



David Hopkins

Year of call: 2013

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"David is an excellent advocate and one of the best juniors in this area. His written and oral submissions are compelling, and he is great on his feet when dealing with questions from the bench." The Legal 500 UK 2024

David is a senior junior whose practice spans commercial, construction, and financial services disputes, professional discipline and regulation, and public law. David is regularly instructed in proceedings in the Commercial Court, the Chancery Division, the Technology and Construction Court (TCC) and the Administrative Court and before regulators' disciplinary tribunals. A substantial proportion of David's practice has an international element, particularly in the field of international arbitration, where he has acted in disputes subject to the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), London Maritime Arbitrators Association (LMAA), Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC) and Abu Dhabi Commercial Conciliation and Arbitration Centre (ADCCAC) rules. He is a Technology & Construction Bar Association (TECBAR) accredited adjudicator and accepts appointments via the TECBAR adjudication scheme.

David is recommended as a leading junior in Chambers and Partners, The Legal 500, Chambers Global, and The Legal 500 Asia Pacific. He is a contributing editor of the Auction, Bailment and Banking and Bills of Exchange volumes of Atkin's Court Forms (2023 and 2018 issues) and the chapter on determination clauses in Wilmot-Smith on Construction Contracts (4th edn, 2021). Prior to coming to the Bar, David worked in the City for five years as a foreign exchange and interest rates derivatives structurer.



Areas of expertise

Administrative and Public

Banking and Financial Services

Commercial

Construction

Energy and Natural Resources

Property

Regulatory and Disciplinary

Sport

Commercial

David is frequently instructed to represent and advise clients in all types of commercial matters, both during the initial phase of disputes and through to litigation and arbitration. David developed excellent commercial understanding and insight in his career before the Bar, where his clients ranged from FTSE 100 companies to SMEs and from high street retailers to oil and gas conglomerates.

Cases of note

- ***Perfect Smile Spa Ltd v Trans-Atlantic Securities Ltd & Ors*** – Ongoing. Acting for the first and second defendants, a financial intermediary and an accountant who is a director of the first defendant, defending a claim seeking rescission of a loan agreement and damages of £1.1 million on the basis of the defendants' alleged misrepresentations and negligent misstatements.
- ***Bolton & Anor v Matthews & Anor*** – Acting for the defendants to a claim seeking specific performance for transfer of property and additional damages, raising the issue, among others, of whether a deed restating and amending the claimants' charge imposes a clog on the equity of redemption.
- ***Secretary of State for Health and Social Care & Ors v Lundbeck Limited & Ors*** – Ongoing in the Competition Appeal Tribunal, Case [1415/5/7/21 \(T\)](#). Led by Aidan Robertson KC, acting, together with Daniel Stedman-Jones, for NHS England and NHS Wales in a competition follow-on claim against the manufacturers of the antidepressant citalopram. The manufacturers were found by the European Commission to have entered into "pay for delay" agreements, which amounted to infringements of competition law by object under Art 101 of the Treaty.
- ***Downey & Anor v Stevens & Ors* [2021] EWHC 752 (Ch)** – Acting for the defendant trustees of Magdalen Park Bowling Club in a seven-day High Court trial. The court found the contract under which the claimants alleged they were entitled to purchase the club's land for £1 to be invalid pursuant to s 2 of the Law of Property (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1989 and that, even if it were valid, it would be unconscionable for the claimants to rely on its terms.
[Judgment](#)
[Westlaw](#)
- ***Confidential charterparty dispute*** – Advising the owners in a charterparty dispute subject to the LMAA rules regarding the charterers' bunkering obligations on redelivery. The charterparty was an amended New York Produce Exchange (NYPE) 1946 form and the charter itself spanned the introduction of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) 2020 Regulation.
- ***Remy's Ltd v Peacock and Smith Ltd* (2020–2021)** – Led by Richard Harwood KC, acting for a property developer in a professional negligence claim arising from services provided by a planning consultant. Settled pre-trial.
- ***Cheval Roc Residential Ltd & Anor v Zurich Insurance plc* (2019–2020)** – Led by Neil Block KC, acting for an insurer resisting a £6.5 million claim brought following the partial collapse of a cliff near to the insured property. The claim was settled prior to the hearing of a trial to determine whether Zurich was liable to indemnify the claimants.

Recommendations

Directory rankings:

- Construction, Energy and Infrastructure, Leading Junior – Tier 1, Legal 500 Asia Pacific
- Construction, Leading Junior – Band 4, Chambers and Partners
- Construction, Leading Junior – Band 4, Chambers and Partners Global
- Construction, Leading Junior – Tier 4, Legal 500 UK
- Professional Disciplinary and Regulatory Law, Leading Junior – Tier 4, Legal 500 UK

Recommendations:

- *"David is a pleasure to work with and combines technical excellence with nous and hard work."* Chambers and Partners Global 2024
- *"David provides excellent service, particularly when participating in conferences with lay clients. He will bear in mind the overall commercial issues and the big picture, as well as the fine detail of the points in dispute."* Chambers and Partners Global 2024
- *"David is an excellent advocate and one of the best juniors in this area. His written and oral submissions are compelling, and he is great on his feet when dealing with questions from the bench."* The Legal 500 UK 2024
- *"Solid application to the facts, and a good manner in applying the legal framework."* The Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2023
- *"His particular strength is advising in a way that is very client friendly, he cuts out legal jargon and gets to the point."* The Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2021
- *"Sharp, driven, and a pleasure to work with."* The Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2020
- *"Exceptionally capable and extremely versatile."* The Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2019

Memberships

- AllBar, supporting those with a disability who are practising at the Bar in England and Wales, or aspiring to do so
- Association of Regulatory and Disciplinary Lawyers (ARDL)
- Bridging the Bar mentor, 2022
- Chancery Bar Association (ChBA)
- Commercial Bar Association (COMBAR)
- Constitutional and Administrative Law Association (ALBA)
- Financial Services Lawyers Association (FSLA)
- International Bar Association (IBA)
- Inter-Pacific Bar Association (IPBA)
- London Common Law and Commercial Bar Association (LCLCBA)
- Professional Negligence Bar Association (PNBA)
- Society of Construction Law (SCL)

- Technology & Construction Bar Association (TECBAR)

Qualifications

Education

- 2011–2013: BPTC, BPP Law School (part-time), Very Competent
- 2009–2011: GDL, BPP Law School (part-time), Distinction
- 2007–2009: MPhil, Economics, Oriel College, University of Oxford
- 2004–2007: BA, PPE, University of York, Starred First Class (first in year)

Scholarships and Prizes

- 2011 Inner Temple Exhibition Scholar (BPTC)

Additional Information

Appointments

- 2020–present: Member of the TECBAR adjudicators panel
- 2019: Member of panel appointed by the IAAF providing legal advice and representation to athletes and officials in disputes arising out of the 2019 World Athletics Championships in Doha

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