



Joe-han Ho

Year of call: 2016

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Joe-han is a specialist commercial barrister who practises across the full spectrum of commercial and construction disputes. He has appeared in the Court of Appeal, the High Court (including as sole counsel against Queen's Counsel in the Commercial Court), and the County Court. He also appears before international arbitral tribunals.

He is ranked in the Legal 500 (2023) as a Rising Star.

Previously, Joe-han practised as a solicitor at Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP where he focused on international arbitration and commercial litigation. He also held teaching positions at King's College London (trusts and equity) and Durham University (contract law). He is regularly published on a range of commercial law matters.

In addition to his counsel practice, Joe-han is regularly instructed in mediations and accepts appointments both as counsel and as mediator. He was invited to be a Judge at the National Mediation Awards 2022.



Areas of expertise

- Banking and Financial Services
- Civil Fraud
- Commercial Contracts
- Construction
- International Arbitration

International Arbitration

Joe-han has broad experience in a range of international commercial arbitrations, including those held under LME, SCC, ICC, UNCITRAL, and LCIA rules.

Cases of note

- **X v Y** – Acting for a Barbadian insurer in two ICC arbitrations with a combined value of US\$43.5 million concerning fraud, misrepresentation, and breach of contract. The final hearings are listed for the second half of 2023.
- **X v Y** - Acted as sole counsel in an LME arbitration concerning the sale of zinc ingots raising issues as to conditions precedent, letters of credit, and hedging losses. A jurisdiction challenge was defeated (with costs) in April 2020, and the Tribunal awarded a substantial sum to the claimant following a two-day hearing in March 2021.
- **X v Y** - Advised on an DIFC-LCIA arbitration concerning three major infrastructure projects in the UAE with circa US\$270m in dispute.
- **X v Y** - Allegations of asset-stripping of a company, raising issues as to the validity of a contract, sham trusts, breach of fiduciary duty, and corporate capacity.

Judicial remarks

Joe-han has appeared before various courts and tribunals, including the Court of Appeal, the High Court (including as sole counsel against Queen’s Counsel in the Commercial Court), the County Court, and international arbitral tribunals. His appearances have been subject to judicial remarks, to which a selection is set out below.

- *“as Mr Jory [QC] and Mr Joe-han Ho point out, in their lucid and concise post-hearing written submission...”* Townley & Anor v Inter Export LLC [2018] EWCA Civ 2068 (Lady Justice Arden, as she then was)
- *“This appeal was argued extremely skilfully by [Mr Ho].”* Dubai First PJSC v Wright [2019] (unreported) (Mr Justice Barling)
- *“... [Mr Ho’s] excellent written closing outline submissions.”* The Sky’s The Limit Transformations Ltd v Dr Mohamed Mirza [2022] EWHC 29 (TCC) (HHJ Stephen Davies)
- *“... excellent submissions.”* Bank of Baroda & Ors v GVK Coal Developers (Singapore) Pte Ltd [2022] (Mrs Justice Cockerill)

Memberships

- The Commercial Bar Association
- The Technology & Construction Bar Association
- The Inter-Pacific Bar Association
- The Chartered Institution of Arbitrators (Member)

Qualifications

Education

- 2007-2010, Durham University, LL.B. (ranked 1st in year)
- 2011-2012, Harvard Law School, LL.M.
- 2012-2013, University of Oxford, B.C.L.

Scholarships and Prizes

- 2016-17: Jarman Scholar, Inner Temple (ranked 1st in year in advocacy)
- 2023: Inter-Pacific Bar Association Scholar

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