



serle court

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## Suzanne Ter-Minassian

Year of Call: 2023

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## Practice Overview

Suzanne joined Chambers in December 2025 after completing pupillage under the supervision of [Matthew Morrison KC](#), [Sophie Holcombe](#), [Jonathan Upton](#), and [Thomas Elias](#).

Suzanne accepts instructions across Chambers' core specialisms and is building a broad commercial chancery practice, including civil fraud, offshore trusts, property, insolvency, and company law.

Suzanne trained in France at the École Normale Supérieure on a competitive fellowship. Before coming to the Bar, Suzanne spent a decade working in policy and communications roles at the Cabinet Office, Meta (policy communications and spokesperson), and Taboola (global head of content policy in the lead-up to the IPO).

Suzanne's corporate experience, spanning regulatory compliance and public-facing communications for listed and pre-IPO entities, informs a practical and strategic approach to her practice, and a sound understanding of the commercial and reputational pressures facing her clients.

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## Areas of Expertise

### International and Offshore

- Instructed (led by Ruth Jordan and Fred Smith KC) in *Bethel v AG Bahamas*, a Privy Council case concerning the Crown's vicarious liability for the wrongful arrest and rape of a woman by an immigration officer in the Bahamas.
  - Advised a client on the enforceability of English tax indemnities in Jersey.
  - Assisted [John Machell KC](#) on a case concerning trust funds following compulsory redemption of shares held by sanctioned entities in the Cayman Islands, including advising and drafting a skeleton argument.
  - Assisted [Sophie Holcombe](#) on a dispute concerning defective exercise of trustees' powers and rectification under Jersey law.
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### Civil Fraud

- Assisted [Matthew Morrison KC](#) in drafting particulars of claim for restitution for restitution arising from breach of fiduciary duty and deceit.
  - Assisted [Sophie Holcombe](#) in a case involving allegations of breach of directors' duties and knowing receipt.
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### Company

- Instructed on a contentious application to rectify the Company Register, involving allegations of fraud and breach of fiduciary duty.
  - Assisted [Sophie Holcombe](#) in derivative action proceedings arising from a long-running family trust dispute.
  - Assisted [Thomas Elias](#) in an unfair prejudice petition in respect of a national chain of car dealerships involving allegations that investors wrongly took control in breach of fiduciary duty.
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### Commercial Litigation

- Instructed in *Municipio de Mariana v BHP Group*, the largest group litigation ever brought before the English

courts. The claim arises from the collapse of the Fundão Dam, thought to be one of the largest environmental disasters in Brazil. Suzanne is part of the team representing lead (test) claimants in the stage 2 trial.

- Assisted [Thomas Elias](#) in resisting an injunction to enforce a post-termination restrictive covenant.
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## Professional Negligence

- Assisted [Max Marenbon](#) on a case involving allegations of negligent misstatements by an accountant.
  - Assisted [Matthew Morrison KC](#) in drafting particulars and negotiating settlement of a professional negligence claim against solicitors concerning financial agreements in a property development.
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## Property

- Assisted [Jonathan Upton](#) on a dispute concerning variation of a restrictive covenant under s. 84 of the Law of Property Act 1925.
  - Assisted [Jonathan Upton](#) on a case concerning the interaction between the Building Safety Act 2022 and the responsibilities of s. 24 managers.
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## Intellectual Property

- Assisted [Stephanie Wickenden](#) and [Stefano Braschi](#) on a trademark and passing off dispute involving matters of conflict of laws and international enforcement of judgments.
  - Assisted [Thomas Elias](#) on a dispute between software companies arising from allegations of trademark infringement, passing off, and unlawful interference.
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## Insolvency

- Acted in a number of insolvency matters and is well-versed in insolvency procedure.
  - Assisted [Jennifer Meech](#) on an application for an injunction restraining a party from issuing statutory demands under the court's inherent jurisdiction.
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## Private Client Trusts and Probate

- Acted in several probate matters, including applications under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependents) Act 1975 and applications to replace an administrator.
  - Advised on a contested probate claim involving allegations of fraud in relation to the devolution of a property.
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## Education & Qualifications

- The University of Law, BPC (Very Competent)
- The University of Law, GDL (Distinction)
- École Normale Supérieure (Paris-Saclay), Fellowship
- La Sorbonne, MSc Sociology (First)

- La Sorbonne, BSc Economics & BSc Sociology (First)

## **Memberships**

- Chancery Bar Association
  - ComBar
  - Advocate (panel member)
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