

## Tony Singla KC

YEAR OF CALL: 2007 YEAR OF SILK: 2021

*"an absolute genius and a delight to work with"*  
*"an exceptional advocate" "one of the future stars at the commercial Bar"*

Chambers & Partners 2023; Legal 500 2023; Legal 500 2023

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## Practice Overview

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Tony Singla KC has a broad practice which covers all areas of Commercial Law. He is described in Chambers & Partners as *"one of the go-to silks at the commercial Bar"*. Tony took silk at 14 years' call. According to Legal 500 *"Tony's promotion to silk so quickly is testament to his brilliance. He is one of the future stars at the commercial Bar"*.

Tony is regularly instructed as the lead advocate in the High Court, the Court of Appeal, and the Competition Appeal Tribunal, and he has also appeared on numerous occasions in the Supreme Court. In addition, Tony has a substantial arbitration practice and he appears frequently before tribunals under LCIA, ICC, and other rules. He is particularly sought after in cases requiring extensive cross-examination of factual and expert witnesses.

Tony is recommended as a leading silk in Chambers & Partners and Legal 500 in eight fields: Banking and Finance, Civil Fraud, Commercial Litigation, Competition Law, Group Litigation, Insurance, Professional Discipline, and Professional Negligence. He is also recommended in Who's Who Legal for Banking and Finance and Competition Law. For many years Tony has been instructed in the highest-profile and highest-value cases in each of these fields, including more than 10 of *The Lawyer's Top 20* cases in the last 10 years. He has particular expertise in group litigation having acted in a number of shareholder claims and competition class actions.

The legal directories describe Tony as a *"go to silk"*, *"a star in commercial circles"*, *"a real star of his generation"*, *"phenomenally good"*, and *"a natural leader, with a formidable intellect"*. He has drawn particular attention for his trial and appellate advocacy skills ( *"an exceptional advocate"*, *"a formidable advocate"*, *"a top-drawer advocate, especially cross-examination"*, *"terrific advocate – very calm, persuasive and authoritative"*, *"incredibly good on his feet"* ). He is also well known for being personable and extremely user-friendly ( *"a delight to work with"*, *"absolutely fantastic to work with"*, *"extremely popular with solicitors"*, *"terrific manner with clients"*, *"easy to work with, personable,*

and highly responsive”).

Prior to taking silk, Tony was one of the leading juniors at the Commercial Bar. In 2014 he was awarded Commercial Litigation Junior of the Year at the Chambers Bar Awards, in 2018 he was nominated as Commercial Litigation Junior of the Year by Legal 500 and also as Competition Junior of the Year by Chambers & Partners, and in 2019 he was nominated as Insurance Junior of the Year by Chambers & Partners. Tony was also featured by *The Lawyer* in its “Hot 100” and by Chambers & Partners as one of the junior “Stars at the Bar”.

Tony’s current and recent cases include the following:

- Banking and Finance : Tony is acting in *Fiesta Hotels and Resorts v Deutsche Bank* (\$500 million derivatives mis-selling claim), for Citigroup in the high-profile *FX Litigation*, and in a number of substantial cryptocurrency disputes. Tony is also instructed by a number of defendants in group actions brought by shareholders under sections 90 and 90A FSMA 2000, including Barclays Plc, Glencore Plc, Reckitt Benckiser Plc, and Serco Plc. He previously acted for Lloyds Banking Group and its directors in the *Lloyds/HBOS Litigation* (group action brought by 6,000 shareholders arising out of Lloyds’ acquisition of HBOS).
- Civil Fraud: Tony is acting in a number of fraud claims including *The Public Institution for Social Security v Al Rajaan* (claim to recover alleged secret commissions worth hundreds of millions). He previously acted in *Lonestar Communications v Kaye* (substantial conspiracy claim based on a cyber-attack in Liberia) and *Terra Firma v Citibank* (\$2 billion fraud claim by Terra Firma arising out of its acquisition of EMI). He has extensive experience of cases involving freezing injunctions and Norwich Pharmacal orders.
- Competition: Tony appeared in *Merricks v Mastercard* (acting for Mastercard) and is currently acting for the defendants in a large number of collective actions: *Trucks, FX, McLaren, Which? v Qualcomm*, *Gormsen v Meta*, *Power Cables*, and *BSV Claims*. In addition to these leading CPO cases, Tony has acted for defendants in the vast majority of follow-on damages actions which have been litigated in recent years.
- Insurance: Tony is currently acting in the *AerCap litigation* (acting for AerCap in multi-billion insurance litigation arising out of the non-return of aircraft out of Russia following the invasion of Ukraine). He was previously instructed in a large number of business interruption claims arising out of the COVID-19 pandemic and he also acted for the primary layer insurers in *Single Buoy Moorings v Zurich* (\$1 billion dispute concerning damage to a North Sea platform).
- Jurisdiction and Conflict of Laws: Tony is acting in a number of ongoing jurisdiction disputes and has been instructed in many cases over the years under the Brussels Regulation, the Lugano Convention, and at common law. He appeared in two of the leading Supreme Court cases: *The Alexandros T* (concerning Articles 27 and 28 of the Brussels Regulation) and *VTB Capital plc v Nutritek* (concerning jurisdiction in respect of tort claims).
- Professional Negligence: Tony has extensive experience of acting in claims brought against accountants, solicitors, and barristers. His current cases include *BTI v PwC* (defending PwC

against a \$600 million audit negligence claim arising out of environmental liabilities in the US). He recently acted in *Watchstone v KPMG* (defending KPMG against a multi-million audit negligence claim), *FRC v Deloitte* (concerning Deloitte's audit of Autonomy plc) and *NRAM v Eversheds* (£100 million claim against Eversheds concerning advice on consumer credit legislation).

- Sports Law: Tony has acted in a number of cases concerning football and cricket. He has experience of FA Rule K arbitrations, regulatory issues, competition law and restraint of trade cases, and also numerous disputes regarding sponsorship and broadcasting rights. He is a member of the British Association for Sport and Law.

Tony is the co-author of *Accountants' Negligence and Liability* (2<sup>nd</sup> edition, 2021) and a contributing author of *Competition Litigation: UK Practice and Procedure* (2<sup>nd</sup> edition, 2019). Between 2006 and 2011, Tony was a Retained Lecturer in Law at Oxford University where he taught Contract Law and Competition Law.

Tony is an elected member of the Bar Council and also sits on the Estates Committee of Marylebone Cricket Club.

## Commercial

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Tony has a broad practice which covers all areas of Commercial Law. He is regularly instructed as the lead or sole advocate in commercial cases in the High Court (primarily the Commercial Court and Chancery Division) and also in hearings before arbitral tribunals (LCIA, ICC, and other rules). He has also appeared on numerous occasions in the Court of Appeal and Supreme Court. He has extensive experience of arguing complex points of law and also cross-examining factual and expert witnesses.

The breadth of Tony's commercial practice is evidenced by the fact that he is recommended in Chambers & Partners and Legal 500 in seven commercial fields: Banking and Finance, Civil Fraud, Commercial Litigation, Group Litigation, Insurance, Professional Discipline, and Professional Negligence. He is also ranked for Commercial Dispute Resolution in Chambers Global.

Prior to taking silk, Tony was one of the leading juniors at the Commercial Bar. In 2014 he was awarded Commercial Litigation Junior of the Year at the Chambers Bar Awards, in 2018 he was nominated as Commercial Litigation Junior of the Year by Legal 500, and in 2019 he was nominated as Insurance Junior of the Year by Chambers & Partners. Tony was also featured by *The Lawyer* in its "Hot 100" and by Chambers & Partners as one of the junior "Stars at the Bar".

Tony has acted in many of the highest-profile and highest-value commercial cases in recent years. His notable cases are listed below by reference to particular fields. In addition, he is currently

instructed in a number of general commercial disputes involving issues of contractual interpretation (including Part 8 claims), as well as cases arising out of the COVID-19 pandemic such as *DAZN Limited v IMG Worldwide* (US\$20 million dispute concerning sports broadcasting rights and termination on force majeure grounds) and *Sterilab v Secretary of State for Health and Social Care* (£100 million claim concerning the supply of lateral flow tests).

## Arbitration

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Tony is regularly instructed as the lead or sole advocate in hearings before arbitral tribunals (LCIA, ICC, and other rules) and also in arbitration-related applications in the Commercial Court, including applications for stays under section 9, applications for interim relief under section 44, and applications to set aside awards under sections 67-69 of the Arbitration Act 1996. He has extensive experience of arguing complex points of law and also cross-examining factual and expert witnesses.

Tony is currently instructed in a number of ongoing international arbitrations which are confidential. His past experience includes a number of high value arbitrations seated in London, Mauritius, and Lisbon. He acted in *Republic of Djibouti v DP World* (\$2 billion arbitration involving allegations of bribery and corruption in Africa) and *Nomihold Securities v Mobile Telesystems Finance*, a long-running enforcement dispute which involved an application to set aside registration of a \$200 million LCIA arbitration award on the basis of fraud and an application for a worldwide freezing order in aid of execution of the award (which led to an appeal to the Court of Appeal on the scope of the ordinary course of business exception: [2011] EWCA Civ 1040).

## Banking and finance

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Tony is recommended for Banking and Finance in Chambers & Partners, Legal 500, and Who's Who Legal. He has extensive experience of shareholder actions and investor claims, as well as cases concerning cryptocurrencies, derivatives mis-selling, mortgage-backed securitisations, and allegations of FX and LIBOR rigging. His current and recent clients include Barclays, Citigroup, Credit Suisse, Goldman Sachs, Lloyds Banking Group. He has also acted over many years for a number of fintech companies, fund managers, private equity firms, sovereign wealth funds, and high net-worth individuals in cases involving complex banking and financial transactions.

Notable cases include:

- *Fiesta Hotels and Resorts v Deutsche Bank* – \$500 million derivatives mis-selling claim
- *BSV Claims Limited v Bittylicious Limited and others* – acting for a defendant in a multi-billion class action against four major cryptocurrency exchanges

- Acting for Barclays Plc in defending a group action brought by shareholders under sections 90 and 90A FSMA 2000
- Acting for Glencore Plc in defending numerous claims brought by shareholders under sections 90 and 90A FSMA 2000
- Acting for Serco Plc in defending a group action brought by shareholders under section 90A FSMA 2000
- Acting for Citigroup in the high-profile *FX Litigation* in the High Court and the Competition Appeal Tribunal
- *Old Mutual International v Leonteq AG* – acting for Leonteq in defending a substantial mis-selling claim in the Commercial Court
- *The Public Institution for Social Security v Al Rajaan and others* – acting for Banque Mirabaud in defending a claim to recover alleged secret commissions worth hundreds of millions
- *Republic of Mozambique v Credit Suisse* – acting for Credit Suisse in defending a claim for rescission of State guarantees for \$2 billion loans on the basis of alleged bribery and fraud
- *Fundo Soberano de Angola v Dos Santos* – acting for the Sovereign Wealth Fund of Angola in claim to recover \$3 billion of assets alleged to have been fraudulently misappropriated
- *The Lloyds/HBOS Litigation* – [2015] EWHC 2681 (Ch), [2015] EWHC 2685 (Ch), [2015] EWHC 3007 (Ch), [2015] EWHC 3219 (Ch), [2015] EWHC 3220 (Ch), [2015] EWHC 4873 (Ch), [2015] EWHC 4874 (Ch), [2016] EWHC 412 (Ch), [2016] EWHC 776 (Ch), [2017] EWHC B17 (Ch), [2017] EWHC 141 (Ch), [2017] EWHC 3390 (Ch), [2019] EWHC 3096 (Ch), [2020] EWHC 1870 (Ch) – acting successfully for Lloyds Banking Group and its former directors in 5 month trial of claims brought by over 6,000 shareholders arising out of Lloyds’ acquisition of HBOS in 2008 during the global financial crisis
- *Rowe v Ingenious Media* – acting for Ingenious Media in defence of group litigation brought by hundreds of investors in its film finance investment schemes
- *Credit Suisse v HMRC* [2019] EWHC 1922 (Ch) – acting for Credit Suisse in a £230 million claim for recovery of bank payroll tax
- *Terra Firma v Citibank* – \$2 billion claim by Terra Firma against Citibank arising out of Terra Firma’s acquisition of EMI
- Acting for a private equity firm in a very substantial claim concerning improper financial accounting
- *Bank of Moscow v JFC Group* – Commercial Court proceedings concerning a \$150 million loan facility agreement and related guarantees
- *Belltrey Corporation v Newcote International* [2013] EWHC 3500 (Ch) – Chancery Division trial concerning the validity of a demand for security in respect of a £200 million loan
- *VTB Capital plc v Nutritek International Corp* [2013] UKSC 5 – Supreme Court appeal concerning a £200 million loan facility agreement
- *Salkeld Investments Ltd v West One Loans Ltd* [2012] EWHC 2701 (QB) – claim against a bridging finance company to recover losses suffered as a result of a mortgage fraud

## Civil fraud

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Tony is recommended for Civil Fraud in Chambers & Partners. He is regularly instructed in cases involving freezing injunctions, Norwich Pharmacal orders, and enforcement issues. He has also appeared in a number of trials involving allegations of deceit, conspiracy, bribery and corruption. He recently acted in the first civil trial in this jurisdiction concerning a cyber-attack.

Notable cases include:

- *The Public Institution for Social Security v Al Rajaan and others* [2022] EWCA Civ 29 and [2020] EWHC 2979 (Comm) – claim to recover alleged secret commissions worth hundreds of millions
- *Lonestar Communications Corporation LLC v Daniel Kaye and others* [2023] EWHC 732 (Comm), [2023] EWHC 421 (Comm), [2020] EWHC 1890 (Comm), [2019] EWHC 3008 (Comm) – acting for the successful claimant in a substantial conspiracy case arising out of a cyber-attack in Liberia
- *Republic of Mozambique v Credit Suisse* – acting for Credit Suisse in defending claim for rescission of State guarantees for \$2 billion loans on the basis of alleged bribery and fraud
- *Quantum Care Ltd v Lalit Modi* [2023] EWCA Civ 171 – acting for Quantum Care in the Court of Appeal in a high-profile deceit case
- *Parsdome Holdings Limited v Plastic Energy Global* – acting for the defendant in a multi-million deceit claim brought by former investor
- *Old Mutual International v Leonteq AG* – acting for Leonteq in defending a substantial mis-selling claim including allegations of deceit, conspiracy, dishonest assistance, and knowing receipt
- *Fundo Soberano de Angola v Dos Santos* – acting for the Sovereign Wealth Fund of Angola in claim to recover \$3 billion of assets alleged to have been fraudulently misappropriated
- *Republic of Djibouti v DP World* – acting for DP World in successful defence of a \$2 billion claim involving allegations of bribery and corruption in Africa
- *Terra Firma v Citibank* – \$2 billion fraud claim against Citibank arising out of Terra Firma's acquisition of EMI
- *Bank of Moscow v JFC Group* – \$150 million fraud claim and related committal proceedings arising out of a worldwide freezing order
- *Eclairs Group v JKC Oil & Gas plc* [2015] UKSC 71 – Supreme Court appeal concerning the duties of company directors in the context of an attempted "corporate raid" by shareholders
- *Michael Cherney v Oleg Deripaska* – \$4 billion Commercial Court claim relating to a disputed shareholding in Rusal
- *VTB Capital plc v Nutritek International Corp* [2013] UKSC 5 – Supreme Court appeal concerning jurisdiction in respect of fraud claims, piercing the corporate veil, and the discharge of a worldwide freezing order on the basis of material non-disclosure
- *Nomihold Securities v Mobile Telesystems Finance* [2012] 1 Lloyd's Rep 6 and [2011] EWHC



2143 (Comm) – application to set aside registration of a \$200 million LCIA arbitration award on the basis of fraud and an appeal to the Court of Appeal on the scope of the ordinary course of business exception in worldwide freezing orders

- *Bloomsbury International v Holyoake* [2010] EWHC 1150 (Ch) – £200 million fraud proceedings arising out of the collapse of the British Seafood group

## Competition

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Tony is recommended for Competition in Chambers & Partners and Legal 500. He is also ranked for Competition Law in Chambers Global. Prior to taking silk, he was one of the leading juniors at the Competition Bar and in 2018 he was nominated as Competition Junior of the Year at the Chambers Bar Awards.

Tony has considerable experience of the collective proceedings regime in the Competition Appeal Tribunal. He appeared in *Merricks v Mastercard* (acting for Mastercard) and is currently acting in *The Trucks Litigation* (acting for Iveco), *The FX Litigation* (acting for Citigroup), *McLaren* (acting for K Line), *Which? v Qualcomm* (acting for Qualcomm), *Gormsen v Meta* (acting for Meta), *Power Cables* (acting for Nexans), and *BSV Claims* (acting for Shapeshift).

In addition to these CPO cases, Tony has acted for defendants in the vast majority of follow-on damages actions which have been litigated in recent years.

Notable cases include:

- *Gormsen v Meta* – acting on behalf of Meta in defence of collective proceedings brought in the Competition Appeal Tribunal
- *BSV Claims v Bittylicious* – acting on behalf of Shapeshift in defence of collective proceedings in the Competition Appeal Tribunal
- *Power Cables Litigation* – acting on behalf of Nexans in defence of collective proceedings and a follow-on damages action in the Competition Appeal Tribunal
- *The Trucks Litigation* – acting for Iveco in defence of collective proceedings in the Competition Appeal Tribunal ([2023] EWCA Civ 875 and [2022] CAT 25) and also numerous follow-on claims ([2018] EWHC 1994 (Ch), [2018] CAT 9, [2019] CAT 18, [2020] CAT 3, [2021] CAT 6, [2021] CAT 32, [2021] CAT 34 and [2022] CAT 32)
- *The FX Litigation* – acting for Citigroup in defence of collective proceedings in the Competition Appeal Tribunal ([2022] CAT 16) and also a very substantial damages claim in the High Court
- *The RoRo Litigation* – acting for K Line in defence of collective proceedings in the Competition Appeal Tribunal ([2022] EWCA Civ 1701, [2022] CAT 10, and [2022] CAT 18) and various follow-on damages actions in the High Court relating to the supply of roll-on, roll-off shipping services

- *Which? v Qualcomm* [2022] CAT 20 - acting for Qualcomm in defence of collective proceedings in the Competition Appeal Tribunal
- *Media-Saturn-Holding v Toshiba and others* [2019] EWHC 1095 (Ch) - cartel damages claim relating to the supply of cathode ray tubes
- *Merricks v Mastercard* [2017] CAT 16 - acting for Mastercard in defence of a £14 billion claim on behalf of UK consumers in the Competition Appeal Tribunal
- *Apple v Qualcomm* - acting for Qualcomm in a multi-billion claim by Apple concerning Qualcomm's patent licensing and chipset supply arrangements
- *Iiyama Benelux BV v Schott AG and others* - acting for Samsung in Court of Appeal case concerning the territorial scope of EU competition law
- *Peugeot SA v NSK and others* - cartel damages claim relating to the supply of automotive bearings
- *Vodafone v Infineon and others* - cartel damages claim relating to the supply of smart card chips
- *The Air Cargo Litigation* - acting for Asiana Airlines in a multi-billion cartel damages claim relating to the air cargo sector
- Acting for Rolls-Royce in defending a stand-alone Article 102 claim in the Chancery Division relating to the supply of spare parts
- Acting for an Italian airport in an LCIA arbitration concerning State aid
- Acting in the first ever appeal to the Competition Markets Authority against Ofgem's price controls for electricity distribution companies
- *WM Morrison Supermarkets plc and others v MasterCard Incorporated and others* [2013] EWHC 1071 (Comm), [2013] EWHC 3082 (Comm), and [2014] EWHC 2921 (Comm) - acting in High Court damages claim concerning the MasterCard multi-lateral interchange fee
- *Hanson Quarry Products Europe Limited v Competition Commission* [2013] CAT 7 - acting for Hanson in relation to the Competition Commission's market investigation into aggregates, cement, and ready-mix concrete
- Advising in relation to the OFT's investigation into the electronic platform services market
- *Imperial Tobacco v OFT* [2011] CAT 41 - successful appeal against £100 million fine for retail pricing practices in the tobacco industry, the highest ever fine imposed upon a single firm by the OFT
- Case T-286/09 *Intel v Commission* - appeal before the General Court against €1 billion fine for infringement of Article 102 in the supply of computer chips, the highest ever fine imposed upon a single firm by the European Commission
- *Boliden AB v IMI plc and others* - cartel damages claim relating to copper tubes
- *WH Newson v IMI plc and others* - cartel damages claim relating to copper fittings
- *Sony v AU Optronics and others* - cartel damages claim relating to liquid crystal displays
- *Nokia v AU Optronics and others* [2012] EWHC 731 (Ch) - cartel damages claim relating to liquid crystal displays
- *Nokia v Tatung and others* - cartel damages claim relating to cathode ray tubes
- *Honda v Asahi and others* - cartel damages claim relating to car glass
- *Durkan Holdings v OFT* [2011] CAT 6, *Crest Nicholson v OFT* and *ISG Pearce v OFT* [2011] CAT



10, *Quarmby Construction Company v OFT* [2011] CAT 11, and *GMI Construction v OFT* [2011] CAT 12 – acted in 5 appeals against the OFT's infringement decision in respect of cover pricing in the construction industry

- *Durkan Holdings v OFT* [2010] CAT 12 – disclosure application raising issues of when the OFT can rely upon fresh evidence in the CAT
- Case T-448/07 *YKK v Commission* – appeal against €150 million fine for participation in the zip fasteners cartel
- Case T-112/07 *Hitachi v Commission* – appeal before the General Court against €50 million fine for participation in the gas insulated switchgear cartel
- *Virgin Media v BSkyB* – Article 102 claim relating to the supply of pay TV channels
- *Vtesse Networks v Valuation Officer* [2010] EWCA Civ 16 – Court of Appeal case concerning State aid and the principle of equal treatment in the telecommunications sector
- *Tonstate v South Somerset DC* [2009] EWHC 3308 (Ch) – competition law claim raising questions of issue estoppel and abuse of process

## Energy and natural resources

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Tony has significant experience of energy disputes. Notable cases include:

- Acting in a \$30 million High Court dispute concerning the technology for transporting offshore oil and gas platforms
- Advising in relation to a dispute concerning oil pipelines in Kazakhstan worth hundreds of millions
- *Single Buoy Moorings Inc v Zurich Insurance plc and others* – acting in a \$1 billion dispute concerning a mobile offshore production unit and storage tank in the Yme oil field in the North Sea
- Acting for Talisman Energy in Commercial Court proceedings concerning the interpretation of a Joint Operating Agreement
- Advising in relation to Ofgem's RIIO-ED1 price control decision for electricity distribution companies
- LCIA arbitration concerning a production sharing contract and joint operating agreement entered into by joint venture partners in an oil and gas development project in Algeria
- *CGGVeritas v Dominion Energy* – Commercial Court claim for payment arising out of the processing and acquisition of seismic data in Tunisia
- *Lahyani v Benedetti* – Commercial Court claim concerning investments made in a number of oil exploration and production companies
- Advising BP on the interpretation of various acquisition and processing agreements

## group litigation

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Tony has significant experience of acting in group litigation in his fields of practice. He is familiar with Group Litigation Orders and test/sample cases.

In Banking and Finance, Tony is currently acting for a number of defendants in group actions brought by shareholders under sections 90 and 90A FSMA 2000, including Barclays Plc, Glencore Plc, Reckitt Benckiser Plc, and Serco Plc. He previously acted for several years for Lloyds Banking Group and its former directors in their successful defence of the *Lloyds/HBOS Litigation* (group litigation brought by 6,000 shareholders arising out of Lloyds' acquisition of HBOS).

In Competition Law, Tony has experience of a number of substantial class actions in the Competition Appeal Tribunal. He appeared in *Merricks v Mastercard* (acting for Mastercard) and is currently acting in *The Trucks Litigation* (acting for Iveco), *The FX Litigation* (acting for Citigroup), *McLaren* (acting for K Line), *Which? v Qualcomm* (acting for Qualcomm), *Gormsen v Meta* (acting for Meta), *Power Cables* (acting for Nexans), and *BSV Claims* (acting for Shapeshift).

## Insurance and reinsurance

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Tony is recommended for Insurance in Chambers & Partners and Legal 500. In 2019, prior to taking silk, Tony was nominated as Insurance Junior of the Year at the Chambers Bar Awards. He is experienced in advising on coverage issues concerning business interruption, D&O, marine, professional indemnity, and warranty and indemnity policies.

Notable cases include:

- Acting for AerCap in the multi-billion insurance litigation arising out of the non-return of aircraft out of Russia following the invasion of Ukraine
- Advising a number of insureds in respect of the COVID-19 pandemic and their rights under business interruption insurance policies
- *Single Buoy Moorings Inc v Zurich Insurance plc and others* - acting for the primary layer insurers in a \$1 billion coverage dispute concerning damage to a platform in the North Sea
- *Crowden v QBE Insurance* [2017] EWHC 2597 (Comm) - acting for QBE in a case concerning the interpretation of a professional liability insurance policy in the context of a claim for mis-selling of financial instruments
- Acting for a major accounting firm in ARIAS arbitration concerning the interpretation of professional indemnity policies
- *The Alexandros T* [2012] 1 Lloyd's Rep 162, [2013] 1 Lloyd's Rep 217, [2013] UKSC 70, [2014] EWHC 712 (Comm), [2014] EWHC 1029 (Comm), [2014] EWCA Civ 1010, and [2014] EWHC

3068 (Comm) – acting for the Companies Market insurers in the long-running insurance litigation arising out of the loss of the “Alexandros T”, which resulted in a successful appeal to the Supreme Court on jurisdiction issues, successful contempt of court proceedings resulting in the imposition of substantial fines, and a summary judgment against the insureds upheld by the Court of Appeal

- *Compagnie Generale De Location SA v AXA Corporate Solutions Assurance SA* – representing AXA in a multi-million coverage dispute arising out of the sinking of a vessel
- *New Proton Bank v Brit UW Limited* – marine insurance claim following the loss of the “Elli”
- Ad hoc arbitration concerning alleged breaches of an underwriting agency agreement
- *AXA Seguros v Allianz Insurance* [2011] EWHC 268 (Comm) – reinsurance claim arising out of hurricane damage to Mexico’s highway structure

## Professional negligence

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Tony is recommended for Professional Negligence in Chambers & Partners and Legal 500. He is also ranked by Legal 500 in the related area of Professional Discipline and Regulatory Law. He has considerable experience of acting in negligence claims brought against leading firms of solicitors and barristers (many of which are confidential). Tony is also the co-author of *Accountants’ Negligence and Liability*, a specialist practitioner text, and is often instructed to defend the “big four” and other accountancy firms.

Notable cases include:

- Defending a magic circle law firm against a negligence claim arising out of the drafting of a commercial agreement
- *Watchstone v KPMG* – defending KPMG against a multi-million claim arising out of an allegedly negligent audit
- *BTI v PwC* – acting for PwC in defence of a \$600 million auditors’ negligence claim arising out of environmental liabilities in the US. This ongoing case has already resulted in a number of reported judgments at [2019] EWHC 3034 (Ch), [2019] EWHC 3219 (Ch), [2021] EWCA Civ 9, and [2022] EWHC 1781 (Ch)
- *Prime v Withers* – negligence claim against solicitors in connection with property developments
- *ENRC v Dechert* – negligence claim against solicitors arising out of a corporate investigation
- *Financial Reporting Council v Deloitte* – acting for Deloitte in a 7 week hearing before the FRC Disciplinary Tribunal in connection with the audit of Autonomy plc
- *NRAM v Eversheds* – acting for Northern Rock in a £100 million negligence claim based on legal advice given by Eversheds concerning consumer credit legislation
- *Manchester Building Society v Grant Thornton* – defending Grant Thornton against a £50 million negligence claim arising out of the accounting treatment of interest rate swaps

- *ENRC v Dechert* [2016] EWCA Civ 375 – Court of Appeal case concerning implied waiver of privilege and the principle of open justice
- *Lady Nina Bracewell-Smith v Deloitte* – defending Deloitte against a multi-million claim arising out of allegedly negligent tax advice
- Acting for liquidators in a negligence claim worth approximately £100 million against the former auditors of an international collective investment scheme
- Defending a leading City law firm against a multi-million pound negligence claim concerning its conduct of litigation
- *Financial Reporting Council v Baker Tilly* – acting for Baker Tilly in disciplinary proceedings brought by the FRC in connection with the audit of Tanfield Group
- Defending a leading tax and advisory firm against a multi-million negligence claim arising out of a corporate finance transaction
- Defending a leading accountancy firm against a multi-million negligence claim arising out of an allegedly deficient audit
- Defending a West End firm of solicitors against a multi-million negligence claim concerning its conduct of litigation

## Jurisdiction and conflict of laws

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A significant proportion of Tony's cases have an international dimension and he is very experienced in dealing with foreign laws and advising in relation to conflict of laws issues. He has also acted in a number of substantial jurisdiction disputes in recent years under the Brussels Regulation, the Lugano Convention, and at common law, including two cases in the Supreme Court.

Notable cases include:

- *The Public Institution for Social Security v Al Rajaan and others* [2022] EWCA Civ 29 and [2020] EWHC 2979 (Comm) – successful jurisdiction challenge under Article 23 Lugano Convention in claim to recover alleged secret commissions worth hundreds of millions
- *Lonestar Communications v Daniel Kaye and others* [2019] EWHC 3008 (Comm) – successful application for order dispensing with service out of the jurisdiction in cyber-attack case
- *Winkler v Shamoon and others* [2016] EWHC 217 (Ch) – successful jurisdiction challenge on behalf of the widow and daughter of the late Israeli billionaire, Sami Shamoon, raising issues of domicile and succession under the Brussels Regulation
- *Iiyama Benelux BV v Schott AG and others* [2016] EWHC 1207 (Ch) – application to set aside permission to serve out of the jurisdiction raising issues about the extra-territoriality of Article 101 TFEU
- *The Alexandros T* [2013] UKSC 70 – Supreme Court appeal concerning the *lis alibi pendens* provisions in Articles 27 and 28 of the Brussels Regulation

- *VTB Capital plc v Nutritek International Corp* [2013] UKSC 5 – Supreme Court appeal concerning service out of the jurisdiction for tort claims and piercing the corporate veil
- *Skype v Joltid* [2009] EWHC 2783 (Ch) – successful application for an anti-suit injunction to restrain Californian proceedings in the context of a multi-billion pound licensing dispute against the founders of Skype

## Directory Quotes

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- "Tony Singla is one of the go-to silks at the commercial Bar. Very commercial, clear in his thinking and not afraid to make difficult calls." (Chambers & Partners 2024)
- "Tony is just phenomenal. He is very efficient, no-nonsense and not afraid of getting into a tough fight." (Chambers & Partners 2024)
- "Tony is fantastic and provides clear advice on very difficult and complex points of law." (Chambers & Partners 2024)
- "Tony is outstanding. He is very user-friendly, super detail-orientated and fantastic on his feet." (Chambers & Partners 2024)
- "Tony Singla is very good at understanding what other people are thinking. He has a good perspective on how best to deal with an issue." (Chambers & Partners 2024)
- "Tony Singla is really hands-on, very easy to deal with and someone with a really nice client manner." (Chambers & Partners 2024)
- "Tony Singla is extremely intelligent and able to focus on the crux of an issue. He is a very strong advocate and is clearly respected by the judges." (Chambers & Partners 2024)
- "Tony Singla is very detailed and thorough." (Chambers & Partners 2024)
- "Tony is super responsive, very easy to work with and gets good results." (Chambers & Partners 2024)
- "Tony is a superb advocate and has a sharp mind combined with a very approachable and hands-on attitude." (Chambers & Partners 2024)
- "Tony Singla is able to tailor his communication style, making him an accomplished and persuasive advocate while also providing simple and clear advice to insurer clients. He has formidable advocacy skills." (Chambers & Partners 2024)
- "He thinks through all of the angles and has very good judgement." (Chambers & Partners 2024)
- "Tony gives very commercial advice, and is able to advise on legal elements but also how this might play out in practice and what the strategic consequences might be. He brings lots of experience to bear, which instils confidence. He is also a very strong advocate." (Chambers & Partners 2024)
- "Tony is definitely a future star at the commercial Bar. He is brilliantly clever yet he has a delightful manner and can cut through complexity with ease." (Legal 500 2024)
- "A forceful advocate who is very nimble on his feet." (Legal 500 2024)
- "Tony is very hard-working and very thoughtful. He considers points in very thorough detail before giving his view but then is very much able to give a strong and definitive view." (Legal

500 2024)

- "Excellent advocate and extremely hard working." (Legal 500 2024)
- "Tony is very responsive, a good team player, and commercial in his views." (Legal 500 2024)
- "Tony is very good at drilling down into a mass of detail and distilling the true issues in a case." (Legal 500 2024)
- "Tony Singla KC is an absolute genius and a delight to work with." "He is very pragmatic and knows the law inside and out." (Chambers & Partners 2023)
- "Tony is incredibly good on his feet. He is also very responsive and technically strong." "Tony cuts through complex issues like a hot knife through butter. He also has strong judgement and clear drafting skills." "He is a brilliant strategic thinker with great instincts." (Chambers & Partners 2023)
- "Tony is a strong performer and a very good advocate." "He is as sharp as a knife intellectually and highly personable." "Tony is an extremely adaptable and commercial silk." (Chambers & Partners 2023)
- "Tony is extremely responsive, pragmatic and clever. He is very user-friendly and client-focused and has a good grasp of the details at the heart of a case." "Very accomplished, very calm and has a great manner with clients." (Chambers & Partners 2023)
- "Tony combines his considerable competition law expertise with formidable commercial litigation experience." "Tony is the complete package and a great asset. He is more than capable of leading a team in the largest and most complex of disputes." (Chambers & Partners 2023)
- "Extremely smart, and his mix of competition and commercial practice shines through. He is thoughtful about the argument and collaborative with our team, and works well with juniors." (Chambers & Partners 2023)
- "He has moved seamlessly from being a top junior to being a go to silk. Very practical." (Legal 500 2023)
- "A natural leader, Tony is not afraid to make the big calls. Confident, calm and highly responsive. Continues to be a star in commercial circles." (Legal 500 2023)
- "Tony is a natural leader, with a formidable intellect, and is an exceptional advocate. His cross-examination skills, and the thoroughness with which he approaches trial preparation are excellent." (Legal 500 2023)
- "A really impressive barrister making the transition into Silk. Has an excellent grasp of the principles of audit work and a brilliant mind." (Legal 500 2023)
- "Extremely intelligent and exudes confidence. Quick to grasp very complex insurance issues and navigate to the heart of the matter as soon as he becomes involved. An extremely accomplished and formidable advocate, which is recognised and remarked on by insurer clients." (Legal 500 2023)
- "He is very helpful and approachable, and gives great advice." "He will be a really high flyer. He is really bright, but also really personable." "He is incredibly bright and user-friendly. He gives very good commercial advice." (Chambers & Partners 2022)
- "Tony is outstanding. His experience covers a number of fields." "He brings a deep technical understanding to matters and he is phenomenally intelligent." (Chambers & Partners 2022)



- "He who knows accounting very, very well. He is very conscientious, and when it comes to professional indemnity he is the first person I look to." (Chambers & Partners 2022)
- "He's very user-friendly, very clever and works incredibly hard." (Chambers & Partners 2022)
- "He is very smart, switched on and very well versed in competition issues. Clearly a good advocate too." "He is a rising star." (Chambers & Partners 2022)
- "A well-deserved promotion to QC. A top-draw advocate, especially cross-examination." (Legal 500 2022)
- "Gets to the heart of an issue quickly and has very good judgement. He is confident in forming his own views and is very accomplished and capable." (Legal 500 2022)
- "Efficient, insightful and direct. A junior to watch." (Legal 500 2022)
- "Very clever, excellent paper work and a terrific advocate – very calm, persuasive and authoritative. Thinks on his feet quickly and proactively." (Legal 500 2022)
- "Tony has phenomenal depth of knowledge about auditing, combined with a real lightness of touch and brilliant attention to detail." (Legal 500 2022)
- "Speaks from a position of a wealth of experience and makes the case as compelling as possible." "He is good at finding creative solutions to difficult issues." (Chambers & Partners 2021)
- "He is incredibly smooth, hard-working, forensic and methodical." (Chambers & Partners 2021)
- "Straightforward, and provides excellent analysis which is well argued and just sensible. He created a classic, intelligently presented and considered case." (Chambers & Partners 2021)
- "He can process the technical detail and see to the heart of points that need to be considered. He also provides robust and measured opinion on coverage." "He's phenomenally good, easy to work with and his advocacy and paperwork are excellent." "His written work is thorough and effective." (Chambers & Partners 2021)
- "He produced a really fantastically helpful piece of work with a really brilliant analysis." (Chambers & Partners 2021)
- "A brilliant mind combined with a calm, analytical approach. Very good strategic thinker, who is extremely popular with solicitors. His particular strength is commercial competition litigation." (Legal 500 2021)
- "An outstanding all-round lawyer, whose knowledge in the insurance and reinsurance space stands comparison with anyone; but what sets him apart is the breadth of his practice." (Legal 500 2021)
- "His work and input is rigorous, thorough and penetrating." (Legal 500 2021)
- "He is hardworking, with good tactical skills." (Legal 500 2021)
- "My first choice junior for banking litigation – he has a creative and thorough approach and is always willing to listen to the thoughts of others." (Legal 500 2021)
- "An excellent senior junior who can take on responsibility for work streams on a large case, and take the work load (including advocacy) off the silks." (Legal 500 2021)
- Tony Singla is an "astute, independent thinker" who is regarded as being absolutely "fantastic to work with". (Who's Who Legal – UK Bar: Banking & Finance 2020)
- "Well-renowned junior adept at tackling banking cases addressing issues of fraud and

shareholder disputes. He is noted for his handling of substantial group litigation on behalf of banks." "A shrewd analyst, who offers a very reliable view of a case." "He is very strong across the board and his drafting is fantastic." (Chambers & Partners 2020)

- "He's good company, delivers good drafting, is good with clients and completely reduces the complex to the simple." "He's exceptionally good. When he runs a case he's both very commanding and very well paced." (Chambers & Partners UK & Global 2020)
- "Very good on his feet and puts in a lot of work in the preparation and analysis of his cases." "He is very clear in his presentation." (Chambers & Partners UK & Global 2020)
- "Solicitors really respect him." "A tenacious, hard-working advocate." (Chambers & Partners 2020)
- "He is outstanding - formidably clever and a strong team player." "A very confident performer." "Very bright, an excellent advocate and his paperwork is terrific." (Chambers & Partners 2020)
- "He has a good style as an advocate: he's good at picking out the right arguments and is very ambitious." "He has a phenomenal intellect and is really a joy to work with: incredibly bright, commercial and sensible." (Chambers & Partners 2020)
- "Particularly impressive ability to be completely on top of the detail of a very fact-heavy case but also cut through to its key points." (Legal 500 2020)
- "A real star of his generation, whilst being likeable and easy to work with." (Legal 500 2020)
- "An exceptional junior who can hold his own with any silk." (Legal 500 2020)
- "He is great at analysing the detail." (Legal 500 2020)
- "He has a brilliant mind." (Legal 500 2020)
- "He fully commits to the case and has the intellectual firepower to come up with the right analysis." (Legal 500 2020)
- Tony Singla is recognised for his superb banking and finance practice and often works with banks and other financial groups on complex, high-value cases. (Who's Who Legal - UK Bar: Banking & Finance 2019)
- "A tenacious advocate with good judgement, who is effective, hard-working and good to deal with." "His advocacy on interim applications and interlocutory hearings suggests that he has a very fine career as a leader ahead of him." (Chambers & Partners 2019)
- "Tony Singla is a first-rate commercial lawyer who has very good analytical skills and is a pragmatic adviser." "He's very good on the paperwork, proving a prodigious worker who can draft well and very quickly." (Chambers & Partners UK & Global 2019)
- "Easy to work with, personable and highly responsive." "He is a bright and hard-working guy who produces great advocacy." (Chambers & Partners UK & Global 2019)
- "Clever, good to work with and focused." "He's got good judgement around trial tactics." (Chambers & Partners 2019)
- "Very bright, very impressive and quick-working." "Very approachable with clients. He provides very constructive input on cases, which is always very focused and succinct." (Chambers & Partners 2019)
- "Incredibly user-friendly and great with technology." (Chambers & Partners 2019)
- "A very fine barrister, his drafting is excellent and tight, his advocacy very impressive." (Legal

500 2018-19)

- "A very highly rated commercial junior who is clearly going places." (Legal 500 2018-19)
- "Very clever, good written work, perceptive, not to mention a robust and persuasive advocate." (Legal 500 2018-19)
- "A really safe pair of hands in disciplinary cases concerning auditors – he knows the area inside out." (Legal 500 2018-19)
- "He is experienced in cases involving auditors' and solicitors' negligence." (Legal 500 2018-19)
- "A very strong lawyer." "An extremely bright, very skilled junior. He has a terrific manner with clients." (Chambers & Partners 2018)
- "Very clever, very feisty and a very good advocate. He has got good judgement, is very persuasive and is highly effective." "Everything the modern barrister should be: clever, responsive and thoughtful." (Chambers & Partners 2018)
- "He is really good at looking at the issues from a client's perspective." "He is very bright with excellent drafting skills." (Chambers & Partners 2018)
- "A very strong lawyer with good tactical sense." (Chambers & Partners 2018)
- "He's got very good analytical skills, and he's a pragmatic adviser." "He's good at strategic planning, good at advising the client and always available." (Chambers & Partners 2018)
- "Very bright, quite understated and a pleasure to work with." "He is prodigiously hard-working and if you ask him a question you get back a long and thoughtful answer." (Chambers & Partners 2018)
- "A very impressive individual and a good draftsman." (Legal 500 2017)
- "An exceptional junior with real intellectual horsepower." (Legal 500 2017)
- "He is easy to deal with, and gives assured and clear-thinking advice." (Legal 500 2017)
- "He's absolutely fantastic and no doubt destined for great things. He is very hard-working, incredibly clear in his advice, very efficient, and has seriously impressed when on his feet in court." (Chambers & Partners 2017)
- "An outstanding junior who is extremely responsive, very bright and very good on tactics." (Chambers & Partners 2017)
- "He is a top-class junior." (Chambers & Partners 2017)
- "Has a growing reputation as a top commercial junior." (Chambers & Partners 2017)
- "He has an extremely impressive personality and exudes confidence." (Chambers & Partners 2017)
- "He gives the confidence that he absolutely believes in his case. He knows his own mind, fights his corner and is a good, strong advocate." (Chambers & Partners 2017)
- "Very impressive. He is hard-working, intelligent and has a bright future ahead of him." (Chambers & Partners 2017)
- "He is very good at client service and is responsive – he is very effective." (Chambers & Partners 2017)
- "Industrious and clever, he is a team player." (Chambers & Partners 2017)
- "He's a very good commercial barrister." (Chambers & Partners 2017)
- "His drafting is frequently praised by instructing solicitors as being of the highest standard."

(Chambers & Partners 2017)

- "He is attentive to detail and produces really good work." (Chambers & Partners 2017)
- "He has very good analytical skills and is a pragmatic adviser." (Chambers & Partners 2017)
- "A robust and thoughtful junior with an unfussy, practical and elegant approach." (Legal 500 2016)
- "Very user-friendly." (Legal 500 2016)
- "Has an increasingly strong reputation as a junior of choice for many leading silks and solicitors. He has appeared in a number of the most high-profile proceedings of recent years, including those in relation to banking, directorial duties and media and entertainment." (Chambers & Partners 2016)
- "Extremely calm and very impressive on his feet. He has done a terrific job." (Chambers & Partners 2016)
- "Works incredibly hard, shows tremendous attention to detail, is hugely bright, and is very personable. He's just a delight to work with." (Chambers & Partners 2016)
- "Has been involved in a whole host of high-profile cases of late and has marked himself out as one of the younger breed that is destined for great things." (Chambers & Partners 2016)
- "He's really good, knows the law, gets into the detail very quickly and will come up with good ideas. He showed very good judgement in how he presented the legal arguments and the facts and got things across perfectly." (Chambers & Partners 2016)
- "A very promising junior who is very bright and has excellent drafting skills." (Chambers & Partners 2016)
- "Tony is hard-working, intelligent and has an excellent grasp of detail." (Chambers & Partners 2016)
- "A commercial junior with an impressively broad practice. He is gaining respect in the area for his advocacy and dexterous handling of high profile shareholder disputes and cases relating to corporate finance acquisitions." (Chambers & Partners 2016)
- "A tenacious advocate with good judgement. He's effective, hard-working and good to deal with." (Chambers & Partners 2016)
- "Incredibly bright" (Legal 500 2015)
- "A good up-and-coming junior" (Legal 500 2015)
- "Effective, hardworking and good to deal with when it comes to pleadings" (Legal 500 2015)
- "One of the brightest and most promising juniors around. He drafts documents excellently, and is also a calm, confident and eloquent advocate." (Chambers & Partners 2015)
- "A gifted junior with a quality commercial practice. One solicitor who regularly instructs him says: 'Not only is he an excellent barrister academically, but he is also a pleasure to work with on a practical and personal level.'" (Chambers & Partners 2015)
- "'Frustratingly brilliant', 'he is also a very nice man' who is 'very highly thought of by many people senior to him.'" (Chambers & Partners 2015)
- "Tipped as a future star, he is already gaining significant recognition from top clients." (Chambers & Partners 2015)
- "He has a voracious appetite for work, good judgement and terrific brainpower as well." (Chambers & Partners 2015)

- "Tony is very approachable, good on his feet, and excellent if you require practical and commercial advice." (Chambers & Partners 2015)
- "An impressive and active junior, with a broad practice encompassing insurance, energy, civil fraud and professional negligence cases. Solicitors appreciate his user-friendliness and strong work ethic." (Chambers & Partners 2015)
- "He has a very good grasp of the issues and puts a lot of effort into knowing everything about the case. Very easy to work with, he has no airs and graces." (Chambers & Partners 2015)
- "A real star for the future. He does an excellent job every time, and works at a level well beyond his year of call." (Chambers & Partners 2014)
- "A fast-emerging talent in commercial and competition law, who continues to receive plaudits for his broad expertise as a commercial litigator." (Chambers & Partners 2014)
- "He drafts well and has a very high work quality." (Chambers & Partners 2014)
- "Gains favour among solicitors and clients in the entertainment industry due to his accomplished handling of contract, licensing and database rights disputes." (Chambers & Partners 2014)
- "'standout junior' Tony Singla, who has 'a fantastic legal brain'" (Legal 500 2013)
- "future star" (Legal 500 2013)
- "Brick Court Chambers' Tony Singla has rapidly established himself as a junior of choice for commercial litigation and competition law issues. He is 'very bright and mature beyond his years, and he has a gravitas that is well beyond his year of call'. He is 'highly commercial with his advice', and 'is very quick to grasp both the detail and the key arguments of a matter'. He delights clients with his application, 'devoting every hour and even weekends to getting the hard work shifted'. One instructing solicitor who used him said that 'for a case of the magnitude we were handling, to have operated as the only junior, that in itself is testament to his considerable abilities.' He recently acted for the Israeli entrepreneur Michael Cherney in a \$4 billion claim bought against Russian oligarch Oleg Deripaska concerning shares in Rusal, a Russian aluminium company. He also acted for ITV in a high-profile USD30 million contractual licensing dispute with Scottish Television concerning the Channel 3 network." (Chambers & Partners 2013, Stars at the Bar: 5 Years' Call and Under)
- "an impressive level of market attention, considering his comparative youth" (Chambers & Partners 2013)
- "Praise also falls on Tony Singla, who sources say is 'great for commercial work with a competition angle'" (Chambers & Partners 2013)
- "praised as a 'junior of choice' as a result of his 'ability to take complex problems and make them sound simple'" (Chambers & Partners 2013)
- "quick, efficient and not afraid to make his views known" (Legal 500 2012)
- "Tony Singla is fast establishing an excellent reputation for commercial disputes and is widely acknowledged as an 'excellent up-and-comer' at the set." (Chambers & Partners 2012)
- "a bright, young barrister with a tremendous future ahead of him" (Chambers & Partners 2011)

# Qualifications

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## Education

Winchester College (1996 - 2001)

Pembroke College, Oxford University (2002 - 2006)

Inns of Court School of Law (2006 - 2007)

## Qualifications

MA (Hons) Jurisprudence (2005) (First Class)

Bachelor of Civil Law (2006) (Distinction)

Bar Vocational Course (2007) (Outstanding)

## Scholarships & Prizes

### Oxford University

- Proxime Accessit to the Gibbs Prize (for best performance in Contract, Land, Tort, and Trusts Finals Papers)
- Norton Rose Prize (for best performance in Company Law Finals Paper)
- Distinction in Law Moderations

### Pembroke College, Oxford

- Domus Scholarship
- Sir Roger Bannister Scholarship
- Crystal Prize for Law
- Farthing Prize for Constitutional Law

### Lincoln's Inn

- Buchanan Prize
- Megarry Scholarship
- Lord Mansfield Scholarship
- Hardwicke Entrance Award



## Publications

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Co-author (with Simon Salzedo QC) of *Accountants' Negligence and Liability* (Bloomsbury, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, 2021)

Contributing author of *Competition Litigation: UK Practice and Procedure* (OUP, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, 2019)

Various articles in legal journals, including the Law Quarterly Review, the Company Lawyer, and the European Competition Law Review