



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

Energy and Natural Resources

Much of David's experience in commercial dispute resolution and construction matters has concerned the energy and natural resources sector, covering both fossil fuels and renewables. He has been recommended as a Leading Junior for Construction, Energy and Infrastructure in The Legal 500 Asia Pacific's guides to outstanding juniors in Asia Pacific since 2019.

Cases of note

- ***Confidential IChemE adjudication*** – Contractor's claim for costs and profit of carrying out a scheme of remedial works instructed by the employer at a renewable power plant project.
- ***Confidential ICC arbitration*** – Subcontractor's claim for retention monies arising from an expansion project at a hydroelectric power plant in Southeast Asia.
- ***Confidential SIAC arbitration*** – Acting for the respondents in a claim brought regarding disputed payments arising from a contract to build a coal-fired power plant between a Chinese state-owned entity and various Indonesian companies.
- ***Confidential SIAC arbitration*** – Acting for the claimant in a claim concerning supply of mirrors manufactured and supplied by a European party to a solar power (concentrator photovoltaics) technology firm in China.
- ***Seadrill Ghana Operations Ltd v Tullow Ghana Ltd [2018] EWHC 1640 (Comm)*** – Junior counsel assisting Sean Wilken KC, Adam Robb KC and Stephen Kosmin in a USD 277 million claim considering whether a provisional measure issued by the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) in Case No 23 between Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire was a force majeure within the contract for a deepwater drilling unit.
Judgment
- ***Confidential EPC contract dispute*** – Drafting the employer's response to the main contractor's claims for extensions of time and additional costs of USD 55 million arising from an engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) contract for a new facility at an oil refinery in Southeast Asia.

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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