

PAUL CHAISTY QC

Year of call: 1982
Year of silk: 2001

Clerked by: Gary Young Harry Young

AREAS OF EXPERTISE:

Banking & Finance Commercial Litigation Company
Insolvency International & Offshore Partnership Private Client,
Trusts and Probate Professional Negligence Real Estate
Litigation Sport



Commercial Litigation

Paul has vast experience in all fields of commercial and business disputes including share and asset sale agreements and breach of warranty claims, misfeasance and breach of fiduciary duties, general areas of contract law and in particular claims of misrepresentation fraudulent and otherwise. Advocate across all fields and courts and particular emphasis on trials and also particular interim applications- freezing orders, search orders, security for costs and contested disclosure applications. Regularly advises and acts for professional partnerships and LLPs in respect of general partnership disputes and restrictive covenants and spring board injunctions.

Significant Reported Cases

- Shua v Camp and Furnace 2020 EWHC 687. Successfully acted in trial in respect of intellectual property, contract and company claims.
- The Hut Group Limited 2020 EWHC 5. Substantial shareholder/unfair prejudice action.
- Swiss Arbitration 2020. Acted in 2 week arbitration in Switzerland claims in respect of Joint Venture Agreement in relation to international sales business and acting on related litigation in BVI.
- Hong Kong Arbitration 2020. Acted in respect of multi million shareholder dispute in relation to property in China.
- Pag Asset Preservation 2019 EWHC 2890. Public interest winding up petition , appeal to Court of Appeal pending.
- Perry v Neupert 2019 EWHC 52, 2018 EWHC 2019. Multi layered litigation in UK, BVI and Cayman islands in respect of estate and trust claims.
- Renaissance v Comodo 2019 BVI. Acted in 3 week trial in BVI respect of claims to shares in software company and rectification of share register and substantial interim applications and Court of Appeal.
- Bank of Asia 2019. Acted in trial and Court of Appeal in respect of claims to shareholding and damages for breach of contract.
- Kwok v Juan 2018. Acted in 6 weeks trial and numerous interim applications in BVI and St Lucia. Appeal to Privy Council pending.
- Company v Company 2017 EWHC 2319. Freezing injunction application in support of international arbitration.
- Bony v Kakou 2017 EWHC 2146. Arbitration and related procedures in respect of premier league footballer and agent agreements.
- Halsall v Champion 2017 EWHC 1079. Professional Negligence Claims in respect of advice in relation to tax avoidance schemes.
- Ming 2017. Trial and Court of Appeal in BVI in respect of unfair prejudice and shareholder disputes. Appeal to Privy Council pending.
- Bhullar v Bhullar 2017 EWHC 407. Derivatives claims and allegations of breach of fiduciary duty.
- Polypearl v Building Research 2016 7 WLUK 781. Breach of confidentiality, contract and unfair terms.
- Ghura v Dalal 2015 EWHC 605. Claims for damages relating to investments in development property in Dubai and counterclaims for breach of trust in relation to shareholdings.
- Gladman Commercial v Fisher 2013 EWCA 1466. Acted at first instance and court of appeal in respect of claims for damages for fraudulent misrepresentation and issues of joint tortfeasors.
- Access Bank v Akingbola 2012 EWHC 2184. Acted for director and founder of Nigerian bank facing claims for fraud in excess of £750 million.
- Yafai v Muthana 2012 EWCA 289. Acted at first instance and court of appeal partnership dispute as to investment and development land and issues of construction of partnership deed.
- DRL v Wincanton 2011 EWCA 839. Acted at first instance and in court of appeal dispute as to service agreements between national companies and issues of repudiatory breach.
- Whittle Movers v Hollywood Express 2009 EWCA 1189. Claims relating to fixed term distribution agreements with claims in restitution and quantum meruit.
- Lexi Holdings v Luqman 2008 EWHC 1639. Claims against directors in misfeasance amounting to in excess of £100 million.
- Sino Union v Rich Victory. Claims in BVI commercial court in respect of development land in Dominica and share ownership in trading company.

Profile

Paul is a leading specialist in chancery and commercial litigation across all fields especially commercial disputes, corporate shareholder actions, civil fraud, partnership, banking, sports law and domestic and international arbitrations. Appears at all levels including Supreme Court/Privy

Council, Court of Appeal, High Court and domestic and international arbitrations and is regularly instructed in litigation abroad including in the BVI, Cayman Islands, Singapore (where he is a registered overseas lawyer), the Isle of Man and in the Bahamas on an ad hoc basis.

A specialist trial lawyer with a strong reputation for tactical advice and ruthless cross-examination Paul regularly acts in connection with freezing injunctions, provisional liquidators and associated interim applications. Rated as "Star of the Bar" since 2015. Deputy High Court Judge in Chancery Division and QBD. Also a full member of Serle Court, Lincoln's Inn.

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Areas of Expertise

Banking & Finance

Commercial Litigation

Company

Insolvency

International & Offshore

Partnership

Private Client, Trusts and Probate

Professional Negligence

Real Estate Litigation

Sport

Memberships

COMBAR, Chancery Bar Association, NCCBA and Northern Chancery Bar Association

Appointments

Deputy High Court Judge authorised to sit in Chancery and Queen's Bench Division and Mercantile Court. Called to the Bar in the BVI and on ad hoc basis in the Bahamas. Qualified mediator.

Qualifications

LLB (first class), BCL

Recommendations

Chambers UK 2021

"A great tactician. He has seen it all."

"A very strong advocate."

"His drafting skills are excellent, his conferences with clients are well managed, and his advice is clear." "He is relentless, outstandingly good in cross-examination and tremendously prepared."

"In my view, the best trial lawyer in the country." "He is very well regarded in this field."

"Excellent technically, and as a strategist, his advocacy is confident and succinct. He does not waste time and is businesslike but thorough."

"He knows the law back to front." "He is accessible, he picks up the issues very quickly and he explains them really well to both qualified solicitors and non-qualified clients."

"If he says what he thinks the law is, then you know he's got it right." "Good on his feet and a good advocate. It comes naturally to him."

"He is very tenacious, well-prepared and hard-working, and turns things around quickly." "He is excellent in court."

Legal 500 2020

"He is a formidable trial Counsel, without doubt, my number 1 choice. He crafts his submissions so deftly, never wasting his words with the rhetoric and posturing that so many Counsel feel is necessary which is why he constantly holds the Judge's his attention whilst on his feet."

"He is a very impressive silk."

"On the detail, a fantastic and robust advocate and superb in conference. You want him on your side."

"An excellent silk."

Chambers UK

Listed as one of only 21 QCs as a "star at the bar" Chambers Directory since 2015.

"His advice is hugely commercial and user-friendly, and his advocacy style remains as strong and aggressive as anyone in the business." "He is one of the most tenacious advocates and an excellent cross-examiner. His commercial insight is invaluable when developing strategies on commercial disputes." Chambers UK 2020

"He is a very sound lawyer and very good in court." Chambers UK 2020

"He is very bright and a robust advocate in court." Chambers UK 2020

"A highly skilled and tenacious barrister." Chambers UK 2020

"He is a very senior and experienced practitioner. He is very, very good and talented." "He is punchy in court and achieves great results for his clients." Chambers UK 2020

"He's a real fighter, but he's also very commercial and doesn't only consider the academic points of law. He's very good with clients." Chambers UK 2020

"He has a brilliant mind and is devastating in cross-examinations." Chambers UK 2020

"He is succinct and sharp." "He offers insightful and thorough advice on complex issues." - Chambers UK 2018

"He is my kind of silk. He has the virtue of concision, gets right to the point and has a good element of the terrier in him. He will persist hard and sometimes meets opponents who will freeze in his presence." "He is very confident and very eloquent." - Chambers UK 2018

"Well-regarded commercial and chancery practitioner with particular experience of unfair prejudice actions. Called to the Bars of the British Virgin Islands and the Bahamas." - Chambers UK 2018

"Our go-to Manchester silk for partnership or anything of that type; incredibly strong, works really well as part of a team and talks the language of commercial lawyers and their clients." - Chambers UK 2018

"He is superb at trial and has devastating cross-examination skills." - Chambers UK 2018

"Very tenacious and excellent in cross-examination." "He has a very strong reputation on the circuit." - Chambers UK 2018

"He provides solid insolvency advice and is impressive in conference." - Chambers UK 2018

"His advocacy skills are second to none. He is incredibly quick and methodical. He cuts through and is able to get to the core of the issues quickly." - Chambers UK 2017

"He has a rare ability that combines great intellect with commercial acumen." "He is seriously good: he gets to the crux of things very, very quickly, he is very sharp in court and he can be ferocious when he needs to be." - Chambers UK 2017

"A great advocate, who is good on paper, very thorough and excellent in every respect." "Determined, dogged and ferocious in cross-examination." - Chambers UK 2017

"He's just world-class and somebody I'd like to have for every single trial. He is so tenacious and on the ball - he never leaves a stone unturned." "He's fantastic, a great advocate, very thorough and great on paper. Excellent in every respect." - Chambers UK 2017

"He is very good in court and is an excellent orator." "He is fantastic - very thorough, and his written work is also excellent." - Chambers UK 2017

"He is excellent in conference, incredibly tenacious and strategic on his feet. He is able to put across very complex issues well and his work on paper is first rate." - Chambers UK 2016

"His skills and strengths are in cross-examination." - Chambers UK 2016

"A formidable opponent." - Chambers UK 2016

"He's very easy to get on with. He's extremely well prepared and has a good commercial eye for where you and the client want to be. He's also punctual." - Chambers UK 2016

"He is really good on complex, high-value cases - he looks at a case and grasps the issues really quickly." - Chambers UK 2016

"superb at trial, with devastating cross-examination skills" - Chambers UK 2016

"devastating in cross examination"

"intellectually brilliant a ferocious advocate"

"the complete package"

"top-class, commercial and pragmatic and tactically very astute"

“ a very tough advocate yet sympathetic with the client and very user friendly”

“ a fantastic advocate and a lethal cross-examiner”

“ an unbelievably effective advocate”

The Legal 500

‘A fiery advocate.’ - Legal 500 2018

‘Incisive, assured and commanding.’ - Legal 500 2018

‘He has an excellent ability to bring round a judge.’ - Legal 500 2017

‘He has an innate understanding of what and how much to say.’ - Legal 500 2017

