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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

Civil Fraud

Joe-han has considerable experience in civil fraud disputes, where he has acted for both claimants and defendants. His expertise is complemented by his involvement in the USD\$300m Kazakhstan Kagazy litigation from 2013 (when the litigation commenced with a £72m Worldwide Freezing Order) to 2021 (enforcement proceedings against various trusts).

Cases of note

- Kagazy Kazakhstan plc & Ors v Zhunus & Ors [2020] EWHC 2431 (Comm); [2020] EWHC 698 (Comm); [2020] EWHC 128 (Comm) Enforcement proceedings of a USD\$300m judgment in the main proceedings against various trust entities, brought on the basis of tracing, resulting trust (to the fraudster), alternatively section 423 Insolvency Act 1986 (led by William McCormick QC).
- Townley & Anor v Inter Export LLC [2018] EWCA Civ 2068 A fraud claim brought by a Ukrainian company against the director of a contractual counterparty regarding the sale of sunflower oil. The appeal raised complex issues regarding Lord Tenterden's Act and the application of the tortious measure of damages (led by Hugh Jory QC).
- Alliance Bank JSC v Zhunus & Ors [2015] EWHC 714 (Comm)
- 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.

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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