

Overview

Banking and Financial Services
Commercial Disputes
Company
Insolvency
Partnership and Joint Ventures
Professional Liability
Trusts

Mediation and Arbitration
International

Profile: Overview

Steven read law at Oxford and taught law at Cambridge. He has a strong commercial and financial services practice. He is frequently praised for his commercial approach. He throws himself in fully to any case and is always available on the end of a phone.

Experience And Expertise

Steven has a busy Commercial Chancery practice and remains primarily involved in Commercial Litigation in the High Court; with particular emphasis on Financial Services. Steven is available at short notice for emergency injunctions including freezing orders.

He regularly works on banking, company, partnership, and shareholder disputes. His cases involve commercial contracts and the law surrounding the interpretation of contractual clauses; insolvency (including misfeasance); company law; mortgages; FSMA and financial regulation; fiduciary duties; trusts; commercial landlords and TLATA/estoppel. He has also undertaken some class action work.

Steven has a particular expertise in Financial Services law. In 2013 he completed a secondment with the FCA. He was primarily involved in re-drafting the Handbook in preparation for the new regulatory regime. He is an expert on the boundaries of FCA regulation. Steven regularly advises on non-contentious law which involves Financial Services and can include start up ventures or advice to large financial institutions. He is regularly involved in High Court disputes over financial products including UCIS, SWAPS and other IRHPs, derivatives, bonds, funds, Private Equity, personal investment plans, pensions, mortgages and UCITS. He has experience of LOBO loans and ancillary issues.

He is fully versed in all forms of ADR and accepts instructions in both mediation and arbitration domestic and international. He is familiar with and has experience of appearing in mediation offered by the Family Division, including the Court of Appeal. Often his cases involve an off shore/international element and he is familiar with the particular considerations of cases which involve proceedings in other jurisdictions. Along with other members, Steven teaches cross examination skills to international lawyers. Steven is a qualified Member of the CI Arb.

For many years, Steven has represented wealthy private clients, and such cases often involve layers of either company law or partnership disputes in keeping with the varied needs of HNW individuals. Indeed, Steven drafted the definition of HNW for the FCA. The needs of this client base can also include claims under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependents) Act 1975, advisory work as to estates, TLATA, contentious probate, company disputes and the need to intervene in the Family Division in accordance within TL v ML guidelines. Steven has particular expertise in disputes regarding large estates or country homes as well as private financial investment or failed tax mitigation schemes.

Steven is regularly called upon to give talks both by firms of solicitors and legal conference organisers in his areas of practice.

Qualifications

MA Jurisprudence - Magdalen College Oxford

MCI Arb

Dubai International Finance Centre

Memberships

Chancery Bar Association;

COMBAR;

Member Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (MCIArb);

Financial Services Lawyers Association;

British Azerbaijani Law Association

Other Points of Interest

Steven is a strong supporter of access to the Bar and equality of opportunity; he regularly gives talks to both large and small groups or supports in other ways, such as by acting as a moot judge or by giving a talk/seminar. He is always happy to assist on this topic and should be contacted directly without hesitation. If you are a school who may not have much experience of lawyers or of the law then please do not hesitate to contact Steven through his chambers - he will say yes.

Steven is the Chair of Big Voice London a legal engagement and social mobility charity.

He acts as a mentor for Gray's Inn, Lincoln's Inn, the University of Oxford, Magdalen College, the Social Mobility Foundation and the government of the British Virgin Islands.

On A Personal Note

Steven is always happy to chat through a piece of work on an informal basis prior to instruction. After work, he is equally happy to discuss any thoughts on Bronze Age history, the rise of Augustus or the latest goings on in Ambridge.

Other Details

VAT Registration Number: 103963623

Bar Membership Number: 46262

For More Information

Please click on the links to the left or contact a member of the clerking team