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Rebecca Drake

Year of call: 2007

Email: rebecca.drake@39essex.com

Phone: +44 (0)20 7832 1111

"She is absolutely phenomenal and so is her work rate" Chambers and Partners, 2023

Rebecca Drake specialises in high value commercial and construction disputes, both domestic and international. She represents a diverse clientele of businesses, representing FTSE-rated companies, property professionals, offshore investors, private developers, SMEs, and ultra-high-net-worth individuals.

Areas of expertise

Construction

Commercial

Energy and Natural Resources

Sport

Energy and Natural Resources

Rebecca has a wide range of experience relating to cases involving energy and natural resources. Examples include:

- Acting as junior to Gordon Nardell KC in an ICC arbitration concerning solar energy in a dispute with a Danish company;
- Acting for Bahraini marine engineering contractors against a Singapore main contractor in a dispute
 arising from the construction of a Desalination Plant in Algeria. The case involved issues of the
 validity of determination of the contract by the main contractor, including pipe design engineering
 issues, adequacy of environmental permitting and issues of Algerian law;
- Being instructed in a multi million pound arbitration in Trinidad, where she was acting for an oil and gas company a in relation to payment disputes over payment for changes, and delay and disruption,
- Successfully acting as junior counsel to Simon Hargreaves KC in a multi million pound nuclear power dispute

Recommendations

• "Rebecca is energetic and efficient, with a razor-sharp mind. She is capable of thinking on her feet

and gets to grips with complex technical issues very quickly." The Legal 500, 2023

- "She is absolutely phenomenal and so is her work rate" Chambers and Partners, 2023
- "She is a very safe pair of hands in any construction case." Chambers and Partners, 2023
- "Rebecca is very easy to work with and a to-the-point advocate." Chambers and Partners, 2023
- "Excellent ability to understand clients needs, superb choice of junior." The Legal 500, 2021
- "Able to deal with complex issues quickly" The Legal 500, 2020
- "The Lara Croft of the construction Bar: adversaries would do well not to underestimate her, she packs a powerful punch" The Legal 500, 2019
- "Her team spirit proves vital on long-running matters" The Legal 500, 2016
- "A very sharp junior punching above her call." The Legal 500, 2015
- "She has a tenacity in court generally associated with someone of a much more senior call" Chambers and Partners, 2013

Memberships

- The Society of Construction Law
- COMBAR
- TECBAR
- LawInSport

Qualifications

Education

2009, Cambridge University, Corpus Christi College, MA Law
2007-2008, University College London, LLM (Distinction)
2006-2007, College of Law, Bar Vocational Course (Very Competent)
2003-2006, Cambridge University, Corpus Christi College, BA Law

Scholarships and prizes

- Organ Scholarship, King's College, London: 2007-2008
- Mary MacMurray Major Scholarship, Lincoln's Inn: 2006
- Hardwicke Entrance Award, Lincoln's Inn: 2006
- Avory Award, Corpus Christi College, Cambridge: 2006
- Hewitt Exhibition, Corpus Christi College, Cambridge: 2006
- Organ Scholarship, Corpus Christi College, Cambridge: 2003-2006

Additional Information

Before coming to the Bar, Rebecca worked at Norton Rose in the Project Finance division of the Banking department. She assisted in arranging finance for a range of large construction projects.

Appointments

- Rebecca has been Honorary Associate Professor at UCL since 2018 where she teaches law on the Construction and Project Management undergraduate degree.
- TECBAR accredited adjudicator

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