BRICK COURT
CHAMBERS

Brick Court Chambers
7-8 Essex Street, London WC2R 3LD
DX 302 London Chancery Lane

Kyle Lawson

YEAR OF CALL: 2012

"Kyle is way beyond his years – he is head and shoulders above his peers at the Bar."

Legal 500 2023

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Practice Overview

Kyle Lawson is a leading commercial junior. He has a broad practice which covers all aspects of commercial litigation and international arbitration and he appears, both led and unled, in a wide range of commercial matters. Across Chambers & Partners UK and The Legal 500, Kyle is identified as a leading junior in six different areas of practice: (1) Commercial Litigation; (2) Banking and Finance; (3) Civil Fraud; (4) Energy; (5) International Arbitration; and (6) Professional Negligence. In recent years, the legal directories have said that:

- *"Kyle is way beyond his years – he is head and shoulders above his peers at the Bar"*

- *"A star of the future who performs well above the level of his year of call"*

- *"He is absolutely fantastic and will be a real star of the future"*

- *"He is fantastic, responsive and clearly very bright - a junior to watch"*

- *"absolutely terrific"*

In particular, the directories have identified Kyle's strengths in the following areas:

Advocacy: *"Kyle is a highly charismatic advocate"* who *"quickly gains the confidence of the court"* and *"offers fabulous written and oral advocacy"*; *"incredibly calm and unflappable"*; *"he writes beautifully and has a charismatic presence"*; *"his written submissions are powerful and persuasive"*; *"his pleadings are hard-hitting and concisely undermine an opponent"*.

Analysis: *"He is fiercely bright"*; *"a fierce intellect"*; *"incredibly intelligent"*; *"he has a first-class mind and is a great problem-solver"*; *"he distils huge amounts of information and is very sharp"*; *"he absorbs facts swiftly, and grasps the key legal principles with ease"*; *"gets to the bottom of issues so*

quickly"; "*cuts straight to the point*".

Strategy: *" a strategic vision far in advance of his years" ; "very bright and very commercially savvy"; "bright and commercial" ; "an impressive tactician" ; "takes good points and has great judgement"; "he has bags of common sense".*

Teamwork: *"Kyle's ability to combine a first-class intellect with an affable and easy-going manner makes him a joy to work with" ; "very impressive in front of clients" ; "an absolute pleasure to work with"; "a delight to work with"; "an all-round pleasure to deal with" ; "very user-friendly"; "he works really seamlessly in a team" ; "he is on your team and with you to get it done" ; "he's just a really pleasant person to work with".*

Kyle has extensive experience of acting in high-profile, high-value, heavy-weight commercial disputes of all kinds, including cases featured in *The Lawyer's* "Top 20 Cases" of 2016, 2017, 2019, 2021, 2022, 2024, and 2026. Examples of notable recent instructions include:

- Various Claimants v Glencore Plc – acting for Glencore Plc in defence of group litigation under s.90/s.90A FSMA relating to Glencore's IPO and subsequent merger with Xstrata.
- Premier Golf League v LIV Golf Inc & Ors – acting for PGL in its claim for breach of confidence and unlawful means conspiracy in relation to the well-publicised launch of the "LIV Golf League" by the Public Investment Fund of Saudi Arabia.
- Tesco Stores Ltd v Broadcom Inc & Ors – a c. £100m claim for alleged breaches of contract and/or competition law relating to the supply of software to Tesco.
- SAAD Investments Company Ltd v Morrison & Foerster (UK) LLP – Acting for Morrison & Foerster in defence of a c. US$200m professional negligence claim arising out of the long-running "Samba litigation".
- Arbitral International Corporation v Britannia Financial Group – an M&A dispute arising out of the deposit of US$1bn+ of assets by Tether, the cryptocurrency company, with a Bahamian financial services group.
- Lonestar Communications Corporation LLC v Kaye & Ors – conspiracy claim concerning a large-scale - "cyber-attack" - on a leading telecoms company in Liberia.

Kyle has significant experience of group actions. He previously acted for Lloyds Banking Group and five of its former directors in their successful defence of group litigation brought by about 6000 shareholders following Lloyds' acquisition of HBOS at the height of the 2007/8 financial crisis (the Lloyds/HBOS Group Litigation). This was the first shareholder group action ever to go to trial in England and Wales. The claim was ultimately dismissed following a 5-month trial. Kyle currently acts for Glencore Plc in ongoing group litigation under s.90/s.90A FSMA relating to Glencore's IPO and subsequent merger with Xstrata (in which claims are brought by five separately represented claimant groups). The Glencore litigation has generated a number of significant interlocutory decisions, including Aabar Holdings S.á.r.l. v Glencore Plc [2025] 2 W.L.R. 763 (in which Glencore succeeded in overturning the 135-year old rule which prevented a corporation from claiming privilege against its own shareholders) and [2026] EWHC 877 (Comm) (on claims to

legal advice privilege over "intra-client" documents).

A significant part of Kyle's commercial disputes work also takes place in international arbitration. Kyle has acted in numerous international arbitrations under a wide variety of institutional rules (including LCIA, ICC, LMAA, GAFTA, DIFC, DIAC, UNCITRAL and the Swiss Rules of International Arbitration), as well as in ad hoc proceedings. In addition, Kyle is regularly instructed to act in court proceedings relating to or arising out of arbitrations (whether seated in England or elsewhere), including applications for interim relief under s.44 of the 1996 Act (e.g. injunctive relief); seeking or resisting the enforcement of foreign or domestic awards under s.66 or the New York Convention; and challenging or defending arbitration awards under ss. 67, 68 and 69.

Much of Kyle's work (whether before domestic courts or in arbitration) is international. He is regularly instructed in cases involving foreign parties, courts and governing laws. In recent years, for example, Kyle has acted in cases subject to the laws of New York, BVI, Cayman, Bermuda, Barbados, St. Kitts and Nevis, Mauritius, Switzerland, Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Cyprus, Brazil, Germany, Canada, Israel, Liberia, Dubai, the DIFC and the UAE. In addition, many of Kyle's cases involve issues of both public and private international law (including issues of jurisdiction, the conflict of laws, and sovereign or state immunity).

In addition to his work before the English courts, Kyle has also acted in cases in various different offshore jurisdictions (including the Cayman Islands, BVI, Trinidad and Tobago and Dubai), as well as in appeals to the Privy Council arising out of offshore litigation.

Kyle is equally at home acting unled in his own right as he is working as part of a large litigation team, and he is increasingly instructed as sole counsel. He has appeared as sole counsel in the Court of Appeal, in all of the civil divisions of the High Court in which members of Chambers regularly appear (including the Commercial Court, Chancery Division and King's Bench Division), and in international arbitrations (under a variety of different institutional rules). He also works frequently with Silks from other Chambers.

Prior to coming to the Bar, Kyle read Law at Pembroke College, Cambridge, where he graduated with a Double First and was ranked first in his year in 2009 and seventh in 2010. He went on to obtain his LLM from Harvard Law School in 2011, where he specialised in private law, international commercial arbitration and public international law.

Commercial

Kyle is recommended by both Chambers & Partners UK and the Legal 500 as a leading junior in the fields of Commercial Litigation and Commercial Dispute Resolution.

Details of Kyle's specific areas of expertise are set out in the relevant sub-sections below. However, notable examples of Kyle's recent commercial litigation work include:

- *Various Claimants v Glencore Plc* – acting for Glencore Plc in defence of group litigation under s.90/s.90A FSMA 2000 relating to Glencore's IPO and subsequent merger with Xstrata.
- *Premier Golf League v LIV Golf Inc & Ors* – acting for PGL in its claim for breach of confidence and unlawful means conspiracy in relation to the well-publicised launch of the "LIV Golf League" by the Public Investment Fund of Saudi Arabia.
- *Tesco Stores Ltd v Broadcom Inc & Ors* – a c. £100m claim for alleged breaches of contract and/or competition law relating to the supply of software and support services.
- *EYE Corp IT Solutions LLC v Vigilate AI Ltd & Ors* – a c. US$180m unlawful means conspiracy claim relating to the alleged misappropriation of the Claimant's business and assets and the diversion of business opportunities relating to the licensing of software for facial recognition and biometric identification.
- *SAAD Investments Company Ltd v Morrison & Foerster (UK) LLP* – Acting for Morrison & Foerster in defence of a c. US$200m professional negligence claim arising out of high-profile Chancery litigation which involved two appeals to the Supreme Court.
- *HSBC Bank Middle East Ltd v Clifford Chance LLP* – acting for Clifford Chance in defence of a professional negligence claim arising out of a US$300m syndicated loan transaction.
- *Nationwide Building Society v Bank of New York Mellon and A&O Shearman LLP* – acting for A&O in defence of a professional negligence claim arising out of a series of high-value capital markets transactions.
- *Lonestar Communications Corporation LLC v Kaye & Ors* – conspiracy claim concerning a large-scale "cyber-attack" on one of the largest telecoms companies in Liberia.
- *ENRC v Dechert & the SFO* – high-profile civil fraud proceedings arising out of an investigation into allegations of fraud, bribery and corruption concerning ENRC's mining operations in Kazakhstan and Africa, and a subsequent criminal investigation by the SFO.
- *The Russian Aircraft Litigation* – acting for various claimants in substantial aviation insurance/reinsurance claims relating to aircraft stranded in Russia as result of sanctions (and counter-sanctions) imposed in connection with the Russia/Ukraine conflict.
- *Fundo Soberano de Angola v dos Santos & Ors* – acting for the Angolan sovereign wealth fund in high-value, multi-jurisdictional civil fraud proceedings against the fund's former investment manager and adviser and its attempts to recover US$3bn of missing assets.
- *The Lloyds/HBOS Group Litigation* – acting for Lloyds Banking Group and five of its former directors in their successful defence of group litigation brought by about 6000 shareholders arising out of Lloyds' acquisition of HBOS. The claim was dismissed following a 5 month trial.
- *The Libyan Investment Authority* – acting for one of the applicants in proceedings intended to deal with the consequences of a dispute about who was entitled to exercise the functions of the LIA following the outbreak of civil war in Libya.

- *Arbitral International Corporation v Britannia Financial Group* - an M&A dispute arising out of the deposit of US$1bn+ of assets by Tether, the cryptocurrency stablecoin company, with a Bahamian financial services group.
- *Harbour Fund III L.P. v Kazakhstan Kagazy Plc & Ors* – acting in a substantial litigation funding dispute arising out of a £300 million civil fraud claim.

Kyle has particular experience in relation to shareholder disputes and other types of shareholder-related litigation. This includes large scale group actions (such as the *Glencore litigation* and the *Lloyds/HBOS Group Litigation*) involving claims under s.90 / s.90A FSMA 2000; as well as claims under SPAs and Shareholder Agreements (including claims under earn-out provisions and claims for misrepresentation and breach of warranty).

Kyle also has a particular interest in all aspects of legal professional privilege. He has acted in number of important cases in this area, including *Aabar Holdings S.á.r.l. v Glencore Plc* [2025] 2 W.L.R. 763 (the first case in England and Wales to overturn the 135-year old rule which previously prevented a company from claiming privilege against its own shareholders); [2026] EWHC 877 (Comm) (on claims to legal advice privilege over *"intra-client"* documents); and various decisions in the context of the *PAG v RBS* litigation (including [2016] 4 W.L.R. 3 (litigation privilege); [2016] 1 W.L.R. 992 (legal advice privilege); and [2016] 1 W.L.R. 361 (without prejudice privilege and regulatory investigations)).

Banking and finance

Kyle is recommended by both Chambers & Partners UK and the Legal 500 as a leading junior for Banking and Financial Services.

Kyle has extensive experience of acting in banking and financial services disputes of various kinds. His practice covers the full spectrum of banking and finance related work, including investment banking, M&A, capital markets, private equity, investment and asset management, sovereign wealth, derivatives, as well as private and retail banking.

In recent years, Kyle has acted in a number of landmark banking and finance-related disputes. He is currently acting for the defendant in one of the largest securities group actions proceeding before the English courts (*Various Claimants v Glencore Plc*). His previous experience includes acting for the successful defendants in the first shareholder group action ever to go to trial in England and Wales (*The Lloyds/HBOS Group Litigation*); the first civil trial to arise out of the "LIBOR-fixing scandal" (*PAG v RBS*); and one of the leading cases on the test for reliance in claims based on implied misrepresentation (*Leeds City Council & Ors v Barclays Bank Plc*). In addition, Kyle also has experience of regulatory proceedings in the banking and finance context, including proceedings before the Takeover Panel.

Examples of recent work in the banking and finance field include:

- *Various Claimants v Glencore Plc* – acting for Glencore Plc in defence of group litigation under s.90/s.90A FSMA 2000 relating to Glencore's IPO and subsequent merger with Xstrata.
- *The Lloyds/HBOS Group Litigation* – acting for Lloyds and five of its former directors in their successful defence of group litigation brought by about 6000 shareholders arising out of Lloyds' acquisition of HBOS at the height of the 2007/8 financial crisis.
- *HSBC Bank Middle East Ltd v Clifford Chance* – acting for Clifford Chance in defence of a claim arising out of a US$300m syndicated loan transaction.
- *Nationwide Building Society v (1) Bank of New York Mellon; and (2) A&O Shearman* – acting for A&O in defence of a £100m claim relating to a series of high-value capital markets transactions.
- *Leeds City Council & Ors v Barclays* - fraudulent misrepresentation claim against Barclays relating to the sale of so-called 'lender-option, borrower-option' ("LOBO") loans.
- *PAG v RBS* - fraudulent misrepresentation claim arising out of the "LIBOR-fixing scandal".
- *Fundo Soberano de Angola v dos Santos & Ors* – acting for the Angolan sovereign wealth fund in a US$3 billion claim against the fund's former investment manager and financial adviser.
- *Arbitral International Corporation v Britannia Financial Group* - an M&A dispute arising out of the deposit of US$1bn+ of assets by Tether, the cryptocurrency company, with a Bahamian financial services group.
- *6BC v TC Biopharm (Holdings) Plc* – acting for a US investor in a claim relating to the redemption of loan notes issued by a Nasdaq listed biotech company.
- *RightCard Payment Services Ltd v Moniepoint GB Ltd* – acting for an international money remittance business in an unlawful interference claim concerning price comparison information published by a competitor.
- *Natixis & Nedbank Ltd v Famfa Oil Ltd* – acting for French and South African banks in a claim relating to the underwriting of a syndicated loan facility.

Civil Fraud

Kyle is recommended by both Chambers & Partners UK and the Legal 500 as a leading junior for Civil Fraud. The latest edition of Chambers & Partners records that " *Kyle has gained an impressive reputation as a good-to junior for civil fraud cases* " and notes that *"he has been instructed on some of the biggest cases in recent years".*

Many of the commercial disputes in which Kyle acts involve allegations of civil fraud and/or attempts to recovery the proceeds of fraud. As a result, Kyle has extensive experience of dealing with allegations of fraud, deceit, dishonesty, bribery, secret commissions, corruption, misrepresentation and misstatement, economic/intentional torts (including, in particular, claims for lawful and unlawful means conspiracy, unlawful interference and inducement of breach of contract), breaches of fiduciary duties (and their statutory equivalents), as well as other proprietary and equitable claims (such as knowing receipt and dishonest assistance).

In addition, Kyle also has significant experience of interlocutory disputes of the kind which frequently arise out of civil fraud claims, including applications to obtain, maintain, vary or discharge freezing and/or proprietary injunctions; *Bankers Trust / Norwich Pharmacal* disclosure orders against third parties; and contempt proceedings.

Examples of recent work in the civil fraud field include:

Civil fraud claims

- ***Premier Golf League v LIV Golf Inc & Ors*** – acting for PGL in its claim for breach of confidence and unlawful means conspiracy in relation to the well-publicised launch of the "LIV Golf League" by the Public Investment Fund of Saudi Arabia.
- ***EYE Corp IT Solutions LLC v Vigilate AI Ltd & Ors*** – a c. $180m unlawful means conspiracy and economic torts claim relating to the alleged misappropriation of the Claimant's business and assets and the diversion of business opportunities relating to the licensing of software for facial recognition and biometric identification.
- ***Lonestar Communications Corporation LLC v Kaye & Ors*** – unlawful means/lawful means conspiracy and economic torts claim concerning a large-scale "cyber-attack" on one of the largest telecoms companies in Liberia.
- ***Fundo Soberano de Angola v dos Santos & Ors*** – acting for the Angolan sovereign wealth fund in high-value, multi-jurisdictional civil fraud proceedings against the fund's former investment manager and adviser and its attempts to recover US$3bn of missing assets.
- ***Blue Skies World AG v Simplex Mapping Solutions SB Ltd*** – acting for the claimant in a high-value unlawful means conspiracy claim relating to a sale of surveillance technology to a state entity in the Middle East.
- ***Lutfi v Choudhury & Ors*** – acting for a UHNW individual in a civil fraud claim relating to the misappropriation of assets and the acquisition and development of several high-end luxury London properties.
- ***The Federal Republic of Nigeria v Ickonga*** – acting for a defendant in BVI proceedings relating to an alleged US$1bn fraud concerning the transfer of rights to a Nigerian oil field.
- ***Slater & Gordon (UK) 1 Ltd v Watchstone Group Plc*** – acting for Slater & Gordon in its £600 million claim against Watchstone Group for civil fraud and breach of warranty.

Interim relief in civil fraud claims

- *X v Y* – acting as sole counsel in obtaining Norwich Pharmacal and Bankers Trust disclosure orders in connection with a suspected fraud on a well-known UK retailer.
- *Lutfi v Choudhury & Ors* – acting for a UHNW individual in applications to maintain and to vary a freezing injunction in connection with a civil fraud claim relating to the misappropriation of assets and the acquisition and development of several high-end luxury London properties.
- *Breytenbach v Grobler* – acting for the administrators of a South African crypto-currency exchange in a claim under s.25 of the CJJA 1982 for a proprietary injunction/asset preservation order in respect of various crypto-currencies.
- *IOT Engineering Projects Ltd v Dangote Fertilizer Ltd* – obtaining a US$19.2 million *ex parte* freezing injunction freezing assets representing rights under, and the proceeds of, two performance bonds/advance payment guarantees (in connection with a project for the construction of a US$2 billion plant in Nigeria).
- *A v B* – successfully resisting an application before the DIFC Courts to commit various defendants for alleged non-compliance with an interim injunction relating to a well-known luxury hotel on the Palm Jumeirah.

Energy and natural resources

Kyle is recommended by the Legal 500 as a leading junior for Energy work.

Examples of notable work in this field include:

- *Various Claimants v Glencore Plc* – acting for Glencore Plc in defence of group litigation under s.90/s.90A FSMA arising out of Glencore's IPO and subsequent merger with Xstrata. The claims relate to Glencore's mining and oil trading operations in the DRC, West Africa, and North and South America.
- *An LMAA Arbitration* – acting for the purchasers of two 174,000m³ LNG-carriers in their successful claims for US$300m in damages relating to defects in the vessels.
- *CL Financial Ltd v Proman Holding (Barbados) Ltd* – acting in a claim relating to the disputed sale of a multi-million-dollar petrochemicals company in Trinidad and Tobago.
- *An ICC Arbitration* – A substantial ICC arbitration relating to the sale of shares in the holding company for investments in a petrochemicals company in the Sultanate of Oman.
- *PT Satria Tirtatama Energindo v East Asia Company Ltd* – a Privy Council appeal relating to the sale of a multi-million dollar geothermal energy project in Bedugul, Bali.
- *The Federal Republic of Nigeria v Ickonga* – acting for a defendant in BVI proceedings

relating to an alleged US$1bn fraud concerning the transfer of rights to a Nigerian oil field.

- *Natixis & Nedbank Ltd v Famfa Oil Ltd* – acting for French and South African banks in a claim relating to the financing of an upstream oil and gas company with rights to a deep-water oil block in the central Niger delta.
- *Stemcor UK Ltd v Global Steel Holdings Ltd & Mr Pramod Mitta* l – a US $142 million claim against the guarantors of a Bosnian steel manufacturer.
- Acting as sole counsel for a major commodity trading company in defence of claims in the Commercial Court and in DIAC Arbitrations relating to the purchase/sale of cargoes of crude oil from the Middle East.
- Acting in various international arbitrations (including arbitrations under the LCIA and ICC rules) relating to the construction and/or operation of large-scale energy and/or infrastructure projects, including substantial projects in Africa, Asia and the Caribbean.

Professional negligence

Kyle is recommended by both Chambers & Partners UK and the Legal 500 as a leading junior for Professional Negligence.

Kyle is regularly instructed to act and advise in relation to high-value professional negligence claims (for both claimants and defendants). He has particular expertise in relation to claims against legal professionals, accountants, auditors and other financial professionals and his previous clients include various well-known US and UK law firms and accountancy/professional services firms. In addition, Kyle also represents clients involved in professional disciplinary proceedings before a variety of different disciplinary/regulatory bodies (including the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal, the Financial Reporting Council and the Takeover Panel).

Examples of recent (non-confidential) work in the professional negligence field include:

Claims against legal professionals

- *SAAD Investments Company Ltd v Morrison & Foerster (UK) LLP* – Acting for Morrison & Foerster in defence of a c. US$200m professional negligence claim arising out of the long-running "Samba litigation".
- *HSBC Bank Middle East Ltd v Clifford Chance LLP* – acting for Clifford Chance in defence of a professional negligence claim arising out of a US$300m syndicated loan transaction.
- *Nationwide Building Society v Bank of New York Mellon and A&O Shearman LLP* – acting for A&O in defence of a professional negligence claim arising out of a series of high-value capital markets transactions.
- *Al Sadik v Harneys* – acting for Harneys in defence of a professional negligence claim arising

out of US$100m banking litigation in the Cayman Islands, the Privy Council and Dubai.

- *ENRC v Dechert LLP* – acting for Dechert in a professional negligence claim brought by ENRC arising out of a white-collar crime investigation into allegations fraud, bribery and corruption in ENRC's operations in Africa and Kazakhstan.

Claims against accountants and/or auditors

- *PrivatBank v PwC* – acting for PrivatBank, the largest commercial bank in Ukraine, in a substantial (US$3 billion) audit negligence claim against PwC.
- *NMCN Plc v BDO* – acting for the claimant in a substantial audit negligence claim against BDO.
- *X v Y* – acting for a well-known accountancy firm in defence of a professional negligence claim relating to tax advice provided to a UHNW individual.
- *FRC v PwC (RSM Tenon Plc)* – acting for PwC in its defence of FRC proceedings relating to the auditing of RSM Tenon Plc, a LSE-listed professional services firm which, prior to entering administration, had been the seventh largest accountancy firm in the UK.
- *FRC v PwC (Connaught Plc)* – acting for PwC in its defence of FRC proceedings relating to the auditing of Connaught Plc, a FTSE 250 construction and outsourcing company.
- *FRC v Deloitte (Aero Inventory Plc)* – acting for an individual respondent in his successful defence of FRC proceedings relating to the financial statements of Aero Inventory Plc, an AIM-listed supplier of inventory management solutions to the aerospace industry.

INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL ARBITRATION

Kyle is recommended by both Chambers & Partners UK and Legal 500 as a leading junior for International Arbitration (Counsel).

A significant part of Kyle's commercial disputes work takes place in international arbitration. Kyle has acted in numerous arbitrations under a wide variety of institutional rules (including LCIA, ICC, LMAA, DIFC, DIAC, UNCITRAL and the Swiss Rules of International Arbitration), as well as in ad hoc proceedings. In addition, he is regularly instructed to act in court proceedings relating to or arising out of arbitrations (whether seated in England or elsewhere), including applications for interim relief under section 44 of the 1996 Act (e.g. injunctive relief), seeking or resisting the enforcement of foreign or domestic awards under section 66 or the New York Convention, and challenging or defending arbitration awards under sections 67, 68 and 69.

By its nature, the details of Kyle's international arbitration practice are mostly confidential, but recent highlights include:

International arbitrations

- Acting for the purchaser of two US$200m LNG carriers in a high-value LMAA arbitration.
- Acting for a sovereign wealth fund in multi-billion-dollar arbitration proceedings in London and Mauritius relating to the dissipation of the fund's assets and arising out of a series of revelations in the so-called "Paradise Papers".
- A substantial ICC arbitration relating to the sale of shares in the holding company for investments in a high-value petrochemicals company in Oman.
- Acting for a Middle-Eastern flag carrier in a multi-million dollar ICC arbitration relating to a charter airline joint venture in the Middle East.
- An expedited LCIA arbitration relating to the sale of interests in a group of well-known London hotels (and involving applications for interim relief under s.44).
- An expedited LCIA arbitration relating to the sale of interests in a major international airport (and involving applications for interim relief under s.44).
- A substantial ICC arbitration (seated in Miami and governed by Barbados law) arising out of the sale of a network of telecommunications companies in the Caribbean.
- A successful application for "Early Determination" under Art. 22.1(viii) of the LCIA Rules (a sole counsel), resulting in the immediate dismissal of a c. US$10m breach of contract claim.
- A high-value LCIA arbitration relating to the termination of a partnership agreement in connection with a London-based private equity fund.
- An LCIA arbitration relating to the acquisition of shares in the holding company for a high-value property development in the UK (as sole counsel).
- An LCIA arbitration (seated in London and governed by German law) relating to the termination of a distribution agreement for a medical device used in radiation therapy.
- Kyle has acted in a number of international arbitrations relating to the construction and/or operation of substantial overseas energy and infrastructure projects, including (amongst others) a clean-energy project in the Caribbean, a US$2 billion fertilizer plant in Nigeria and a major electricity power plant in Pakistan.

Court proceedings relating to/arising out of international arbitrations

- Acting for a Brazilian company in proceedings before the Commercial Court involving applications to resist the enforcement a Brazilian-seated ICC award.
- Acting for a Hong Kong company in proceedings before the BVI courts relating to the enforcement of a substantial Netherlands Arbitration Institute (NAI) award and involving related set-aside/enforcement proceedings in both the Netherlands and Hong Kong.
- Acting for a well-known Canadian engineering company in proceedings relating to the

enforcement of a substantial ICC award against a Middle-Eastern State and successfully resisting attempts to challenge the award under s.69 of 1996 Act.

- Acting in a challenge to a GAFTA award under s. 67 of the 1996 Act on the grounds that the GAFTA tribunal lacked substantive jurisdiction to render the award.
- Acting in a challenge under s67, 68 and 69 of the 1996 Act to an *ad hoc* arbitration award relating to a multi-million-pound construction project.

Offshore

Kyle has experience of acting in cases in a number of different offshore jurisdictions, including the Cayman Islands, the British Virgin Islands, Trinidad and Tobago and Dubai (as well as appeals to the Privy Council). Examples of Kyle's offshore work include:

- *RC Cayman Holdings Ltd v Michael Ryan* (Grand Court of the Cayman Islands) – acting for the former owner and developer of the Ritz-Carlton Grand Cayman Hotel in a high-value dispute relating to the financing of the hotel and its subsequent sale to a New York-based private equity fund.
- *The Federal Republic of Nigeria v Ickonga* (Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court) – acting for a defendant in BVI proceedings arising out of an alleged US$1bn fraud concerning the transfer of rights to a Nigerian oil field.
- *CL Financial Ltd v Proman Holding (Barbados) Ltd* (Trinidad and Tobago Court of Appeal) – acting in a claim relating to the disputed sale of a multi-million-dollar petrochemicals company in Trinidad and Tobago.
- *HSBC Bank Middle East Ltd v Clifford Chance LLP* (DIFC Court of First Instance) – acting for Clifford Chance in defence of a professional negligence claim arising out of a US$300m syndicated loan transaction.
- *VIH Hotel Management Ltd v Assas Opco Ltd & Ors* (DIFC Court of First Instance) – a high-value dispute before the DIFC Courts relating to the ownership and operation of a luxury hotel on the Palm Jumeirah, Dubai.
- *PT Satria Tirtatama Energindo v East Asia Company Ltd* – Privy Council appeal (on appeal from the Bermuda Court of Appeal) relating to the sale of a multi-million-dollar geothermal energy project in Bedugul, Bali.

In addition, Kyle also has experience of advising on "fair value" claims under s.106 of the Bermuda Companies Act.

Kyle is registered to practice in the DIFC under Part II of the DIFC Register of Legal Practitioners.

Media, Art, Entertainment and Sport

Outside of his core practice areas, Kyle also accepts instructions in appropriate cases in the fields of Media, Art, Entertainment and Sport.

Examples of recent work in these fields include:

- *Premier Golf League v LIV Golf Inc & Ors* – acting for PGL in its claim for breach of confidence and unlawful means conspiracy in relation to the well-publicised launch of the "LIV Golf League" by the Public Investment Fund of Saudi Arabia.
- *Stephen Devonshire v Firebird Music Holdings LLC* - acting for the buyer in a dispute relating to the valuation of shares in Defected Records, a leading British independent house music recording label.
- *Live Nation v the Pussycat Dolls* – acting for Live Nation in a claim against the Pussycat Dolls for the return of advance payments made in connection with a cancelled reunion tour.
- Acting in a claim relating to the sale of a Fabergé gold guilloche enamelled cigarette case to a well-known London art dealer.
- Acting for the owner of two Andy Warhol paintings in a claim against a well-known London auction house following the theft of the paintings and their subsequent sale.

Kyle is an Associate Member of the Art Lawyers Association (ALA) and, for many years, was also a member of the Sports Resolutions Pro Bono Panel.

Education, qualifications and further information

Education

Daniel Stewart's and Melville College, Edinburgh (1997-2007)

Pembroke College, University of Cambridge (2007-2010)

Harvard Law School (2010-2011)

BPP Law School (2011-2012)

Qualifications

BA (Hons) Law (2010) (Double First, 1st in year 2009; 7th in year 2010)

LLM (2011) (Private Law, International Commercial Arbitration, Public International Law)

Bar Professional Training Course (BPTC) (2012)

Scholarships and Prizes

LINCOLN'S INN

Lord Mansfield Scholarship (the top scholarship awarded by Lincoln’s Inn)

Hardwicke Entrance Award

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

The Clifford Chance David Gottlieb Prize (for the best overall performance in Part IB of the Law Tripos)

The E.C.S. Wade Prize (for the best performance in Administrative law)

James William Squire Scholarship

Harvard Scholarship

PEMBROKE COLLEGE

The Ziegler Prize (for the best overall performance in law)

The Blackburne Daniell Prize (for the best second-year performance in any subject)

Foundress Prize

Foundation Scholar

OTHER

The Royal Historical Society's Beazley Prize

The Times/One Essex Court Law Awards (Runner Up, 2012)

Professional Memberships

COMBAR (Commercial Bar Association)

YFLA (Young Fraud Lawyers Association)

ALA (Art Lawyers Association)

Further Interests

Kyle is a keen sportsman and, prior to coming to the bar, he played golf for the Cambridge University 'Stymies' (2nds) and rugby for Pembroke College and the Harvard Business School.

Directory Quotes

"Kyle is wonderfully user-friendly. He wears his powerful intellect lightly and can explain very difficult issues simply. His advocacy is effective and straightforward; you can see the judge wanting to agree with him at every stage." (Chambers & Partners 2027 - Commercial Dispute Resolution)

"Kyle Lawson is a great all-rounder who is lovely to work with." (Chambers & Partners 2027 - Commercial Dispute Resolution)

"Kyle is a superb choice for large-scale commercial litigation. His ability to engage constructively and provide clear, timely advice mark him out as a leading practitioner for the most complex cases." (Chambers & Partners 2027 - Commercial Dispute Resolution)

"Kyle Lawson is really high quality and has a very commercial outlook. He is good at picking apart challenging issues and presenting a clear path through the case." (Chambers & Partners 2027 - Commercial Dispute Resolution)

"Kyle was very approachable, very responsive, very clear, blended well in the team and was very strong and credible on his feet in court." (Chambers & Partners 2027 - Banking and Finance)

"Kyle was quick to grasp the issues and presented the arguments well." (Chambers & Partners 2027 - Banking and Finance)

"Kyle is excellent, and I always recommend him. He is detail-orientated, very efficient, super responsive and a nice person to work with." (Chambers & Partners 2027 - International Arbitration: General Commercial & Insurance)

"Kyle is a really high-quality junior." (Chambers & Partners 2027 - International Arbitration: General Commercial & Insurance)

"Kyle is very measured and quietly authoritative. He is not one for banging the table or his chest and is understated but very effective." (Chambers & Partners 2027 - Fraud: Civil)

"He's very strong analytically: everything he says is 'bang-on'. He's very solid and thorough." (Chambers & Partners 2027 - Professional Negligence)

"He's very user-friendly and all over the detail. I've been very impressed with him." (Chambers & Partners 2027 - Professional Negligence)

"He works really hard and can bring points together." (Chambers & Partners 2027 - Professional Negligence)

"Kyle is extremely bright and has an excellent understanding of both the legal and commercial aspects of the client's case. I would hope to work with Kyle again in the future." (Legal 500 2027 - Commercial Litigation)

"Kyle has terrific attention to detail and a real grasp of the key issues. He is responsive, turns work around very quickly (while maintaining excellent quality and clarity of written advice), and is great with clients." (Legal 500 2027 - Professional Negligence)

"Kyle has a calm, considered, and thoughtful approach. He is helpful on strategy as a sounding board. We have found that Kyle has an easy manner and has slotted in well as part of the small team." (Legal 500 2027 - International Arbitration: Counsel)

"Kyle Lawson is developing an impressive professional negligence practice, having been instructed on high-profile cases for major accountancy and law firms. He is well regarded for his understanding of complex matters and is led by top silks." (Chambers & Partners 2026 - Professional Negligence)

"Kyle has gained an impressive reputation as a go-to junior for civil fraud cases. He has been instructed on some of the biggest cases in recent years on behalf of claimants and defendants, and has experience of multi-jurisdictional commercial matters as well as multimillion-pound domestic frauds." (Chambers & Partners 2026 - Fraud: Civil)

"Kyle Lawson is a strong junior with experience of handling a broad array of matters for private, investment and retail banks. He acts for both claimants and defendants in cases involving loan disputes, swap mis-selling claims and conspiracy allegations." (Chambers & Partners 2026 - Banking and Finance)

"He is a trojan in getting huge amounts of work done." Chambers & Partners 2026 – Commercial Dispute Resolution)

"Kyle Lawson does the heavy lifting and is an excellent choice for complex banking instrument and professional negligence cases." Chambers & Partners 2026 – Fraud: Civil)

"In addition to his technical excellence, Kyle Lawson is well liked by clients and instructing solicitors alike." Chambers & Partners 2026 – Professional Negligence)

"Kyle Lawson is extremely user-friendly and works as part of our team. He gives enormously sound advice and grasp of complex matters and is dependable." Chambers & Partners 2026 – Professional Negligence)

"We always go back to Kyle Lawson where we can. He is fantastic, and he gets into the detail quickly. His work ethic is brilliant. He's a rising star." (Chambers & Partners 2026 – Professional Negligence)

"I did a trial with Kyle Lawson and was very impressed. He is a knowledgeable and efficient junior,

and he did a really good skeleton argument for the hearing. His written advocacy is first rate" (Chambers & Partners 2026 – Commercial Dispute Resolution)

"I've been enormously impressed by him. He is extremely user-friendly and works as part of our team. He provides enormously sound advice and has a grasp of complex matters." (Chambers & Partners 2026 – Commercial Dispute Resolution)

"Kyle is tipped for greatness and is excellent for complex banking work." (Chambers & Partners 2026 – Banking & Finance)

"He is excellent - a very strong drafter with very good and well developed strategic instincts." (Chambers & Partners 2026 – Banking & Finance)

"His written work and analytical skill is impeccable." (Chambers & Partners 2026 – Banking & Finance)

"Kyle is outstanding. His advice is consistently sharp, commercial, and pragmatic—he has a real ability to focus on what matters and cut through complexity to provide solutions that are legally sound and client-friendly." (Legal 500 2026 - International Arbitration)

"Kyle has excellent tactical judgement, and his written work is tremendous." (Legal 500 2026 - Banking and Finance)

"He is super brainy, writes well and his analysis always shows great judgement. He is so user-friendly that it is a pleasure to deal with him." (Legal 500 2026 - Professional Negligence)

"He has excellent tactical judgement, and his written work is tremendous." (Legal 500 2026 - Commercial Litigation)

"Charming and able." (Chambers & Partners 2025– Commercial Dispute Resolution)

"Kyle is very bright and very commercially savvy. He does a good job." (Chambers & Partners 2025– Commercial Dispute Resolution)

"He is calm, measured and very sensible." (Chambers & Partners 2025– Commercial Dispute Resolution)

"Kyle is a delight to work with. He distils huge amounts of information and is very sharp, thorough and strategic." (Chambers & Partners 2025– Civil Fraud)

"Kyle offers fabulous written and oral advocacy. He is on your team and with you to get it done." (Chambers & Partners 2025– Civil Fraud)

"Kyle is excellent. He has bags of common sense and a fierce intellect. He's very user-friendly and very helpful and responsive." (Chambers & Partners 2025 – Banking & Finance)

"Kyle's intellectual strength is obvious but he combines it with common sense and a user-friendliness which makes it a pleasure to work with him. He is thorough and careful but able to bring everything together so one can form a coherent strategy in a difficult situation." (Legal 500 2025)

"An impressive tactician and draftsperson. Very impressive in front of clients. His written submissions are powerful and persuasive. A pleasure to work with." (Legal 500 2025)

"Kyle is hardworking, clever, diligent and fun to work with." (Legal 500 2025)

"Kyle's ability to combine a first-class intellect with an affable and easy-going manner makes him a joy to work with." (Legal 500 2025)

"Kyle is a highly charismatic advocate. Thanks to his high intelligence and exceptional insight, he quickly gains the confidence of the court." (Legal 500 2025)

"Very calm, sensible and switched on. He's good for cases that could spiral out of control as he simplifies them nicely." (Chambers & Partners 2024 – Commercial Dispute Resolution)

"Kyle is a great all rounder and a pleasure to work with." (Chambers & Partners 2024 – Commercial Dispute Resolution)

"He is bright and commercial. Kyle Lawson is an absolute pleasure to work with." (Chambers & Partners 2024 – Banking & Finance)

"An absolute pleasure to work with. A calm and considered mind.'" (Legal 500 2024 - Banking & Finance)

"Kyle is an impressive barrister. He has a calm, easy, and sure manner with clients. His written work is well researched and keenly targeted." (Legal 500 2024 - Professional Negligence)

"He has a first-class mind and is a great problem-solver." (Legal 500 2024 - Commercial Litigation)

"Kyle is really elegant in his writing and produces very nicely written documents." "He is very easy to work with and cuts straight to the point." (Chambers & Partners 2023 – Commercial Dispute Resolution)

"Kyle Lawson is measured, calm and incredibly intelligent. He is good on his feet and an all-round pleasure to deal with." (Chambers & Partners 2023 - Banking & Finance)

"Kyle is way beyond his years – he is head and shoulders above his peers at the Bar. He absorbs facts swiftly, and grasps the key legal principles with ease. His written work is fantastic – his pleadings are hard-hitting and concisely undermine an opponent." (Legal 500, 2023 - Banking & Finance, Commercial Litigation)

"He is fiercely bright, highly industrious and with strategic vision far in advance of his years. He

writes beautifully and has a charismatic presence." (Legal 500 2023 - Professional Negligence)

"He is absolutely fantastic and will be a real star of the future. He is very hard-working, incredibly calm and unflappable. He works really seamlessly in a team. He takes good points and has great judgement." "He is very impressive and absolutely terrific." (Chambers & Partners 2022 – Banking & Finance)

"A good, bright and personable barrister." (Chambers & Partners 2022 – Commercial Dispute Resolution)

"He is fiercely bright, highly industrious and with strategic vision far in advance of his years. He writes beautifully and has a charismatic presence." (Legal 500 2022)

"A star of the future who performs well above the level of his year of call." (Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2021 – Banking & Finance)

"He churns out documents, and the quality of his work is very good." (Chambers & Partners 2021 – Commercial Dispute Resolution)

"He provides excellent, reliable advice wrapped up in thorough and carefully drafted documents." (Legal 500 2021)

"He is fantastic, responsive and clearly very bright – a junior to watch" (Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2020 – Banking & Finance)

"Kyle is super smart and very easy to interact with" (Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2020 – Banking & Finance)

"He gets to the bottom of issues so quickly, his work is of a very high quality, and he's just a really pleasant person to work with" (Chambers & Partners UK Bar & Global 2020 – Commercial Dispute Resolution)

"Kyle is impressive, insightful and really responsive" (Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2020 – Commercial Dispute Resolution)

"A star of the future who's capable of performing well above the level of his year of call" (Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2019 – Commercial Dispute Resolution)

"Excellent with clients and very quick – that means he has a bright future" (Legal 500 2017)
