



NOTABLE CASES

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UK Supreme Court

- Hotel Portfolio UK II Limited v Stevens – successfully represented appellants (insolvent company and its liquidator) on whether dishonest assistant can be found liable to pay equitable compensation. Court upheld appellants' appeal and set-aside previous Court of Appeal decision. Decision will likely have significant impact on law of dishonest assistance, equitable compensation, proprietary rights and constructive trusts: [2025] UKSC 28.

Court of Appeal

- Topalsson Gmbh v Rolls-Royce Motor Cars Limited – successfully represented appellant (foreign company) on interpretation of contractual liability cap which had effect of reducing judgment debt quantum: [2024] EWCA Civ 1330.

High Court

- Topalsson Gmbh v CMS Cameron McKenna Nabarro Olswang – successfully represented claimant (foreign company) in obtaining order under s.70 Solicitors Act 1974 for detailed assessment of bills. Court held bills constituted “Chamberlain” bills, being series of on account bills due to absence of right to render interim bills. This meant claimant did not need to demonstrate special circumstances for detailed assessment. Notwithstanding this, Court found claimant had proven existence of special circumstances, in that bills required explanation when considering significant difference between original estimate and bills rendered: [2025] EWHC 118 (SCCO).
- Topalsson Gmbh v Rolls-Royce Motor Cars Limited – successfully represented applicant (foreign company) in application under Evidence (Proceedings in Other Jurisdictions) Act 1975 and CPR 34.17 for order to give effect to Letter of Request pursuant to Hague Convention on Taking of Evidence Abroad in Civil or Commercial Matters to obtain evidence for use in foreign proceedings.
- Hotel Portfolio UK II Limited v Marlborough Developments Limited & Ors – successfully represented claimant (insolvent company) in claim under s.423 Insolvency Act 1986 that defendants' scheme amounted to transaction defrauding creditors. Claimant was also successful under Marex Tort proving certain defendants knowingly assisted another party to breach claimant's judgment rights. Court set aside default judgment of £850 million and found it to be an abuse of process: [2024] EWHC 3075 (Comm).
- Hotel Portfolio UK II Limited v Ruhan and Stevens – successfully represented claimants (insolvent company and its liquidator) in £100m+ multi-national commercial fraud claim against former director and his dishonest assistant: [2022] EWHC 383 (Comm), [2022] EWHC 1695 (Comm).
- S&B Consultancy Services Ltd v Bourn and Banks – represented general partners in defending claim by company seeking fee for introducing financier to third party: [2022] EWHC 2359 (Comm).
- Contract Utility Services (CUS) Limited v Lloyd & Ors – successfully represented applicants (insolvent company and its liquidator) in £1m+ claim against former directors: [2019] EWHC 1657 (Ch).

- Kersewell Developments Limited v Henry, Cheetham, Young & Ors – successfully represented applicants (insolvent company and its liquidators) in £1.5m claim against former directors for having transferred company property for no consideration: [2018] 4 WLUK 539.
- Chesterton v Emson and Pilbrow – successfully represented applicant (liquidator) in contested application seeking documents under s.236 Insolvency Act 1986 for purpose of investigating potential claims against former directors and connected parties: [2017] EWHC 3226 (Ch).
- Euromex Ventures Ltd v BNP Paribas Real Estate Advisory and Property Management UK Ltd & Ors – successfully represented defendants (liquidator and his insolvency firm) in defending £17m claim in conversion brought by directors of insolvent company: [2013] EWHC 3007 (Ch).
- Olafsson v Gissurarson – defamation and service out of jurisdiction: [2006] EWHC 3162 (QB); EWHC 3214 (QB).
- Canmoor Developments Limited v Blackrock – breach of contract claim for £18m.
- Design Blue Limited v Tech 21 Limited – international patent dispute and breach of contract claim.
- Telfer v Sakellarios – claim relating to failure to make payments under a Deed of agreement and failure to indemnify against tax.
- Kinder v Govindia – breach of contract claim.
- Meadowview Homes v Weekes and Radbourne Limited – breach of joint venture/failure to account claim.
- Hombrecher v HSBC Bank (London) and associated proceedings against HSBC Monaco – claim relating to failure of duty to advise/inform client of leveraged Foreign Exchange trading risks for US\$21m.
- DRD Partnership Limited v RICS – breach of contract claim.
- Fort Consultancy & Development Corp (SAL) v New Age (African Global Energy) Ltd – breach of repurchase agreement claim for US\$5m.
- Henderson & Jones Limited v Logan Group Limited, Klas International Limited & Anor – repayment claim.
- Royston v Bullman – breach of contract claim for loan.
- Represented liquidators and trustees in bankruptcy in numerous applications under ss.236 and 366 Insolvency Act 1986 for purpose of investigating potential claims against third parties.
- Instructing Isle of Man lawyers on making applications for production of documents on Norwich Pharmacal and Bankers Trust principles.
- Represented employer in application seeking injunctive relief to restrain former employees breaching restrictive covenants by soliciting or dealing with clients and staff from employer.
- Represented minority shareholders in defending s.994 Companies Act 2006 unfair prejudice petition brought by investors/directors and other minority shareholders against managing director of product development business alleging collusion and Companies Act 2006 breaches.

- Represented trustees in bankruptcy in numerous claims against third parties to recover assets belonging to bankrupt estate – including former spouses and family members.
- CPR Part 71 proceedings for enforcement of UK judgments and enquiries of debtor resources/location of assets and ability to pay.
- Claim for breach of contract and defence of counterclaims for:
 - (i) defective materials sold to defendant and allegations of breach of patent;
 - (ii) fraudulent mis-selling (bait and switch);
 - (iii) infringement of defendant's intellectual property in its products; and
 - (iv) breach of confidence.
- Claim for professional negligence, failure to register charge in priority period and consequential losses flowing from that act.
- Hilco Real Estate Finance UK Limited v Mackenzie & Ors – claim for injunction to compel removal of unilateral notice on title and commencement of underlying proceedings for declaratory relief.
- Hotel Portfolio II UK limited v Bawtree and Ruhan – claim for declarations, charging orders and appointment of receiver as enforcement proceedings following c.£200m judgment.

Foreign Courts

- Abu Dhabi Global Market (ADGM) – parties' details are held in confidence
 - » Court of First Instance – defending enforcement of Final LCIA Arbitral Award, including defending applications for unrestricted use of information obtained from worldwide freezing order and defending multi-million-pound third party debt order.
 - » Court of Appeal – Applying for permission to appeal.

Arbitration

- UNCITRAL – US\$200m of unpaid sovereign state promissory notes.
- LCIA – D3O v Strax BmbH – breach of contract claim.
- LCIA – African trade dispute.

Tribunal

- Sports – represented professional athlete in defending disciplinary action which threatened to jeopardise their on-going involvement in their sport.
- Employment – defence against race discrimination.
- Employment – represented district council in disability discrimination case.
- Employment – defence against unfair dismissal for gross misconduct.

County Court

- Spring Law v Phelan – successful Part 8 claim for order for sale over defendant's property worth £1.25 million.
- Bucknall v Hadfield – successfully represented claimant (artist manager) in claim against former client (former member of high profile “Collabro” boy band which won ITV's Britain's Got Talent (BGT)) for unpaid commission flowing from benefits received by former client as result of “Collabro” winning BGT.
- Successful defence of professional rugby player from and against law firm's claims for fees and disbursements.
- Claim for breach of contract for lender's right to recover costs and disbursements and termination fee on aborted loan transaction.

Sample of dispute avoidance and resolution work (details of clients are confidential)

- Breach of contract intra property development company and its external private equity investors; achieved a multi-million-pound settlement.
- Agency dispute for media personality – following termination of agency agreement, agency argued for sunset commission payments into future. Successfully defended demand for payment worth c.£1m over following 5 years. Outcome achieved in mediation.
- Reputational protection work for high profile public figure involving FINCEN leaks and defamatory media coverage.
- Advising insolvency practitioner dealing with failure of insolvent company to honour guaranteed customer warranty scheme involving over 625,000 customers following collapse of its insurance company.
- Asbestosis claim between deceased party and educational institution. Successfully defended.
- Investment Company vs founder shareholder – breach of shareholder agreement and director duties.
- Successful defence of property development company against predatory lender's attempts to foreclose and seize assets to frustrate bona fide re-structuring of debt obligations.
- National Doctors Group vs founder shareholder – breach of: employment covenants, employment contract, shareholder agreement, articles of association and statutory duties.
- Defence for employee against dismissal from financial institution and alleged breach of FCA conduct regulations.
- Investors vs Founder Shareholder/Director – allegations of wrongful conduct/attempts to seize shareholding successfully defended.
- Trademark disputes x 4 successfully resolved outside WIPO/Court.
- Successful defence of threat of bankruptcy proceedings.
- Pre-action work concerning push payment fraud.

- Recovery of various fee entitlements for investment bank.
- Successful defence of threatened legal action for alleged breach of shareholder agreement and
- High Court injunction to restrain unfair prejudice, co-ordinated defence via England and Gibraltar.
- Advising in relation to anti-competitive behaviour involving an Olympic association and submission of EU competition law complaint.
- Advised in relation to anti-harassment and injunctive relief to restrain behaviour.
- Shareholder dispute involving management company directors and 2 shareholders involving allegations (defended) of unfair prejudice.
- Advised major foreign company in relation to £200m unpaid loan notes due from a West African country.
- Threatened legal action on landlord of superior lease for frustrating sale attempts of underlying asset.
- Acted for potential claimants in defamation case involving individuals.
- Advised corporate client in action against major High Street bank for processing fraudulent payment to unknown third party.
- Advised county council in major vehicle procurement dispute which was settled on acceptable terms.
- Prepared pre-action case against joint venture partner concerning breach of shareholder agreement and misappropriation of property and unfair prejudice.
- Advised on £1.8m fee dispute against law firm. Achieved settlement.
- Advised on claim against high end estate agent for breach of contract/negligence/ misuse of private information and breach of UK GDPR. Settlement achieved for clients without need to issue High Court proceedings.
- Trademark dispute between UK and US companies both trading with same name in same market for maritime goods. Co-existence agreement achieved without need for context multi-jurisdictional proceedings.
- Intellectual property dispute for breach of confidentiality relating to US ski company.
- Intellectual property dispute against US company for breach of confidentiality and patents in client's creation of protective impact resistant material for US army helmets. Settlement achieved without recourse to legal proceedings.
- Employment dispute with departing CEO and allegations of corporate wrongdoing. Achieved settlement and avoided claim against client company.
- Breach of contract involving agreement to fund commercial property transaction, involving recovery of due diligence costs involved in assessing transaction and termination fee. Settlement achieved without recourse to court.
- Resolution of £1m fee dispute against professional services company.

- Breach of contract dispute relating to £14m claim for deferred consideration.
- Successfully quashed intimated claim brought by executors of late Viscount's estate for unpaid debt of c.£400,000 which, on our clients' case, was brought against incorrect parties and was time barred.
- Consideration of excessive notice period and restrictive covenants.
- Review of lease provisions for rent free period linked to tenant's financial performance and surpassing of profit formula.
- Advising on £10m breach of contract claim arising from a Sale and Purchase Agreement. Settled.
- Settlement of a failed private investment which included return of loans and investment monies.
- Trademark dispute involving allegations that art agency's artist copied artistic style from another artist, case involved allegations of primary infringement against artist, agency and 4 of agency's publishers who unknowingly published allegedly infringing artistic works.
- Evaluation of contractual rights arising under joint development agreement involving development and manufacture of subsea cryogenic pipes for use in oil and gas sectors.
- Consideration of merits of appealing LCIA Final Award out of time to High Court pursuant to s.68 Arbitration Act 1996.
- Consideration of risks associated with lending £15m against property being acquired out of receivership whilst buyer is aware of underlying litigation which challenges appointment of receivers and their entitlement, therefore, to sell asset.

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