



Alexander Burrell

Year of call: 2014

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“Alex has a strong legal understanding and he is very skilful in presenting the client’s case before the courts and arbitral tribunals. He is very thorough and clear in his advice, and is always well prepared. He has an analytical mind and a logical approach.” The Legal 500 EMEA 2023

Alexander specialises in commercial, construction and property disputes, in both UK litigation and in international litigation and arbitration. Alexander is a registered DIFC Court practitioner.

Recommended as a leading junior (Tier 2) in The Legal 500 EMEA, whilst often led, Alexander is frequently instructed as sole counsel in cases of high value and complexity, including in the English High Court, the DIFC Court of Appeal and in arbitration, often appearing against significantly more senior opponents including silks.

Alexander’s commercial cases cover the full spectrum of disputes, including banking and finance, civil fraud, commercial contracts, and insolvency.

Alexander’s construction cases involve a number of high-profile projects, and his clients include multi-national subcontractors, main contractors and developers.

Alexander’s property cases include commercial landlord and tenant, real property, and more recently cases concerning the Building Safety Act 2022.

Alexander is also frequently instructed in energy matters, including cases related to construction, energy supply and energy regulation.

Alexander has extensive courtroom experience, and is highly regarded for his attention to detail and meticulous cross-examination.

Alexander has recently worked as sole counsel on a number of multi-million-dollar cases, including a multi-day arbitration final hearing with a sum in dispute of over \$30m concerning a large retail park, and in the DIFC Court of Appeal in *Panther Real Estate Development LLC v Modern Executive Systems Contracting LLC* CA-016-2022.

Alexander is also on the Attorney General’s C Panel of Junior Counsel to the Crown, representing Government departments and HMRC.



Areas of expertise

Construction

Commercial

Property and Real Estate Litigation

Energy and Environment

Commercial

Alexander's practice covers all aspects of commercial litigation, including commercial contractual disputes, commercial fraud, banking and finance and insolvency.

Alexander's recent cases include representing HMRC in the Chancery Division in enforcement proceedings concerned with VAT fraud, representing a licensed premises in urgent High Court injunctive proceedings against an energy company following the disconnection of energy supply (settled during the injunction hearing), representing an international bank in proceedings against various companies and their guarantors, and representing an individual in the DIFC Court regarding a claim for \$12m for failure to list on the stock market.

Cases of note:

- ***Confidential Arbitration (2023)*** – Instructed as sole counsel to draft arbitration pleadings in an India-seated ad hoc arbitration concerned with the termination of two contracts for supply of goods and services, with a sum of over \$250m in dispute.
- ***Dr. Othman Abdullah O Alswayeh v GII Islamic REIT (CEIC) Limited CFI 025/2022 31 August 2022 (also 07 November 2022)*** - Successfully acted as sole counsel for the claimant in respect of its \$12m claim concerning a failure to list on the stock market in relation to a sale agreement concerning property and shares, securing dismissal of the defendant's jurisdictional challenge and subsequent application to set aside default judgment. [Judgment](#)
- ***Rada Trading LLC FZC v (1) Wealth Bridge Trading Crude Oil And Refined Products Abroad LLC (2) Cohenrich Energy FZE CA 007/2021 07 September 2021*** - Successfully acted as sole counsel for the second defendant, before the DIFC Court of Appeal, successfully overturning the Court of First Instance's judgment striking out of the company's \$938k counterclaim. [Judgment](#)
- ***Rada Trading LLC FZC v (1) Wealth Bridge Trading Crude Oil And Refined Products Abroad LLC (2) Cohenrich Energy FZE CFI 112/2020 11 April 2021*** - Successfully acted as sole counsel for both defendants in an \$8.1m claim arising out of alleged misrepresentation and deceit in respect of a contract for the supply of various oil products, successfully obtaining the strike out of the claim against both defendants. [Judgment](#)
- ***Purchaser v Developer*** - Successfully acted as sole counsel for a major real estate developer in Dubai seated arbitration proceedings regarding a sale-purchase contract dispute in the UAE, obtaining the dismissal of the \$3.4m claim and award on counterclaim in the sum of circa \$690k, after the matter had to be reissued by the purchaser following the earlier successful dismissal of the case on jurisdictional grounds (DIAC).

- **Owner v Purchaser** - Acted as sole counsel for a commercial entity as claimant in respect of an international dispute concerning the sale of a petro-chemical plant, where the combined value in dispute exceeded \$68m. The parties settled after the claimant's reply pleadings and response to joinder pleadings (ICC).

Recommendations

- *"He was, as usual, absolutely brilliant and achieved a fantastic result which I felt was unlikely to be possible."*
- *"He really put himself out to make sure that he went the extra mile in his preparations and I've started the weekend with an extremely happy client"*
- *"Alex did a superb job under pressure"*

Memberships

- The Commercial Bar Association (COMBAR)
- The Technology and Construction Bar Association (TECBAR)

Qualifications

Education

- University of Bristol

Additional information

Languages

- French (Conversational)

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