



Hannah Fry

Year of call: 2018

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Hannah has a domestic and international practice specialising in commercial, company and insolvency, civil fraud, construction and international arbitration.

Hannah is frequently led in substantial disputes and has appeared led in the Supreme Court (*Pakistan International Airline Corporation v Times Travel (UK) Ltd* [2021] UKSC 40) and the Privy Council (*Chandler v The State No 2 (Trinidad and Tobago)* [2022] UKPC 19). Hannah regularly appears in the High Court both led (*Mercy Global Consult Ltd (In Liquidation) v Adegbuyi-Jackson* [2023] EWHC 3203 (Ch)) and as sole counsel (*Re E-Tel (UK) Ltd* [2023] EWHC 1214 (Ch)) in the Chancery Division, Commercial Court and the Technology and Construction Court (TCC).

Hannah also acts as both junior and sole counsel in international arbitrations and domestic adjudications. Hannah has experience and accepts instructions in respect of urgent applications for freezing and other injunctive relief.

A substantial proportion of Hannah's practice also has an international element, particularly in the field of international arbitration, where she has acted in arbitrations under a wide variety of international arbitration rules including International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA), Abu Dhabi Commercial Conciliation and Arbitration (ADCACC) and UNICITRAL. As well as acting as counsel, Hannah has experience in, and undertakes instructions as, tribunal secretary.

Prior to coming to the Bar, Hannah obtained a first-class law degree, followed by a distinction in her Master of Laws in Comparative and International Dispute Resolution, at Queen Mary, University of London, where she specialised in international commercial and construction arbitration.

Areas of expertise

Commercial

Company and Insolvency

Construction

International Arbitration

Public and Constitutional

Construction

Hannah's construction practice covers all aspects of construction law and she is instructed by employers and contractors in a broad range of construction and engineering matters, both as sole and junior counsel,

including payment disputes, defect claims and delay and disruption claims. Her practice incorporates High Court work, including cases in the TCC, as well as the County Court, and adjudication and domestic arbitration. Hannah also has experience of acting in international construction arbitrations as counsel and tribunal secretary. Given Hannah's complementary insolvency expertise, Hannah is well-placed to act in construction matters involving an insolvency angle and she is particularly interested in assisting in such matters.

Hannah was seconded to the construction department of a city law firm during 2022 to 2023. While on secondment, Hannah assisted in high-value adjudications involving defect and delay claims and advised on matters involving litigation privilege, sale and purchase agreements, collateral warranties, the Building Safety Act 2022 including remediation orders and remediation contribution orders, and matters involving cladding and fire-related defects.

Further, Hannah gained experience and knowledge of the construction and energy industry through her LLM in Comparative and International Dispute Resolution in which she obtained a Distinction in both International Construction Contracts and Dispute Resolution and International Arbitration and Energy. Her thesis for her Master of Laws concerned the challenges facing statutory adjudication in UK construction contracts.

Hannah has particular interest and experience in matters involving the Building Safety Act 2022, having appeared before the FTT involving a remediation contribution order, the experience she gained on her secondment and the cross-over in her practice with insolvency and public law. Hannah regularly gives seminars on this topic as part of 39 Essex Chamber's Fire Team.

Hannah is a contributing author of the following texts:

- "*The History of Technology and Construction Court: Rewriting the Rules*" (Hart Publishing, 2023) with Sir Rupert Jackson KC and Nicholas Higgs focusing on analysis of the Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1996 focusing on adjudication.
- "*The Law of Net Zero and Nature Positive*" (Ongoing and due to be published in 2024) focusing on the analysis of the relationship between the construction phase and net zero.

Recent talks and articles:

- *39 Essex Chambers Construction All-Day Conference 2023: The Building Safety Act's first 18 months and its future* (London, October 2023)
- *Building Safety Act in the Court of Appeal: URS Corporation Ltd v BDW Trading Ltd Webinar and Article* (London, July 2023)
- *Construction and Insolvency 2023: Where are we now?* (February 2023, Published in the second edition of Construction Law Quarterly for 2023, Proceedings of the Institution of Civil engineers – Management, Procurement and Law)

Cases of note:

- **ADCCAC Arbitration [2023]**: Instructed in a construction arbitration worth over USD 1.4 billion concerning termination, delay and consequential losses arising out of a large infrastructure under ADCCAC Arbitration Rules. Led by Adam Robb KC.
- **ICC Arbitration [2023]**: (Ongoing) Instructed as Tribunal Secretary to a three-member ICC tribunal in a high-value (worth over USD 100 million) construction arbitration concerning delay and defects in relation to a sulphuric acid plant and power plant under ICC Rules. Chair of the Tribunal, Lindy Patterson KC.
- **ICC Arbitration [2023]**: Instructed in a high-value construction arbitration (worth approx. KWD £20 million) concerning changed works and remeasured quantities in relation to an oil refinery under ICC Rules. Led by David Brynmor Thomas KC.

- ***Dr Lellis Francis Braganza v (1) Princess House Management Limited (2) Wallace Estates Limited [2023]***: Instructed on behalf of a developer concerning applications under s27A of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1985 in respect of service charges and s124 of the Building Safety Act 2022 for a remediation contribution order. At the CMC, Hannah successfully obtained strike out of part of the claim and resisted joinder to the existing proceedings and consolidation with the RCO proceedings.
- ***PFI Adjudication [2022]***: Instructed in a PFI adjudication concerning advice in relation to the validity of a compensation event arising out of a NEC3 Contract. Led by Marion Smith KC.
- ***Architectural Aluminium Limited v Inhabit Europe Limited [2022]***: Instructed on behalf of a cladding company in a CCMC in the TCC concerning a contract for design services in relation to defective design and delay.
- ***Adjudication Advice [2022]***: Instructed in a multi-million adjudication claim (approx. £15 million) to advise as junior counsel in relation to aspects of delay and disruption arising out of a JCT Contract.
- ***Adjudication Advice [2022]***: Instructed on behalf of a housing association to advise on whether there were grounds to challenge a certificate for making good defects and the surrounding factual context.
- ***(1) Peter May (2) Christine May v Michael Bromfield [2022]***: Instructed on behalf of freeholders of a domestic property in multi-track proceedings concerning defects and involving applications concerning summary judgment and amendment of pleadings.
- ***Domestic construction/property arbitration [2022]***: Instructed in a domestic construction/property arbitration concerning defects. Led by Tom Poole KC.
- ***ICC Arbitration [2021]***: Instructed on behalf of an Italian subcontractor in a multi-million ICC construction arbitration seated in Dubai under ICC Rules. Led by Richard Samuel.

Memberships

- Commercial Bar Association (COMBAR)
- Female Fraud Forum (FFF)
- International Association of Young Lawyers (AIJA)
- Inter-Pacific Bar Association (IPBA)
- Young International Arbitration Group (YIAG)
- Young ICCA (International Council for Commercial Arbitration)

Qualifications

Education

- LLB, Queen Mary University of London (First Class)
- LLM in Comparative and International Dispute Resolution, Queen Mary University of London (Distinction)
- BPTC, BPP Law School (Outstanding)
- ADR-ODR International Accredited Civil-Commercial Mediator

Scholarships and prizes

- Shortlisted for Inner Temple's Pupil Advocacy Prize (2019)
- Inner Temple, BPTC Performance Prize (2018)

- Inner Temple, Major Exhibition Scholarship Award (2017)
- BPP Law School, Advocacy Scholarship (2017)
- BPP Law School, Excellence Scholarship (2017)
- Queen Mary University of London, Drapers' Company Prize for Academic Excellence (2015)
- Winner of the 'Best Student Pro Bono Activities' Award, LawCareers.Net Awards (2015)
- Quarter Finalist, D. M. Harish Memorial Government Law College Moot, India (2015)
- Winner of the George Hinde Moot (2014)
- Queen Mary University of London, Final Year School of Law Scholarship (2014)

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