

Katie Ann FINCH

Practise & Admission

Senior Court of England & Wales, 2007
Foreign Lawyer in Singapore, 2008
Foreign Lawyer in Hong Kong, 2009

Graduate and Professional Qualifications

LLB (First Class Hons), School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, 2004
Legal Practice Course (Commendation), BPP Law School, London, 2005

Academic Achievements

Certificate in Modern Standard Arabic, 2002, Bourguiba Institute, University of Tunis, Tunisia
Certificate in Legal French, 2002, LSE, University of London, UK
A-Levels, Bexhill College, Bexhill-On-Sea, East Sussex, UK
2001 - English Literature (A), French (B), History (A), General Studies (A), GCSE Latin (A)
2000 - AS-Level Law (A), AS-Level Mathematics (C)
GCSEs, St Richard's RC School, Bexhill-On-Sea, East Sussex, UK
1998 - 6 at grade A*, 6 at grade A

Employment History

2014 – present, Principal Solicitor, Finch Solicitors
2012 – 2014, Legal adviser, various business and non-business contacts & pro bono adviser for LawWorks
2012, Contract Solicitor, Business Law Group, McCarthy Tétrault LLP, London
2010 – 2012, Career break
2007 – 2010, Solicitor, Banking department, Linklaters LLP, London, including a transfer to the Hong Kong office (03/2009-06/2010) and a secondment to the Singapore office (06/2008-03/2009)
2005 – 2007, Trainee Solicitor, Linklaters LLP, London (Seats in Corporate, Project Finance, Banking, Structured Finance)

Profile – About me

I qualified as a Solicitor in September 2007. I trained and spent the first three years of my career with one of the largest top tier global law firms in London, Singapore and Hong Kong, where I focused on international corporate and finance transactions. I have worked and trained with exceptional lawyers, pre- and post-financial crisis, and seen a multitude of challenges faced by businesses in today's world. Eager to drive my legal career in a more personalised direction, and with the aim of branching out into new and fulfilling areas of the law, I left the firm in 2010.

Since then, I have continued my legal professional development by expanding my practice areas and gaining expertise in the challenges faced by SME businesses and their managers, alongside my pro bono work for LawWorks and LinkUp Battersea. I find this area of law and business challenging and rewarding, and the skills I have learnt in my previous commercial role are ideally suited to managing my own practice, which I founded in 2014.

Solo Legal Experience Examples

In order to enhance my skills with start-ups, small businesses, and their owners and private clients, I have advised a wide range of clients and volunteering organisations in progressing the following legal and commercial problems:

- **COMMERCIAL/CORPORATE WORK:** Bespoke contract drafting; Shareholder rights advice; Director's Duties advice; Sale of a physiotherapy clinic (sole trader); Debt advice; company incorporation queries (vis-à-vis sole trader rights); commercial rent negotiation coaching; assisting with an injunction application.
- **EMPLOYMENT:** Policy drafting and review; Review of job advert for acceptable language; Equality Act 2010; Constructive/unfair dismissal queries; preparing witness statements for an employment tribunal.
- **ELDERLY CLIENT/MENTAL CAPACITY/ESTATE PLANNING:** Applying to appoint a Guardian (Mental Capacity Act 2005, Office of the Public Guardian, court appointed Guardian); assisting with ordering the family affairs; dealing with third parties' queries; Lasting Powers of Attorney.
- **PRIVATE INDIVIDUAL:** Breach of contract dispute relating to unsatisfactory supply of goods and services; Consumer money claim relating to unsuitable goods, and breach of contract.
- **CHARITIES:** Industrial and Provident Society constitutional amendments and submissions to the Financial Conduct Authority; advice regarding a charity's administrative affairs; drafting policy documents.

Law Firm Transaction Experience Summary

I have spent the majority of my practise involved with commerce and finance in one way or another, and have experience in a variety of areas. I have worked pre- and post-the Global Financial Crisis, and have experience of both structuring and unwinding finance and corporate transactions. I have also worked on multiple Emerging Markets financings, which brings the challenges of working with a less sophisticated market. I am also familiar with project financings, from both the project-side of the documentation, and the more familiar finance side. I have organised many signings and closings, arranged multiple board meetings, and have a strong ability to manage and organise document-heavy transactions. Highlights include:

- **CORPORATE M&A:** Acting for a Jersey incorporated oil and gas plc in its reverse take-over acquisition of a substantial oil mining licence in Nigeria. This transaction was an opportunity to work closely with a company in two exciting areas; Emerging Markets, and Oil and Gas.
- **EUROPEAN LEVERAGE FINANCE (RESTRUCTURING):** Acting for Actavis in a corporate and finance restructuring of the Icelandic owned pharmaceutical company, to restructure its Euro-debt load following an LBO in 2007 financed by Deutsche Bank.
- **CORPORATE FINANCE (HONG KONG):** Acted as lead associate on the largest Hong Kong Dollar financing to Hong Kong's leading real estate corporation. The transaction was led by the borrower, and was a landmark transaction for the 30 banks involved.
- **GLOBAL BANKING (RESTRUCTURING) (HONG KONG):** Acting for a global bank, in the exercise of an asset sale and de-merger across Asia (including Hong Kong, Singapore, Thailand, India, Vietnam, China, Taiwan, and Indonesia), as a result of the global financial crisis. Individual and group assets were acquired by bidders by way of asset sale, share sale and court scheme.
- **EMERGING MARKETS:** Acting as lead associate for a global bank, acting through their South African Branch, to provide a working capital facility for a bank in Ghana. Similarly, advising a global bank in Nigeria on providing a working capital facility in Nigeria.
- **LEVERAGE FINANCE (PRE-CREDIT CRUNCH):** Acting for the banks in relation to the USD1.55bn acquisition of a UK rig and drilling operator, contractor, designer and constructor. Acting for a bank group in relation to Permira's multi-billion dollar acquisition and take-over of Valentino Fashion Group (including Hugo Boss).

REFERENCES Confirmation of employment and/or experience and character references available on request.