

Charles Wall

YEAR OF CALL: 2022

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Practice Overview

Charles practises in commercial, competition and public law. His notable recent instructions include:

- *Municipio de Mariana v BHP Group (UK) Limited* – likely the largest group action ever before the English courts, in which over 600,000 claimants are seeking damages of £36 billion in relation to the collapse of a Brazilian dam (led by Vernon Flynn KC and Richard Eschwege KC) (one of *The Lawyer's* "Top 20 cases" of 2024);
- *Illiquidx Limited v Altana Wealth Limited* – proceedings concerning an opportunity to invest in illiquid assets and alleged breach of confidence (led by Andrew Green KC);
- *Ascentra Holdings, Inc (in Official Liquidation) v Ryunosuke Yoshida and others* – acting for the defendants in the context of a US\$270 million proprietary claim brought by the Cayman Official Liquidators of Ascentra Holdings, Inc (led by Vernon Flynn KC)

Prior to coming to the Bar, Charles graduated with a Congratulatory Double First in Classics from the University of Oxford (New College), where he came top of his year in philosophy. He achieved distinctions in both the GDL and the Bar Course at City Law School, and was awarded numerous scholarships and prizes throughout his studies. He accepts instructions across all areas of Chambers' practice.

Commercial

Charles accepts instructions across all areas of commercial litigation. His recent experience includes:

- *Municipio de Mariana v BHP Group (UK) Ltd* – acting for the Part 20 Defendant in a group action claim allegedly valued at £36 billion, arising out of the collapse of a Brazilian dam (led by Vernon Flynn KC and Richard Eschwege KC, instructed by White & Case)
- *Illiquidx Limited v Altana Wealth Limited* – acting for the claimant in proceedings alleging breach of confidence (led by Andrew Green KC and Richard Eschwege KC, instructed by RPC)
- *Arcadia Petroleum Limited v Bosworth & Ors* – a US\$330 million alleged fraud relating to oil trading in West Africa (as a pupil, assisting Richard Eschwege KC)
- *Verlox International Ltd v Antoshin* – jurisdiction challenge; defending subsequent applications for contempt (as a pupil, assisting Richard Eschwege KC)
- *Stokoe Partnership Solicitors v Patrick Grayson & Ors* – acting for the claimant in a case alleging breach of confidence and unlawful means conspiracy, involving allegations of unlawful hacking (as a pupil, assisting Gerard Rothschild)
- *Prismall v Google UK Ltd & Deepmind Technologies Ltd* – representative proceedings under CPR Part 19 for alleged misuse of private information (as a pupil, assisting Gerard Rothschild)
- *St James Holdings Ltd v Staveley* – a contractual dispute relating to the sale of Newcastle United Football Club (as a pupil, assisting Gerard Rothschild)
- *Confidential matter* – advising a high net-worth individual in relation to a potential claim against a private bank for breach of contract, negligence, and breach of statutory duty (as a pupil, assisting Gerard Rothschild)
- *Confidential matter* – advising a former employee of a renewable energy company in relation to a dispute regarding share entitlements (as a pupil, assisting Gerard Rothschild)

Competition

Charles accepts instructions across all areas of competition law. His recent experience includes:

- *Justin Gutmann v Stagecoach & Ors* – the first standalone collective proceedings and the first to concern an alleged abuse of dominance (as a pupil, assisting Sarah Abram KC)
- *Secretary of State for Health and Social Care & Others v Lundbeck Limited & Others* – follow-on damages claim in respect of alleged collusion between pharmaceutical companies (as a pupil, assisting Sarah Abram KC)
- *BMW Emissions litigation* – proposed group litigation against BMW in connection with alleged 'defeat devices' (as a pupil, assisting Sarah Abram KC)
- *Pharmacosmos UK Limited and another v Vifor Pharma UK Limited and others* – proceedings alleging an abuse of dominance in the pharmaceuticals sector (as a pupil, assisting Gerard Rothschild)

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- Advising on the prospects of proposed opt-out collective proceedings in respect of an alleged breach of the Chapter I prohibition in the technology sector (as a pupil, assisting Sarah Abram KC)
- Advising a defendant company in the energy sector in respect of a proposed claim against it alleging excessive pricing (as a pupil, assisting Gerard Rothschild)
- Advising a defendant utilities company in relation to the potential certification of opt-out collective proceedings against it alleging an abuse of dominance (as a pupil, assisting Gerard Rothschild)

Public Law

Charles accepts instructions across all areas of public law. His recent experience includes:

- *Attorney General for the Falkland Islands v Teslyn Siobhan Barkman* – proceedings concerning the rights of dual nationals to vote and to hold office under the constitution of the Falkland Islands (as a pupil, assisting Gerard Rothschild)
- *Airwave Solutions Limited & Others v Competition and Markets Authority* – an application for review of a CMA decision under section 179 of the Enterprise Act 2002, raising issues concerning AIP1 property rights (as a pupil, assisting Sarah Abram KC)

Arbitration

- An LCIA arbitration concerning a dispute in the investment management industry (as a pupil, assisting Richard Eschwege KC)
- A challenge, under sections 67, 68 and 69 of the Arbitration Act 1996, to an award concerned with a reinsurance dispute (as a pupil, assisting Richard Eschwege KC)
- An HKIAC arbitration regarding patent portfolio licensing (as a pupil, assisting Sarah Abram KC)

EDUCATION & QUALIFICATIONS

Education

- 2021-2022: Bar Vocational Studies (Distinction, second in year), City Law School
- 2020-2021: Graduate Diploma in Law (Distinction), City Law School
- 2015-2019: BA Literae Humaniores (Congratulatory Double First), New College, University of Oxford

Scholarships and prizes

- Lord Scarman Scholarship, City Law School, 2022
- ICLR Busfield Prize for Legal Research and Opinion Writing, City Law School, 2022
- Lord Denning Scholarship, Lincoln's Inn, 2021
- City Law School Scholarship for Academic Excellence, 2021
- Lord Bowen Scholarship, Lincoln's Inn, 2020
- Gibbs Prize for the best performance in philosophy, University of Oxford, 2019
- Academic Scholarship, New College, University of Oxford, 2017