



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

Administrative and Public

Patrick was appointed to the Attorney General's C Panel (London) and regularly advises on acts for the government in cases concerning matters of defence and security.

- ***Kimathi and ors v The Foreign and Commonwealth Office* [2018] EWHC 3144 (QB)** - Patrick acted for the Foreign Office in the long-running Kenya Emergency Group Litigation concerning claims for damages arising out of alleged abuse during the Kenya Emergency (the Mau Mau insurgency) between 1952 and 1962.
- **The Cyprus Colonial Litigation (2014 – 2019)** - Patrick acted for the government in test case on historical liability for alleged abuse of Cypriot citizens by UK and Cypriot security forces during the Cyprus Emergency between 1955 and 1959.
- **The “Snatch Landrover” and “Challenger 2” Claims** - Patrick acted for the Ministry of Defence in test cases on combat immunity arising from the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan following the decision of the *Supreme Court in Smith and others v MOD*[2013] UKSC 410.
- ***Al-Sadoon v Secretary of State for Defence* [2016] EWCA Civ 811** - Patrick acted for the government in cases relating to inquiries into alleged abuse of Iraqi citizens by UK forces during the conflict in Iraq between 2003 and 2011.

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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