



Patrick Hennessey

Year of call: 2010

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“Patrick’s advocacy is first-rate. Incisive and eloquent, assertive if necessary but always courteous. He has meticulous attention to detail, a brilliant way with clients and a very fine mind.” The Legal 500 2023

“He is an absolute star and a delight to work with.” Chambers and Partners 2023

Patrick specialises in commercial, construction and technology disputes. His practice is focused on complex construction and engineering disputes both in international arbitration and UK litigation, with significant experience in transport and energy infrastructure and project finance.

Recommended in leading UK and global directories, Patrick is regularly instructed as sole counsel and junior by domestic and international clients in litigation, arbitration and alternative dispute resolution (ADR).

Patrick undertakes advisory work for a range of employers, construction professionals and adjudicators and has experience with all major standard form building contracts (JCT, FIDIC, NEC3). Patrick has worked closely with the litigation teams at a number of top tier UK construction and energy law firms and has extensive experience with dispute resolution boards.

Patrick also has considerable international experience, having worked on secondment with a leading international law firm in South East Asia and with an extensive practice in the UAE. Patrick has experience in ICC, LCIA, SIAC DIAC, HKIAC and ad hoc arbitration and has further experience as an arbitrator and secretary to arbitral tribunals.

Areas of expertise

Construction

International Arbitration

Commercial

Administrative and Public

Commercial

Patrick has a broad commercial practice with particular experience of and focus on project finance disputes and disputes arising from joint venture and bonus agreements.

- ***Ealing Care Alliance Ltd v London Borough of Ealing* [2018] EWHC 2630 (TCC)** - Acted as junior counsel for the successful claimant care home provider in respect of a benchmarking dispute under a PFI framework agreement.
- ***Libyan Investment Authority v Societe Generale & Ors* (2016-2017)** - Acted as junior counsel for the fifth defendant in high-profile litigation arising from the collapse of the Libyan Investment Authority (LIA) in respect of claims brought by the LIA to set aside US\$1.5bn of structured investments on the basis of alleged fraud and bribery.
- ***Peter Gray v Gibson Dunn & Crutcher* CFI-012 02016** - Instructed as sole counsel for the claimant and appellant in the DIFC Court of Appeal in a claim relating to the enforceability of an arbitration clause in contract and underlying US\$1m+ claim. Test case for the application of new DIFC employment law provisions.
- ***Duncan Macleod v Mears Group Plc* [2014] All ER (D) 15 Jul, [2014] EWHC 3140 (QB)** - Acted as sole counsel for the successful claimant in claim for non-payment of a contractual bonus. The case was noteworthy because permission was secured for very late amendment to pleadings and is now cited as an example in the White Book.

Recommendations

Patrick is recommended in leading UK and global directories for his work in construction and international arbitration.

- *"Patrick's advocacy is first-rate. Incisive and eloquent, assertive if necessary but always courteous. He has meticulous attention to detail, a brilliant way with clients and a very fine mind."*The Legal 500 2023
- *"He is an absolute star and a delight to work with."*Chambers and Partners 2023
- *"A superb advocate, both on his feet and on paper."*Chambers and Partners 2022
- *"Patrick is a talented and hard-working barrister, with a sharp mind ability to pick up key issues rapidly."*The Legal 500 2022
- *"Undoubtedly one of the rising stars in construction."*The Legal 500 2020
- *"An outstanding junior for his call."*Chambers and Partners 2020
- *"Bring a real star quality and old-school charm to the table."*Chambers and Partners 2020
- *"An advocate well beyond his years of call in terms of maturity and ability."*Chambers and Partners 2018
- Highly Commended in Legal Week's Future "Stars at the Bar" 2017

Memberships

- Technology and Construction Bar Association (TECBAR)
- Commercial Bar Association (COMBAR)
- London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA) Young International Arbitration Group (YIAG)
- International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) Young Arbitration and ADR Forum (YAAF)
- The London Common Law and Commercial Bar Association (LCLCBA)
- Middle Temple
- Royal United Services Institute (RUSI)

Qualifications

Education

- Bar Vocational Course, BPP Law School (2009-2010)
- Graduate Diploma in Law, BPP Law School (2008-2009)
- BA (Hons) (English), Balliol College, Oxford (2000-2003)

Scholarships and prizes

- Astbury Scholarship, Middle Temple (2009)
- The Queen's Medal, The Royal Military Academy Sandhurst (2004)
- Violet Vaughan Morgan Memorial Prize, Oxford University (2003)
- Graham Greene Birthplace Trust Scholarship (2001)

Additional Information

Appointments

- Patrick is a Senior Fellow at the think tank Policy Exchange contributing on defence, security and legal matters.
- Patrick is the author of The Junior Officers Reading Club (Allen Lane, 2009) and Kandak (Allen Lane, 2012) and numerous newspaper, magazine and journal articles. Patrick is a regular media commentator on defence and legal matters.

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