injunctions (both seeking injunctions and opposing);
- Acting in s 9 Arbitration Act applications to stay proceedings;
- Acting in s 44 Arbitration Act applications concerning injunctive relief and anti-enforcement injunctions;
- Acting in ss 67-69 Arbitration Act claims.

George was appointed to the LCIA Court in 2024 and is a Vice President of the European Users' Council of the LCIA and in 2022 was appointed as one of the UK delegates to the ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR. George has been listed towards the top of the rankings in international arbitration for over 15 years.

Comments in Legal 500 and Chambers and Partners include:

- **"George Spalton is immaculately polished and has this combination of extreme intellect, married with lashings of charm. It makes him very popular with clients and formidable in the courtroom."** – *Chambers & Partners*
- **"George is a rising star among young silks. Clients immediately trust him."** – *Chambers & Partners*
- **"He is extremely smooth and polished, very articulate and a great advocate. He is just top notch."** – *Chambers & Partners*
- **"George practices law with a style and elegance that always impresses. He is a KC on the rise and rise. George is a compelling advocate and delivers exactly what clients need."** – *Legal 500*
- **"Strategic and forceful in cross-examination, managing to draw devastating concessions from otherwise uncooperative and evasive witnesses."** – *Legal 500*
- **"He has excellent attention to detail but communicates ideas and explains strategy in a clear and concise manner."** – *Legal 500*

George is a member of a number of arbitration related bodies and has also written on this subject and provides case law updates to various journals.

He also accepts instructions to sit as arbitrator and has sat as sole arbitrator and co-arbitrator.

A flavour of George's recent work and experience is provided by the following:

- Acting for investor in multi-billion \$ claim against state.
- Acting in successful, high-value civil fraud arbitration (LCIA) concerning property in Moscow following 3 week hearing in 2021.
- Acting as expert witness on English law in ICSID arbitration in 2021.
- *Province of Balochistan v Tethyan Copper Company Pty Limited* [2021] EWHC 1884 (Comm) (Arbitration Claim: ss 66, 68 and 73 of the 1996 Act).
- Acting successfully for BVI Government in an arbitration arising out of an international airline project (see 'News' section for Government's Press Release).
- *Premier Cruises Limited v DLA* [2021] EWHC 151 (Comm) (application for stay under s 9 of the Arbitration Act 1996).
- *Catlin Syndicate Limited & Others v Amec Foster Wheeler USA Corp* [2020] EWHC 2530 (Comm) – anti-suit injunction.
- *A v B* [2019] (decision of Jacobs J in Commercial Court) – Successfully obtaining anti-suit injunction restraining proceedings in Tel Aviv in favour of LCIA arbitration.
- 5 day DIAC arbitration in Dubai concerning major Middle Eastern Construction Project
- *Dreymoor Fertilisers Overseas Pte Ltd v Eurochem Trading GMBH & JSS MCC EuroChem* [2018] EWHC 2267 – anti-suit and anti-enforcement injunction in Commercial Court (section 44 of the Arbitration Act 1996) ([Click here](#) for GAR article).
- *Dreymoor Fertilisers Overseas Pte Ltd v Eurochem Trading GMBH* [2018] EWHC 909 (Comm) – successfully resisting jurisdiction challenges under ss. 32 and 67 of the 1996 Act
- *Sutton Energy Ltd (BVI) v APMT & Bollore* (ICC arbitration) – Long-running shareholder dispute concerning port in Ghana ([Click here](#) for GAR article).
- Acting for Albania in a high value ICC arbitration brought by a US firm relating to a concession agreement.
- Advising in relation to an ICC arbitration between a Trinidadian holding company and a European investor in relation to an energy dispute.
- Acting for an offshore company in relation to minority shareholder dispute concerning an African port (ICC).
- Acting for a main contractor in Dubai in long-running ad hoc arbitration against employer (involving five separate hearings in Dubai).
- Acting for contractor in defence of claim brought by MEP subcontractor in DIAC arbitration in Dubai.

In addition, George regularly [speaks at international arbitration events](#) and conferences. Please speak to his clerk for enquiries.

Professional Liability

“George has an ineffable ability to generate victory from scraps. There’s nobody you’d rather have beside you when backed into a corner.” – Chambers & Partners

“George is a highly accomplished performer. His skill on the professional negligence side of pensions litigation fills an essential need in these types of high value claims.” – Legal 500

“George stands out for his strategic approach and is fantastic with clients.” “A brilliant advocate and user-friendly” – Chambers & Partners

“He inspires a lot of confidence in clients and he’s very efficient and skilled.” – Chambers & Partners

“A very solid, charming advocate and a very decent guy.” “He is effective and to the point.” “A robust and pugnacious barrister, and he’s very good with clients.” – Chambers & Partners

“George is very commercially aware and properly explores the needs of the client. He is calm under pressure and has a significant intellect which, combined with charm, makes him a formidable opponent. A pleasure to work with.” “George is incredibly bright and very commercial.” – Chambers & Partners

“George is a thoroughly modern barrister, easy to engage with and sensible. He is very strong on strategy and good on his feet. Clients engage with him. All in all, a safe pair of hands.” – Legal 500

George has extensive experience of professional liability claims, both in terms of claims involving different professions and in respect of the value and type of claims. He is recommended by both Legal 500 and Chambers and Partners.

George has particular experience of acting for and against accountants and auditors, financial services professionals, insurance brokers & agents, actuaries, barrister, solicitors and surveyors. He also has good experience of disciplinary claims and tribunals.

Examples of reported decisions

- *Elite Property Holdings Limited; Decolace Properties Limited v BDO LLP* [2020] EWHC 1937 (Comm) (successful strike out of claim against BDO including on basis of abuse of process)
- *Premier Motorauctions Ltd (In Liquidation) v PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP* [2017] EWCA Civ 1872
- *Towergate Financial (Group) Ltd v Clark & Others* [2017] (Comm)
- *Harlequin Property (SVG) Ltd v Wilkins Kennedy (A Firm)* [2015] EWHC 1122 (TCC)
- *Wright v Lewis Silkin* [2016] EWCA Civ 1308
- *Planetree Nominees Ltd v Howard Kennedy LLP* [2016] EWHC 2302 (Ch)
- *Stokors S.A. & Others v I G Markets Ltd; v Craigcrook Management Services Ltd* [2013] EWHC 631 (Comm)
- *Webb v (1) JMQC (2) Dakers Green Brett* [2010] EWHC 93 (Ch); (2010) NPC 12
- *Reader v Molesworths Bright Clegg* [2007] EWCA Civ 169; [2007] 1 WLR 1082

George is an Editor of “Jackson & Powell on Professional Liability” and from 2013 to 2016 was one of the four co-editors of Sweet & Maxwell’s “Encyclopedia of Financial Services Law”.

His professional liability experience includes offshore work (largely focused on claims involving accountants, auditors and actuaries) – in Cayman, BVI and Trinidad & Tobago.

In 2015 George was called to the Bar of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court (BVI).

Accountants, Auditors & Actuaries

George has particular experience of claims against accountants and actuaries (recently acting for KPMG, PwC and BDO). He is the editor of the chapter on actuaries in Jackson & Powell.

George also has significant experience of tax related claims (whether investment schemes, such as the Ingenious litigation or claims against individual tax advisers). In this regard, he was one of the panel of barristers retained by the Chartered Institute of Taxation for several years.

Featured cases

- Acting for Big Four auditor in proceedings in Hong Kong
- *Elite Property Holdings Limited; Decolace Properties Limited v BDO LLP* [2020] EWHC 1937 (Comm) (successful strike out of claim against BDO including on basis of abuse of process)
- *Premier Motorauctions Ltd (In Liquidation) v PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP* [2017] EWCA Civ 1872
- *Harlequin Property (SVG) Ltd & Harlequin Hotels and Resorts Ltd v Wilkins Kennedy* [2016] 3188 EWHC (TCC)
- Acting for major city council in claim arising out of negligent audit.
- Acting for liquidators of insolvent hedge fund in offshore proceedings.
- Acting against a top firm in relation to negligent advice on a share transaction.
- Acting for Central Bank of an Eastern Caribbean state and liquidators of an insolvent multi-national insurance company against top firm relating to alleged failure to warn about a significant fraud.

In addition, George has acted in a number of warranty claims arising out of SPAs which tie in with his accountancy related experience and also disciplinary proceedings involving ATT, ACCA and ICAEW and in high profile proceedings brought by the FRC (defending firm of accountants and actuaries).

Financial Services Professionals

George has significant experience of professional liability claims in the financial context. That experience is based both on his accountants/actuaries related work and also work for and against IFAs.

Having worked as co-editor of Sweet & Maxwell’s 5 volume ‘Encyclopedia of Financial Services Law’ he has a very good

understanding of the relevant statutory framework.

Prior to taking silk he successfully represented an individual said to have given negligent advice in relation to CFDs (contracts for difference) at a five week commercial court trial: (*Stokors v IG Markets & Craigcrook* [2013] EWHC 631 (Comm)).

Insurance Brokers

George's experience of insurance broker related work has ranged from claims defending coverholders (e.g. *Markerstudy v Synergy*) to claims against brokers for advice on cover, e.g. *Crowson v HSBC Insurance Brokers Ltd* [2010] Lloyd's Rep. I.R. 441.

His experience of insurance work more generally provides helpful experience for this area of work (see e.g. *Dalecroft Ltd v Certain Lloyds Underwriters* [2017] EWHC 1263 (Comm) and *Euro Pools Plc (In Administration) v Royal and Sun Alliance Insurance Plc* [2018] EWHC 46 (Comm)).

Lawyers

George has been involved in a substantial number of claims against solicitors and barristers where the underlying subject matter relates to both civil and criminal matters.

He has appeared in a number of significant cases, with three cases in the Court of Appeal on issues relating to lawyers' liability:

- *Wright v Lewis Silkin* [2016] EWCA Civ 1308 (led by Justin Fenwick KC);
- *David Frost v Wake Smith & Tofields (A Firm)* [2013] EWCA Civ 1960 and
- *Reader v Molesworths Bright Clegg* [2007] EWCA Civ 169; [2007] 1 WLR 1082.

His work for firms of solicitors has led him to acting for (and against) magic circle law firms, top tier US firms and a range of smaller firms across diverse practise areas.

George has also acted in a number of cases involving barristers, across a range of areas of expertise (such as company law, criminal law and employment law).

George also has extensive experience of costs related matters on behalf of lawyers, such as wasted costs applications, security for costs in the context of ATE and non-party costs orders.

Offshore Litigation

"George's advocacy is very strong and he handles both factual and expert witnesses very well. He gets very quickly to the key points in a case and keeps them in focus. His bedside manner is fantastic and clients love him." – *Legal 500, 2024*

"George commands the details very quickly and is full of sage practical advice. He is a realist when needed. He is excellent on his feet and doesn't miss a beat. He is approaching the top of his game in the fraud and asset recovery field and he is a trusted name among peers. He is approachable, a team player and works extremely hard for the client." – *Legal 500*

"Always on top of strategy and details, clients love him and he turns work round very quickly." – *Legal 500*

"George is a pleasure to work with: he is very pragmatic and user-friendly. He is adept at managing difficult situations and can be relied upon to keep demanding clients happy." – *Legal 500*

George is ranked for offshore work in the directories. He is called to the Bar of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court (British Virgin Islands) and has been instructed in cases in BVI, St Lucia, St Vincent, Trinidad and Cayman Islands.

Featured Offshore Litigation cases

- Successfully acted for Nissan resisting a strike out application in an ongoing, high-profile civil fraud claim before Wallbank *J Nissan Motor Co Ltd v Carlos Ghosn (and others) Claim BVIHCM2019/0121*.
- Acting as lead counsel for BVI Government in successful arbitration arising out of an international airline project.
- Acting as lead counsel for Nissan in ongoing proceedings against Carlos Ghosn in the BVI.
- *Livingston Properties Equities Inc (Respondents) v JSC MCC Eurochem and others (Appellants)* [2020] UKPC 31 – successful jurisdictional appeal before the Privy Council.
- Ongoing arbitration for an Eastern Caribbean Government.
- *Livingston Properties; Nimati & others v JSC MCC Eurochem* BVI HCMAP 2016/0042-0046 (BVI Court of Appeal and Privy Council Jurisdiction Challenge).
- Acting over the course of several years in high-profile, high-value litigation in Trinidad & Tobago on behalf of the Central Bank of Trinidad.
- Appearing before the Court of Appeal of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court in the BVI in the context of a high-value unfair prejudice dispute between Kyiv-based shareholders (see: *Adamovsky and Stockman Interhold SA v Andriy Malitskiy and Igor Filipenko* [2017] BVI HC MAP 2014/0031 and 2014/0022).
- Appearing before BVI Commercial Court in *JSC MCC Eurochem v Livingstone Properties Equities Inc & Others* (May 2017).
- Acting for a firm of accountants in proceedings brought by two offshore companies, which involved hearings in St Vincent and the Grenadines.
- Acting for a major fund (in liquidation) in proceedings arising out of the collapse of the fund against Cayman Island defendants.

In addition to the above, George was one of the four co-editors of Sweet & Maxwell's 'Encyclopedia of Financial Services Law' for a number of years giving him additional expertise in both financial services and regulatory issues.

Civil Fraud

George has acted in some of the major civil fraud claims in recent years – both in the Commercial Court (a successful and complex 20 week trial in 2023), in the BVI (acting successfully for Nissan in 2024 in a civil fraud claim) and in arbitration.

He is a highly experienced advocate, well regarded for his cross-examination, and approach to preparation for trial, paying very close attention to the underlying factual narrative and detail. Examples of key recent cases are as follows:

- *Nissan Motor Co Ltd v Carlos Ghosn (and others) Claim BVIHCM2019/0121* – successful claim before Wallbank J.
- *Suppipat and Ors v Narongdej and Ors* [2023] EWHC 1988 (Comm)
- *HPIL (In Liquidation) & Others v (1) Andrew Ruhan; (2) Anthony Stevens and Interested Parties* [2022] EWHC 383 (Comm) – 3 week Commercial Court trial before Foxton J with issues encompassing directors' duties; equitable compensation; dishonest assistance; knowing receipt; ss. 21(1) and 32 LA 1980.
- *Province of Balochistan v Tethyan Copper Company Pty Limited* [2021] EWHC 1884 (Comm) (Arbitration Claim: ss 66, 68 and 73 of the 1996 Act)
- *Trappit SA; (2) Trappit Tecnologias S.L. (3) 2MC v (1) American Express Europe LLC; (2) GBT Travel* [2021] EWHC 1344 (Ch) – claim in the Chancery Division involving allegations of conspiracy. Successfully defended to discontinuance by the Claimants.
- Acting successfully for BVI Government in a 2021 arbitration involving allegations of civil fraud.

He is rated in the directories for Civil Fraud who note:

- **"George is incredibly responsive, super good with clients and an all-round nice guy. He is what you want a silk to be. He's a stellar advocate and a brilliant strategist."** **"George is a fantastic cross-examiner who gets straight to the heart of the case, and clients love him."**
- **"George is a highly skilled advocate. He digs into the detail and comes up with lines of cross-examination that others might miss."**
- **"George is commercial and a great advocate. He is always fun to work with."**
- **"George is not afraid to do the heavy lifting. He is on top of the detail and very good with clients. He is quick on the turnaround and commercially minded."**

Construction & Engineering

George is an experienced lead advocate in complex and high-value construction matters. Recent cases range from international claims (especially in Dubai and the Middle East) to domestic litigation and adjudication.

George also has considerable experience of PFI related claims, including in a recent adjudication in a high-value PFI contract worth in excess of £700m and in the context of cladding claims (acting for architects in the one of the most important cladding disputes post-Grenfell).

Featured Construction & Engineering cases

- Acting successfully in a high-value DIAC arbitration as lead counsel arising out of the construction of large scale hospitals in Riyadh and Jeddah.
- Acting in ongoing litigation for English firm in relation to high value and high profile cladding dispute.
- Acting in high-value, long-running onshore/offshore wind-farm dispute in Ireland arising out of allegedly negligent construction of the turbines, with English law and Irish law issues. Settled before 5 week TCC trial.
- *Harlequin Property (SVG) v Wilkins Kennedy* [2016] EWHC 3233 (TCC) (which gave rise to a number of reported decisions, including on security for costs, and which culminated in a seven week trial before Coulson J in the TCC).
- Ongoing PFI dispute in the context of the waste disposal industry (worth in excess of £1BN).
- Acting for a main contractor in Dubai in long-running ad hoc arbitration against employer (involving five separate hearings in Dubai over a two-year period).
- Acting for contractor in defence of claim brought by MEP subcontractor in DIAC arbitration in Dubai.
- Acting for a multi-national commodities trader and agri-business in proceedings before the LCIA in a dispute arising out of a joint venture in Eastern Europe.
- Advising an Indian Respondent to arbitration proceedings brought by an Australian mining company in an ICC arbitration.

Insurance

“George is fabulous to work alongside. His written opinions are unerringly correct and an exemplar of clarity.” – Legal 500

“Commercially astute and able to get to the central issues in dispute. Thoroughly charming, including with opponents which helps to diffuse difficult situations. A good commercial advocate.” – Legal 500

“George is phenomenal. He is always on top of strategy and details, clients love him, and he turns work round very quickly.” – Legal 500

“George is an excellent advocate and particularly good with clients. He is technically excellent, with a detailed knowledge of insurance law, which he is able to apply effectively in any given case.” – Legal 500

“Terrific on his feet and very calm under pressure.” – Legal 500

George has considerable experience of insurance claims, whether advising on questions of policy construction and coverage; non-disclosure and avoidance issues or fighting disputes on behalf of both insurers and insureds at trial.

Featured Insurance cases

- Acted for underwriters in a successor practice arbitration (instructed by CMC) under the MTCs.
- *Jones v Zurich Insurance Plc* [2021] EWHC 1320 (Comm) (insurance claim with issues relating to CIDRA 2012 and inducement).
- *Catlin Syndicate Limited & Others v Amec Foster Wheeler USA Corp* [2020] EWHC 2530 (Comm) – anti-suit injunction and issues relating to coverage and defence costs.
- *Euro Pools Plc v Royal & Sun Alliance Insurance Plc* [2019] EWCA Civ 808 (Court of Appeal: notification of claims in PI insurance policy).
- *Palliser v Fate Ltd & Ors* [2019] EWHC 43 (QB)

- *Euro Pools Plc (In Administration) v Royal and Sun Alliance Insurance Plc* [2018] EWHC 46 (Comm)
- *Towergate Financial (Group) Ltd v Clark & Others* [2017] (Comm) (Leggatt J)
- Acting for Claimant company in coverage dispute concerning range of alleged misrepresentations, non-disclosure and alleged moral hazard in Commercial Court Trial: *Dalecroft Ltd v Certain Lloyds Underwriters* [2017] EWHC 1263 (Comm)
- He was instructed as junior on behalf of RSA in the latter stages of the *Coles v Hetherton* litigation;
- He was instructed in a successful coverage arbitration worth £10m arising out of a fire at a hotel in the Isle of Man.

In the context of professional indemnity insurance, George has experience of issues relating to the Minimum Terms and Conditions for solicitors and has particular experience of acting in coverage arbitrations.

Sports Law

George's sports practice focuses on the following areas (i) disciplinary and regulatory work; (ii) governance and selection related issues and (iii) commercial work – whether general contractual advice or, more broadly, litigation or potential disputes between players/agents/clubs/professional bodies.

By way of example of the scope of work, he acted for Nottingham Forest in a trial in the Chancery Division (*Al-Hasawi & NFFI Ltd v Nottingham Forest Football Club Limited* [2019] EWHC 1287 (Ch)) and he has built up considerable experience of acting for and against agents and he has in a number of high value Football Association Rule K arbitrations on behalf of agents against current or former Premier League players.

He recently acted for a top six Premier League football club in an ICC arbitration.

Sanctions

George is currently acting and advising in a number of sanctions related matters involving both individuals and multi-nationals.

Since many of these cases are highly confidential please contact George for further information.

Disciplinary

“An expert in this field. He provides sound and reliable advice. Great with clients and very approachable.” – Legal 500, 2024

“He has a very impressive intellect and a specialist knowledge of disciplinary and regulatory proceedings. Solicitor and client friendly, his reassuring presence inspires confidence.” – Legal 500

George has been recommended for several years by Legal 500 for his professional disciplinary work.

George enjoys disciplinary and regulatory work, recognising the importance of the cases to the professional bodies and the individuals or firms defending proceedings.

He acted for the Law Society in the context of an intervention: *Law Society v Ete & Others* [2019] EWHC 864 (Ch): urgent application for delivery up under Solicitors Act 1974 on behalf of Law Society).

He has acted on a regular basis as prosecutor and defendant before a number of different tribunals. For example, he has appeared before the Taxation and Disciplinary Board as Prosecutor for the Chartered Institute of Taxation and also the Association of Taxation Technicians and he has also appeared before the Solicitors' Disciplinary Tribunal on behalf of defendant solicitors and he has also acted in a number of complaints brought by the ICAEW and ACCA against individuals and firms.

Awards



Directory Ranking

Chambers & Partners – UK

- International Arbitration: General Commercial & Insurance
- Professional Negligence
- Commercial Dispute Resolution
- Fraud: Civil
- Offshore

Legal 500

- Insurance and Reinsurance
- Professional Negligence
- International Arbitration: Counsel
- Commercial Litigation
- Professional Disciplinary and Regulatory Law
- Fraud: Civil
- Commercial Disputes (Offshore)

Qualifications

MA Oxon; LL.M Columbia University (New York); Called 2004.

Memberships: COMBAR, LCIA, ChBA, PNBA, TECBAR.

Before commencing practice George read history at Oriel College, Oxford where he was a scholar and won the John Shannon prize for Modern History. After converting to law, George obtained a Masters in Law (LL.M) from Columbia University, New York where he was a Stone Scholar.

