



serle court

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Dominic Dowley KC

Year of Silk: 2002 Year of Call: 1983

*"... has a fine academic mind and never
drowns in detail"*

Chambers & Partners

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Practice Overview

Dominic Dowley KC is a highly-regarded commercial and contentious chancery silk with a wide and lengthy experience (both as a silk and formerly as a junior) of chancery and commercial litigation, including extensive experience of civil fraud litigation, contentious trusts, banking and financial services (including regulation), commercial litigation/arbitration, insurance and reinsurance, ancillary proceedings, asset-tracing and recovery. He has conducted lengthy trials both in England and abroad. His experience in foreign jurisdictions includes disputes concerning Guernsey, Jersey, Bermuda, the Bahamas, St Christopher & Nevis, the Isle of Man, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Liechtenstein, Switzerland, Qatar, Abu Dhabi and various of the United States.

Areas of Expertise

Commercial Litigation

Re Citco (claims by the Madoff liquidator against administrators) (instructed by Macfarlanes LLP)

Salem v Rothschild (claims arising from allegations of partnership relating to large commercial enterprises) (instructed by Clifford Chance LLP)

Tchenguiz v Serious Fraud Office (instructed by Slaughter and May)

Zayed Charitable Foundation v Union National Bank (Abu Dhabi arbitration concerning banking security documents) (instructed by Clyde & Co)

Chambal Ltd v French Arab Union Bank (letter of credit/UCP) (instructed by Ince & Co)

Novoship UK Ltd v Mikhaylyuk (international commercial fraud) (instructed by Ince & Co)

Fiona Trust litigation (international commercial and shipping fraud) (instructed by Ince & Co)

NOUK Ltd v Mirador Shipping (international shipping fraud) (instructed by Ince & Co)

SCAL v Beech (Supreme Court of Bermuda; dispute over hedge fund management and remuneration) (instructed by Goodman Derrick)

Omega Group Holdings Inc v Kozeny & Ors (international financial fraud covering privatization of state property in Azerbaijan) (instructed by Macfarlanes)

Houston Casualty v Danish Re (Texas: reinsurance dispute) (instructed by Elborne Mitchell)

Profilati Italia Srl v PaineWebber Inc [2001] 1 Lloyd's Rep 715 (London Metal Exchange arbitration) (instructed by Richards Butler)

Re Immigration and Nationality Directorate (IT dispute; software performance; hardware performance)

Avon Insurance plc v Swire Fraser Limited [2000] Lloyd's Rep IR 535 (personal stop loss reinsurance; misrepresentation in relation to underwriting) (instructed by Elborne Mitchell)

Axa Insurance Co Ltd v Swire Fraser Ltd The Times 19 January 2000, Court of Appeal (instructed by Elborne Mitchell)

Wire TV Ltd v Cabletel (UK) Ltd 30 July 1997, Court of Appeal (instructed by Lewis Silkin)

Amstrad plc v Seagate Technology Inc 9 May 1997 (computer hardware breach of warranties claim) (instructed by Macfarlanes)

Vijaya Bank v Solo Industries Ltd (bank guarantee obtained by fraud; injunction) (instructed by Macfarlanes)

Three Rivers District Council v Bank of England [1996] QB 292 Court of Appeal (equitable assignment of right of action) (instructed by Lovells)

Alliance & Leicester Building Society v Edgestop and others [1994] 2 All ER 38; [1993] 1 WLR 1462 (vicarious liability for deceit by valuer/surveyor; contributory negligence) (instructed by Davies Arnold Cooper)

British and Commonwealth Holdings Plc v Quadrex Holdings Inc The Times 8 December 1988 (commercial contract; sale of shares; whether time of the essence; interim payment and summary judgment) (instructed by Herbert Smith)

Dayco Corporation v Trachem Co Ltd 27 November 1984 (international fraud; freezing orders) (instructed by Herbert Smith)

Civil Fraud

Novoship UK Ltd v Mikhaylyuk (international commercial fraud; offshore asset tracing and disputes concerning trust structures in various jurisdictions, including St Christopher & Nevis, Guernsey, Jersey, New York and Florida) (instructed by Ince & Co)

Fiona Trust litigation (international commercial and shipping fraud; offshore asset tracing including in Switzerland and British Virgin Islands: disputes concerning ownership and status of assets etc) (instructed by Ince & Co)

NOUK Ltd v Mirador Shipping (international shipping fraud; St Christopher & Nevis: offshore companies and trusts disputes) (instructed by Ince & Co)

Omega Group Holdings Inc v Kozeny & Ors (international financial fraud covering privatization of state property in Azerbaijan; proceedings in the Bahamas, Colorado, the Cayman Islands) (instructed by Macfarlanes)

Vijaya Bank v Solo Industries Ltd (bank guarantee obtained by fraud; injunction) (instructed by Macfarlanes)

Alliance & Leicester Building Society v Edgestop and others [1994] 2 All ER 38; [1993] 1 WLR 1462 (vicarious liability for deceit by valuer/surveyor; contributory negligence) (instructed by Davies Arnold Cooper)

Dayco Corporation v Trachem Co Ltd 27 November 1984 (international fraud; freezing orders) (instructed by Herbert Smith)

Private Client Trusts and Probate

Re Juffali (instructed by Farrers LLP)

Re Salem (instructed by Clifford Chance LLP)

The Earl of Durham v Lambton and others (instructed by Withers)

Novoship UK Ltd v Mikhaylyuk (international commercial fraud; offshore asset tracing and disputes concerning trust structures in various jurisdictions, including St Christopher & Nevis, Guernsey, Jersey, New York and Florida)

(instructed by Ince & Co)

Fiona Trust litigation (international commercial and shipping fraud; offshore asset tracing including in Switzerland and British Virgin Islands: disputes concerning ownership and status of assets etc) (instructed by Ince & Co)

NOUK Ltd v Mirador Shipping (St Christopher & Nevis: offshore companies and trusts disputes) (instructed by Ince & Co)

Re M's Trusts (international trusts disputes; Jersey and Isle of Man; terms of trusts, duties of trustees, entitlements of beneficiaries, jurisdiction) (instructed by Macfarlanes)

Re A's Trusts (International trusts disputes; beneficiaries' entitlements; asset management strategies; England/Jersey) (instructed by Macfarlanes)

RCB Trustees (Guernsey; discretionary management of trust investments) (instructed by Macfarlanes)

Re Dragon Trust (Bermuda: discretionary trust, availability of trust assets, liability of trustees) (instructed by Macfarlanes)

Insurance and Reinsurance

Rolls-Royce v Marsh (broker's liabilities) (instructed by Seymours)

Avon Insurance plc v Swire Fraser Limited [2000] Lloyd's Rep IR 535 (personal stop loss reinsurance; misrepresentation in relation to underwriting) (instructed by Elborne Mitchell)

Axa Insurance Co Ltd v Swire Fraser Ltd The Times 19 January 2000, Court of Appeal (instructed by Elborne Mitchell)

Houston Casualty v Danish Re (Texas: reinsurance dispute) (instructed by Elborne Mitchell)

Banking and Financial Services

Zayed Charitable Foundation v Union National Bank (arbitration concerning banking security documents in Abu Dhabi) (instructed by Clyde & Co)

Chambal Ltd v French Arab Union Bank (letter of credit/UCP) (instructed by Ince & Co)

Three Rivers District Council v Bank of England (No 3) [2002] 2 WLR 1220 House of Lords; [2001] 2 All ER 513 House of Lords (banking regulation in various jurisdiction including Luxembourg, New York, Abu Dhabi and the Cayman Islands; misfeasance in public office; European Community law; rights under European Directives) (instructed by Lovells)

Re Qatar Financial Centre Regulatory Authority (Qatar: banking regulation) (instructed by the authority)

Reg v LAUTRO, ex parte Ross [1993] QB 17 (administrative law; financial services; self-regulatory organisation) (instructed by Boodle Hatfield)

Financial Services

Zayed Charitable Foundation v Union National Bank (arbitration concerning banking security documents in Abu Dhabi) (instructed by Clyde & Co)

Chambal Ltd v French Arab Union Bank (letter of credit/UCP) (instructed by Ince & Co)

Three Rivers District Council v Bank of England (No 3) [2002] 2 WLR 1220 House of Lords; [2001] 2 All ER 513 House of Lords (banking regulation in various jurisdiction including Luxembourg, New York, Abu Dhabi and the Cayman Islands; misfeasance in public office; European Community law; rights under European Directives) (instructed by Lovells)

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Regulatory and Disciplinary

Zayed Charitable Foundation v Union National Bank (arbitration concerning banking security documents in Abu Dhabi) (instructed by Clyde & Co)

Chambal Ltd v French Arab Union Bank (letter of credit/UCP) (instructed by Ince & Co)

Three Rivers District Council v Bank of England (No 3) [2002] 2 WLR 1220 House of Lords; [2001] 2 All ER 513 House of Lords (banking regulation in various jurisdiction including Luxembourg, New York, Abu Dhabi and the Cayman Islands; misfeasance in public office; European Community law; rights under European Directives) (instructed by Lovells)

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Arbitration

Dominic has sat as an arbitrator on LCIA and ad hoc arbitrations in a variety of commercial disputes. He has also acted as counsel in numerous arbitrations and has a wide knowledge of the rules and practices of the major arbitration providers.

Chancery

International and Offshore

Matrimonial Finance: Trusts and Company law

Recommendations

Private Client (*Who's Who Legal: UK Bar, 2019*)

Fraud: Civil, Chancery: Commercial (*Chambers & Partners, 2019*)

Private Client Global Elite (*Legal Week, 2018*)

Chancery: Commercial, Fraud: Civil, Offshore (*Chambers & Partners, 2017 & 2018*)

Fraud: Civil, Offshore, Private Client: Trusts & Probate (*The Legal 500, 2017*)

Contentious Trusts: (*Citywealth Leaders List 2016*)

Quotes

"He has a great bedside manner and is a quietly effective advocate." "He is superb. He's very authoritative and so masterful at explaining difficult concepts to a client." (Chambers & Partners, 2020)

"Approachable and diligent." "Very persuasive in court." (Chambers & Partners, 2020)

"Extremely responsive and helpful in a time-pressured case." (The Legal 500, 2020)

"Charming, always available, and gets the issues quickly." (The Legal 500, 2020)

"A hardworking silk of note." (The Legal 500, 2020)

"He has a really good reputation for contentious trusts and offshore work." (Chambers Global, 2019)

"A very good commercial litigator, particularly in fraud cases." (Chambers & Partners, 2019)

"He has a really good reputation for contentious trusts and offshore work." (Chambers & Partners, 2019)

"Has good judgement, writes very well and presents clearly." (Chambers & Partners, 2019)

"A very able lawyer with an eye for detail and a good bedside manner." (The Legal 500, 2019)

"A great team player, probably the easiest silk to work with." (The Legal 500, 2019)

"A quick-working, efficient and talented advocate." (The Legal 500, 2019)

"Incredibly hands on and very approachable. He has a unique ability to identify the key issues from the noise that surrounds a case." "Dominic is incredibly fast working, efficient and incisive." (Chambers Global, 2018)

"He's effective on his feet and gets to the heart of matters quickly rather than dancing around an issue." (Chambers Global, 2018)

"Incredibly hands on and very approachable. He has unique ability to identify the key issues from the noise that surrounds a case." (Chambers & Partners, 2018)

"A really top-of-the range advocate and litigator. He is incredibly fast-working efficient and incisive." (Chambers & Partners, 2018)

"He goes to the heart of something quickly rather than dancing around it." (Chambers & Partners, 2018)

"He understands and explains difficult legal concepts and manages to use the tools of the law in such a way as to get an outstanding result for his client." (Chambers & Partners, 2017)

"He's a very cerebral barrister who pays strong attention to detail." (Chambers & Partners, 2017)

"He's commercial, reliable and user-friendly." (Chambers & Partners, 2017)

"A very good lawyer, who is also good with clients." (The Legal 500, 2017)

"He is a great tactician, who really rolls his sleeves up." (The Legal 500, 2017)

"He displays excellent attention to detail; he finds all of the connections because he has such a good grasp of the detail" (Chambers Global 2015)

"He is a clear, incisive, quick-working advocate" (Chambers Global 2015)

Client Testimonials

"Serle Court is a market leader and a go-to set for contentious trust and offshore work. Over the years, we have worked with a number of different silks and juniors on both litigation and arbitration matters, often with a cross jurisdiction aspect. This has included Alan Boyle KC, Dominic Dowley KC, John Machell KC, Richard Wilson KC, Dakis Hagen KC, Sophie Holcombe, and Oliver Jones. The quality of their work has been consistently excellent, and their commercial nous and practical advice certainly sets them out from the pack. Head Clerk, Steve Whitaker, runs a tight ship and is always a pleasure to deal with."

Jeremy Kosky and Maxine Mossman (Clifford Chance LLP)

Education & Qualifications

MA (Hons) New College, Oxford

Diploma in Law (with Distinction), City University, London

Bacon Scholar of Gray's Inn

Barstow Law Scholar

Memberships

Commercial Bar Association

ACI Arb
