

## Joanne Box

YEAR OF CALL: 2012

*"She is a marvel, superlative on all counts – she has a great grasp of details and is destined for the top."*

Legal 500 2021

Clerk's Email: [PaulsClerkingTeam@brickcourt.co.uk](mailto:PaulsClerkingTeam@brickcourt.co.uk)



## Practice Overview

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Jo has a broad practice that covers the full range of commercial litigation and arbitration undertaken in Chambers. Jo is instructed led and unled in cases before the Supreme Court, Court of Appeal and High Court, and in LCIA, ICC and UNCITRAL arbitrations. She is ranked as a leading junior in Commercial Dispute Resolution, Civil Fraud and Energy.

Jo is particularly experienced in group litigation. Recent instructions include Bates and Ors v Post Office Ltd, a GLO claim by approximately 500 sub-post masters against Post Office Ltd (one of The Lawyer's "Top 20 Cases" of 2018); acting on behalf of the defendant Ingenious Media in group litigation concerning the sale and promotion of its film finance investment scheme (one of The Lawyer's "Top 20 Cases" of 2018 and 2022); and Phillip Evans v Barclays Bank plc and others, a claim against six banks for follow-on damages in relation to cartels in the FX (foreign exchange) market (one of The Lawyer's "Top 20 Cases" of 2020).

Other recent cases include Federal Republic of Nigeria v P&ID, acting for Nigeria in applying to set aside a London arbitration award worth US\$10 billion on grounds of fraud; and various insurance matters arising out of the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Commercial

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- *Federal Republic of Nigeria v P&ID*: acting for Nigeria in applying to set aside one of the "world's largest lawsuits" – a London arbitration award worth US\$10 billion – on grounds of fraud (with Mark Howard QC).

- *Bates and Ors v Post Office Ltd*: acting for Post Office Ltd in group litigation involving claims by approximately 500 sub-post masters and sub-post mistresses for breach of contract (on the basis that their contracts were wrongly terminated) and harassment, and a counterclaim in fraud (with Helen Davies QC). One of The Lawyer's "Top 20 Cases" of 2018.
- *Rowe v Ingenious Media*: acting for the Ingenious Media defendants in relation to the Chancery Division group litigation arising out of the highly publicised film finance investment schemes (with Tim Lord QC and Simon Birt QC). One of The Lawyer's "Top 20 Cases" of 2018 and 2022.
- *Phillip Evans v Barclays Bank plc and others*, a claim against six banks for follow-on damages in relation to cartels in the FX (foreign exchange) market (with Aidan Robertson QC and Victoria Wakefield QC). One of The Lawyer's "Top 20 Cases" of 2020.
- *Huntsman International LLC v SWIS Distribution Ltd*: acting for Huntsman International LLC in a claim for injunctive relief and damages arising out of a distribution relationship (with Vernon Flynn QC).
- *Covalis Capital v Banco BTG Pactual SA*: a claim for performance fees and account of profits in relation to investment asset management services (with Anneliese Day QC).
- *Northern and Western Insurance Company Ltd v BSG Valentine*: a claim for audit negligence and deceit arising out of the fraudulent collapse of NWIC (with Simon Salzedo QC).
- *TOTSA Total Oil Trading SA v Zenrock Commodities Trading, Natixis SA and HSBC*: acting for Total in two Commercial Court claims arising out of fraudulent claims on letters of credit (with Richard Lord QC).
- *SICL v JP Morgan and Awal Bank*: a high value claim relating to discharge of a swingline facility and ownership of trust assets following the collapse of the Saad Group (with Tim Lord QC and Stephen Midwinter QC).
- *RentSmart Ltd v The Carphone Warehouse Ltd*: acting for the Carphone Warehouse in a £20 million claim for breach of contract (with Fionn Pilbrow QC).
- *Gerald Metals v Timis*: a \$90 million claim for alleged breaches of contract, fraud and conspiracy in relation to an iron ore mine in Sierra Leone and oil assets in Senegal (with Mark Howard QC).
- *Signia Wealth v Dauriac* [2018] EWHC 1040 (Ch): high-profile investment management company dispute regarding exit provisions and share value which settled after the grant of permission to appeal (with Thomas Plewman QC and Sarah Ford QC).
- *Petrosaudi Oil Services (Venezuela) Ltd v Novo Banco SA and PDVSA* [2017] EWCA Civ 9: acting for Petrosaudi in an expedited Commercial Court trial and subsequent Court of Appeal hearings in relation to a dispute concerning demands for \$129 million under a letter of credit (with Jonathan Gaisman QC and Michael Bools QC).
- *Associated British Ports v Tata Steel UK Ltd* [2017] EWHC 694 (Ch) – dispute concerning the validity of an arbitration agreement in a 25 year licence for use of the jetty at Port Talbot Tidal Harbour.
- A US\$300+ million UNCITRAL arbitration against a major national oil company in a dispute under a drilling services contract (with Michael Bools QC).

- A US\$50+ million ICC arbitration under a drilling services agreement (with Richard Lord QC).
- *Cattles Limited v PriceWaterhouseCoopers LLP* (Commercial Court): acting for the defendant in a £1.6 billion claim for auditor negligence (with Mark Hapgood QC and Thomas Plewman QC). One of The Lawyer's "Top 20 Cases" of 2015.
- *Bonhams v Lawson & Ors* (Commercial Court): dispute over the auction and ownership of a very rare £10 million racing Ferrari car, one of the world's most expensive classic cars (with Michael Bools QC).
- *Winkler v Shamoon & Ors* (Chancery Division): application for a freezing injunction (with Daniel Jowell QC).
- *Malhotra v Malhotra* [2014] EWHC 113 (Comm): an action on a cross-undertaking raising issues of reflective loss (with Roger Masefield QC).
- An LCIA arbitration concerning credit insurance (with Tom Adam QC).
- An LCIA arbitration relating to floating rate notes allegedly held as security (with Tim Lord QC).
- An ICC arbitration concerning liability under an IT contract, raising issues of capacity and restitution (with Hilary Heilbron QC and David Scannell).
- An ad hoc shipping arbitration under the AA 1996 concerning demurrage and alleged wrongful arrest of a vessel (with Richard Lord QC).
- *Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc v Kubber Investments* (Commercial Court), an action for an anti-suit injunction and relief pursuant to a loan facility (with Fionn Pilbrow).

## Civil fraud

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- *Federal Republic of Nigeria v P&ID*: acting for Nigeria in applying to set aside one of the "world's largest lawsuits" – a London arbitration award worth US\$10 billion – on grounds of fraud (with Mark Howard QC).
- *Bates and Ors v Post Office Ltd*: acting for Post Office Ltd in group litigation involving claims by approximately 500 sub-post masters and sub-post mistresses for breach of contract (on the basis that their contracts were wrongly terminated) and harassment, and a counterclaim in fraud (with Helen Davies QC). One of The Lawyer's "Top 20 Cases" of 2018.
- *Rowe v Ingenious Media*: acting for the Ingenious Media defendants in relation to the Chancery Division group litigation arising out of the highly publicised film finance investment schemes (with Tim Lord QC and Simon Birt QC). One of The Lawyer's "Top 20 Cases" of 2018 and 2022.
- *Northern and Western Insurance Company Ltd v BSG Valentine*: a claim for audit negligence and deceit arising out of the fraudulent collapse of NWIC (with Simon Salzedo QC).
- *TOTSA Total Oil Trading SA v Zenrock Commodities Trading, Natixis SA and HSBC*: acting for Total in two Commercial Court claims arising out of fraudulent claims on letters of credit (with Richard Lord QC).
- *Gerald Metals v Timis*: a \$90 million claim for alleged breaches of contract, fraud and conspiracy in relation to an iron ore mine in Sierra Leone and oil assets in Senegal (with Mark Howard QC).

- *Petrosaudi Oil Services (Venezuela) Ltd v Novo Banco SA and PDVSA* [2017] EWCA Civ 9: acting for Petrosaudi in an expedited Commercial Court trial and subsequent Court of Appeal hearings in relation to a dispute concerning allegedly fraudulent demands for \$129 million under a letter of credit (with Jonathan Gaisman QC and Michael Bools QC).
- *SAAD Investments Company Limited v JP Morgan International Bank Ltd and Awal Bank BSC*: acting for Awal Bank in a dispute relating to liabilities under a \$75 million facility with JP Morgan, and ownership of trust assets worth approximately \$200 million (with Tim Lord QC and Stephen Midwinter QC). This case arose from the collapse of the Saad Group following a major fraud.

## Energy and natural resources

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- *Federal Republic of Nigeria v P&ID*: acting for Nigeria in applying to set aside one of the “world’s largest lawsuits” – a London arbitration award worth US\$10 billion in relation to a gas processing agreement – on grounds of fraud (with Mark Howard QC).
- *TOTSA Total Oil Trading SA v Zenrock Commodities Trading, Natixis SA and HSBC*: acting for Total in two Commercial Court claims arising out of fraudulent claims on letters of credit (with Richard Lord QC).
- *Gerald Metals v Timis*: a \$90 million claim for alleged breaches of contract, fraud and conspiracy in relation to an iron ore mine in Sierra Leone and oil assets in Senegal (with Mark Howard QC).
- *Petrosaudi Oil Services (Venezuela) Ltd v Novo Banco SA and PDVSA* [2017] EWCA Civ 9: acting for Petrosaudi in an expedited Commercial Court trial and subsequent Court of Appeal hearings in relation to a dispute concerning demands for \$129 million under a letter of credit (with Jonathan Gaisman QC and Michael Bools QC).
- *Associated British Ports v Tata Steel UK Ltd* [2017] EWHC 694 (Ch) – dispute concerning the validity of an arbitration agreement in a 25 year licence for use of the jetty at Port Talbot Tidal Harbour.
- An LCIA arbitration in relation to blockages in the Forties oil pipeline.
- A US\$300+ million UNCITRAL arbitration against a major national oil company in a dispute under a drilling services contract (with Michael Bools QC).
- A US\$50+ million ICC arbitration under a drilling services agreement (with Richard Lord QC).

## Chancery: commercial

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- *Covalis Capital v Banco BTG Pactual SA*: a claim for performance fees and account of profits in relation to investment asset management services (with Anneliese Day QC).
- *Rowe v Ingenious Media*: acting for the Ingenious Media defendants in relation to the Chancery Division group litigation arising out of the highly publicised film finance investment schemes (with Tim Lord QC and Simon Birt QC). One of The Lawyer’s “Top 20 Cases” of 2018 and 2022.

- *SICL v JP Morgan and Awal Bank*, a high value claim relating to discharge of a swingline facility and ownership of trust assets following the collapse of the Saad Group (with Tim Lord QC and Stephen Midwinter QC).
- *Signia Wealth v Dauriac* [2018] EWHC 1040 (Ch): high-profile investment management company dispute regarding exit provisions and share value which settled after the grant of permission to appeal (with Thomas Plewman QC and Sarah Ford QC).

## Insurance and reinsurance

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Jo has advised and acted in a range of insurance and reinsurance disputes, including most recently an ad hoc arbitration regarding ATE insurance (with Stephen Midwinter QC); a \$20 million LCIA arbitration concerning credit insurance (with Tom Adam QC); and various disputes arising out of the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Qualifications

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## Employment

2013 - present Tenant, Brick Court Chambers

2012 - 2013 Pupil, Brick Court Chambers

2011 - 2012 Teaching Fellow in Law, University College London

2011 - 2012 Visiting Tutor in Contract Law, King's College London

2010 Summer Associate, Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP, New York

2009 - 2010 Supervisor in Law, University of Cambridge

## Professional Memberships

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## Education

2011 - 2012 BPTC, Kaplan Law School (Outstanding)

2010 - 2011 LLM, Harvard Law School

2009 - 2010 LLM, University of Cambridge (Starred First, 1st in year)

2006 - 2009 BA (Hons) Law, University of Cambridge (Double First)

## Scholarships and Prizes

Baron Dr Ver Heyden de Lancey Prize, Middle Temple

Certificate of Honour, Middle Temple

Marina Catovsky Advocacy Scholarship, Kaplan Law School

Queen Mother Scholarship, Middle Temple

Dean's Scholar, Harvard Law School

BRD Clarke Prize for Best Performance in the LLM, University of Cambridge

AHRC Studentship, University of Cambridge

Rebecca Flower Squire Scholarship, University of Cambridge

Rosemary Murray Scholarship, University of Cambridge

Winner of the USA Universities Debating Championships

Finalist, Willem C Vis International Arbitration Moot (representing Harvard Law School)

## **Publications**

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*Trade Mark Law and the Threat to Free Speech* [2012] IPQ 289

*L'Oreal v Bellure: Important Questions for Trade Mark Law* 41 IIC 485 (2010)

*Further Doubt in the Law of Mistake* 6 CSLR 308 (2010)

## **directory quotes**

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"Clear and robust in her views, which she can always back up when challenged. She is always prepared to argue her position and does so graciously and intelligently." (Chambers & Partners 2022)

"Jo is a dream to work with – super-smart, practical and persuasive." (Legal 500 2022)

"A rising star of the Bar. Super bright, excellent drafting and a natural instinct for exploiting weaknesses in the other side's case." (Legal 500 2022)

"Excellent, proactive and great to work with." (Chambers & Partners 2021)

"She is extremely user-friendly, really commercial, and invariably calm at all times. Her drafting is excellent, precise and to the point." (Chambers & Partners 2021)

"She is a marvel, superlative on all counts – she has a great grasp of details and is destined for the top."  
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