

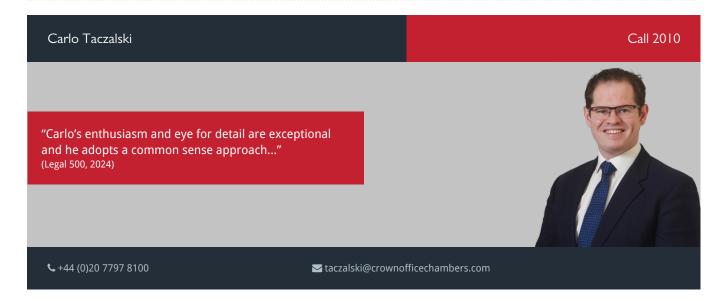
Carlo Taczalski



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Carlo specialises in commercial, construction, insurance, and professional negligence matters. He has been recommended in the Legal 500 as a leading individual in a number of his core practice areas for a number of years, and is currently ranked as a leading junior in six separate practice areas – Commercial, Civil Fraud, Construction, Insurance, Professional Negligence and Product Liability.

He is regularly in court as sole counsel and in both leading and led capacities. He has appeared before a wide range of tribunals including in the Privy Council, the Court of Appeal, High Court, arbitral tribunals and in adjudications.

The regularity of his court work means that he is very good on his feet, and is praised for his meticulous and forceful cross examination and preparation.

Carlo also accepts instructions as an adjudicator and arbitrator, and is a TECBAR and PNBA accredited adjudicator.

His present and recent case-load includes:

- Representing an international firm of insurance brokers in relation to alleged negligence leading to an alleged inability by an international group of companies to recover in approximately €400M of Covid-related business interruption losses.
- BNP v Briggs & Forrester Engineering Services Limited Following a Shorter Trial Scheme Trial, Carlo obtained declarations that the defendant contractor repudiated its contract by purporting to terminate where it was not entitled to do so, allowing Carlo's client to claim damages knowing that liability is already established.
- Development finance Sole counsel bringing a claim for alleged repudiatory breach of a £130M development finance agreement.
- Sanglier v Apollo Carlo led Michael Harper in a 5-week TCC trial, following which Sanglier discontinued against Carlo's and Michael's clients before waiting for judgment.
- *IBMG v Williams* successfully resisting a late notice freezing injunction, and now defending wideranging proceedings alleging conspiracy and dishonest assistance.
- Defending one of the lead intermediaries in the Ingenious Litigation (one of The Lawyer's Top 10 cases of 2018); he (leading Frederick Simpson) successfully appealed to the Court of Appeal,



overturning an Order that his client provide a cross-undertaking as the price for obtaining security for costs which would have had significant ramifications for his client's total exposure.

- Sole counsel for the successful applicants in *AIG Europe v McCormick* [2020] EWHC 943 (TCC) which has re-stated the correct approach to substituting parties after the expiry of a limitation period.
- Sole counsel for the claimant insurance company in a broker's negligence claim arising out of the fraudulent 'placement' of a (non-existent) reinsurance policy by a sub-broker. Damages are in the region of £15M.
- Defending an adhesive manufacturer in wide-ranging claims that its product, which was incorporated into another product and distributed internationally, was defective causing hundreds of instances of damage across Europe (leading Michael Harper; damages circa £3M).
- Defending a recruitment consultant in relation to the placement of a large number of workers at a Belgian construction site (sole counsel against a silk and junior, damages said to be £3M).
- Defending the ex-CEO of an asset-backed financing company against allegations of dishonesty and mismanagement prior to his departure from the business, and its eventual administration (led by Daniel Shapiro KC).
- Defending a UK asset management firm in long-running litigation for conspiracy/fraud relating to the alleged asset stripping of a Polish company (led by Ben Quiney KC).
- Engaged on a dispute concerning rival branches of the Kuwaiti ruling family, where a wide-ranging conspiracy to cause loss by unlawful means is alleged.
- Defending (as sole counsel against a silk and junior) a liquidator in a section 212 application put at in excess of £2m.
- Defending a firm of architects in a dispute said to be worth £9M, brought by an Oxbridge College.
- A case put at £20 million+ in the Mercantile Court concerning the design and sale of a prototype electric vehicle.
- Defending an allegedly valuable professional negligence claim against accountants relating to the conduct of a COP9 / fraud enquiry by HMRC (Carlo acts for the accountants).
- Sole counsel for two of the Defendants in a \$26 million claim in the (English) High Court concerning alleged professional negligence of Spanish and English lawyers said to have been conducting an arbitration in the US and then resisting the enforcement of its award in England.

Carlo read law at Downing College, Cambridge. Before coming to the Bar, he spent a year working for PricewaterhouseCoopers, and later developing business and service monitoring systems for a charity (of which he is now a trustee). His experience gives him the ability to communicate effectively with a wide range of people, work well either as part of a team or individually, and bring an acute commercial perspective to the issues at hand.

Carlo accepts appropriate public access clients.

### Commercial

Carlo is regularly instructed as sole counsel, junior counsel, and increasingly in a leading capacity, in commercial matters involving for example: civil fraud, conspiracy, shareholder disputes, directors' duties, breaches of trust, freezing injunctions, the sale of goods, the supply of goods and services, bailment, franchise agreements, hire agreements and defective products.

He has experience of cases with international elements including issues of jurisdiction and choice of law, and can often make himself available at short notice where the case requires it for example where an



interim injunction is to be applied for or resisted.

Carlo is also engaged to advise on contracts as they are being negotiated, and is happy to do so on a public access basis where appropriate.

#### Selected Cases

- Development finance Sole counsel bringing a claim for alleged repudiatory breach of a £130M development finance agreement.
- Sanglier v Apollo Carlo was counsel for Apollo (leading Michael Harper) on a 5 week trial, following which (and before judgment) Sanglier discontinued against Carlo's clients, and agreed to pay a significant sum in respect of costs. Concerned complex expert evidence as to the formulation of an adhesive, and questions of limitation of liability.
- Ingenious Litigation Instructed, with Ben Quiney KC and Frederick Simpson for one of the lead Defendants in the Ingenious Litigation. The litigation concerned the alleged fraudulent and negligent mis-selling of investments in a series of film and game finance schemes. The Claimants totalled over 600 and brought claims for in excess of £200m. The case was named as one of The Lawyer's Top 20 cases of 2018. Carlo and Ben were successful in applying for security for costs from a commercial litigation funder funding a number of the Claimants' claims. Carlo later led Frederick Simpson in the Court of Appeal overturning an Order that his client provide a cross-undertaking as the price for obtaining security for costs which would have had significant ramifications for his client's total exposure. The overall claim settled shortly before trial.
- Wilson James v MSL Recruitment Carlo was instructed as sole counsel (against leading and junior counsel) on a claim put at in excess of £2-3m arising out of the supply of temporary workers to a construction site in Belgium.
- Borro v Aitken Carlo was instructed (with Daniel Shapiro KC) to defend Borro Group's ex-CEO against allegations of dishonesty and mis-management, including questions of compliance with relevant regulatory obligations, during his tenure as Borro Group CEO.
- St Vincent v Picton Jones Carlo, with Ben Quiney KC, successfully resisted the joinder of their client (a UK asset management company) to a long-running claim based upon a conspiracy to sell land in Poland at undervalue, and thereby strip a Polish company of its main asset. The case involved questions of Cypriot and Polish law and limitation periods, reflective loss, and conspiracy to cause loss by unlawful means.
- Property development arbitration Instructed as sole counsel in an arbitration concerning the amount payable under a joint venture agreement for the development of houses in London; the amount at stake is approximately £2m.
- Water treatment arbitration Instructed as sole counsel in arbitral proceedings concerning a water treatment plant in Eastern Europe, which is said to have been defectively constructed and / or designed (the claim is put at circa Euro 2m).
- Salt s.r.l. v Frazer-Nash Research Limited A Mercantile Court claim in respect of the development of a prototype luxury electric vehicle. Carlo acted with Muhammed Haque KC for the developers who were suing for fees due under the development agreement, and are defending a counterclaim said to be worth in excess of £20 million for various allegedly lost opportunities and development costs.
- Landmark Limited & Woods Development Limited v American International Bank (In receivership) –
  This was a Privy Council appeal from the Eastern Caribbean Court of Appeal; it concerned the basis
  on which the Appellants were entitled to charge and claim for electricity which they had provided
  following the inability of the Antiguan statutory provider to meet the Respondent's needs. Carlo was



instructed with Kim Franklin KC for the successful Appellants.

- Antigua Power Company Limited v The Attorney General of Antigua & Barbuda & Others Claim for approximately £100m in the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court. It arose out of a breach by the Antiguan Government of a Joint Venture Agreement to build a power-plant in Antigua. The Privy Council upheld APCL's claim for breach of contract in 2013 (the report is at [2013] UKPC 23), and remitted the assessment of damages to the Antiguan High Court. Carlo was instructed on the assessment of damages trial with Kim Franklin KC and Dane Hamilton KC.
- Antigua Power Company Limited v The Attorney General of Antigua & Barbuda & Others Carlo was
  also instructed (with Geoffrey Robertson KC and Kim Franklin KC) on a further claim on behalf of
  APCL claiming substantial damages as a result of a conspiracy to cause loss by unlawful means in
  Antigua.
- Papa John's v Doyley Junior counsel for Ms Doyley, the successful defendant franchisee, at the liability trial of her counterclaim for well over £1/2 m in damages for negligent misstatement and misrepresentation; led by Jason Evans-Tovey, they were successful on virtually all issues argued at trial including a number of technical arguments relating to the incorporation and construction of various non-reliance, exclusion and guarantee clauses. The nine day liability trial included an application by Papa John's to adduce further witness evidence midway through the trial. Jason and Carlo successfully resisted the application; the judgment is at [2011] EWHC 2621 (QB).
- Catapult & Lowe v Ariadne Sole counsel for Catapult & Lowe in a dispute over a consultancy
  contract. Carlo successfully had the allegedly substantial counterclaim struck out, and was
  successful on virtually all issues fought at trial with the result that Ms Lowe was awarded (a little) in
  excess of her Part 36 offer made about 2 years before trial, and was awarded indemnity costs for
  the entire period of the claim.

### Civil Fraud

Carlo has a significant practice in specialising in claims which are the result of alleged or actual fraud and dishonesty and can be available at short notice to respond to or make applications for interlocutory relief such as Freezing Order, Norwich Pharmacal and Search Order applications, as well as to act in civil fraud trials, and committal/contempt applications. Such applications can arise in a number of contexts, including global cyber fraud, misappropriation of assets by employees and theft of confidential information. Many of Carlo's instructions in these respects are confidential.

He has particular experience in cases which have a cross-border element, with cases involving Europe, the Middle East and the Caribbean.

#### His experience includes:

- Sole counsel successfully resisting late notice freezing injunction against three Defendants, and acting on the defence of the claim involving allegations of conspiracy and dishonest assistance.
- Making and resisting various Norwich Pharmacal applications.
- Sole counsel for a major insurance broker accused by a policyholder of fraudulently conspiring with a leading insurer, and of making various fraudulent representations to secure the renewal of a insurance policies covering a £1 billion property portfolio (against a silk and junior).
- Sole counsel for a European insurer, whose reinsurance broker placed a reinsurance policy with a fraudulent sub-broker, such that the policy turned out not to exist.
- Junior counsel (instructed alongside Daniel Shapiro KC) defending a company director against



- allegations he supressed certain documents from the company's board and other decision makers in the course of managing a group of companies, and then deliberately concealed his conduct.
- Ingenious Litigation Instructed, with Ben Quiney KC and Frederick Simpson for one of the lead Defendants in the Ingenious Litigation. The litigation concerned the alleged fraudulent and negligent mis-selling of investments in a series of film and game finance schemes. The Claimants totalled over 600 and brought claims for in excess of £200m. The case was named as one of The Lawyer's Top 20 cases of 2018. Carlo and Ben were successful in applying for security for costs from a commercial litigation funder funding a number of the Claimants' claims. Carlo later led Frederick Simpson in the Court of Appeal in relation to the conditions to be attached to that security. The overall claim settled shortly before trial.
- Instructed for Antigua Power Company in a claim alleging a fraudulent conspiracy between members of the Government of Antigua, and Chinese state-owned entities.
- Counsel for a prominent family, advising on the ramifications of and remedies following a group of people obtaining an arbitration award by fraud.

## Construction & Engineering

Carlo has been recognised as a Leading Individual in this area by the Legal 500 since 2018.

Many of Carlo's commercial instructions are in the context of construction, engineering and energy (including PFI and PPP) disputes. Carlo's expertise in construction, insurance and professional negligence makes an excellent choice where the issues involved in the case straddle those different traditional specialisms; a number of Carlo's instructions are therefore in cases where issues of negligence and / or breach of contract overlap with questions of insurance coverage, including in a construction context.

In addition to appearing in Court, Carlo is adept at dealing with disputes in arbitration, adjudication or mediation. He has recently been instructed by a well-known contractor in a series of adjudications, where the difference in the parties' valuations of the work undertaken on the subcontract is in the region of £3m; by a main MEP contractor on an adjudication with the difference between the parties in excess of £1.5m arising out of the building of a tower block near Canary Wharf; and by a well-known groundworks contractor on a series of disputes with a well-known contractor in connection with various housing developments in the North, as well as in many other disputes.

As well as appearing in adjudications, Carlo is a TECBAR accredited Adjudicator

Carlo is the author of the chapter about the NHBC in Emden's Construction Law.

#### Selected Cases

- BNP v Briggs & Forrester Engineering Services Limited Following a Shorter Trial Scheme Trial, Carlo obtained declarations that the defendant contractor repudiated its contract by purporting to terminate where it was not entitled to do so, allowing Carlo's client to claim damages knowing that liability is already established.
- Development finance Sole counsel bringing a claim for alleged repudiatory breach of a £130M development finance agreement.
- AZ v BY [2023 EWHC 2388 (TCC) Carlo represented the successful Part 8 Claimant / Part 7 Defendant in what is thought to be the first case in England and Wales in which an adjudicator's



- decision has been declared unenforceable for apparent bias, after one party placed without prejudice material before the adjudicator.
- Architect's dispute with Oxbridge College Together with Ben Quiney KC, Carlo successfully defended an architect's practice in a £9M adjudication brought by an Oxbridge College in relation to the renovation of one of its main listed courts.
- Sole counsel for the successful applicants in AIG Europe v McCormick which has re-stated the correct approach to substituting parties after the expiry of a limitation period.
- Electrical works at London Bridge Station Carlo was instructed for one of the parties in relation to aspects of electrical work carried out on the redevelopment of London Bridge Station. The dispute settled confidentially.
- Property development arbitration Carlo successfully represented a developer as sole counsel in an arbitration concerning the amount payable under a joint venture agreement for the development of houses in London. The dispute was put at about £2m.
- Water treatment arbitration Instructed as sole counsel in arbitral proceedings concerning a water treatment plant in Eastern Europe, which is said to have been defectively constructed and / or designed (the claim is put at circa Euro 2m).
- Landmark Limited & Woods Development Limited v American International Bank (In receivership) –
  This was a Privy Council appeal from the Eastern Caribbean Court of Appeal; it concerned the basis
  on which the Appellants were entitled to charge and claim for electricity which they had provided
  following the inability of the Antiguan statutory provider to meet the Respondent's needs. Carlo was
  instructed with Kim Franklin KC for the successful Appellants.
- Antigua Power Company Limited v The Attorney General of Antigua & Barbuda & Others Claim for approximately £100m in the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court. It arose out of a breach by the Antiguan Government of a Joint Venture Agreement to build a power-plant in Antigua. The Privy Council upheld APCL's claim for breach of contract in 2013 (the report is at [2013] UKPC 23), and remitted the assessment of damages to the Antiguan High Court. Carlo was instructed on the assessment of damages trial with Kim Franklin KC and Dane Hamilton KC.
- Antigua Power Company Limited v The Attorney General of Antigua & Barbuda & Others Carlo was also instructed (with Geoffrey Robertson KC and Kim Franklin KC) on a further claim on behalf of APCL claiming substantial damages as a result of a conspiracy to cause loss by unlawful means in Antigua.

### Insurance & Reinsurance

Carlo has significant experience of advising on and appearing in proceedings concerning policy interpretation, avoidance of cover for nondisclosure, misrepresentation and breach of notification and other clauses.

Examples of work in this area includes:

- Representing an international firm of insurance brokers in relation to alleged negligence leading to an alleged inability by an international group of companies to recover in approximately €400m of Covid-related business interruption losses.
- Advising on coverage in relation to numerous covid BI related cases.
- Advising on conversate in relation to numerous cladding-related cases.
- Advising and defending, as sole counsel, a leading income protection insurer on a £5m claim. The claim was discontinued immediately after provision of Carlo's Defence on a WP basis.



- Advising on insurance coverage, with Ben Quiney KC, following the Hillsborough disaster.
- Advising a leading insurance broker in a claim where it is alleged that the broker bound an insurer
  outside the scope of its actual authority. The case overlaps questions of rectification, construction
  of the policy, and (in a separate aspect of the case) fraud.
- Sole counsel for the claimant insurance company in a broker's negligence claim arising out of the fraudulent 'placement' of a (non-existent) reinsurance policy by a sub-broker. Damages are in the region of £15m. The case also involves questions of the broker's warranty of authority.
- Advised on a claim (settled confidentially at mediation) arising out of the design of a new insurance product, which was found not to operate effectively immediately prior to launch.
- Instructed (with Andrew Bartlett KC and James Medd) in relation to coverage provided by a £5m excess layer professional indemnity insurance policy, following alleged defective design of an office block overseas.
- Junior to Andrew Bartlett KC in a London arbitration relating to coverage under a product liability policy, potentially determinative of claims and various layers of insurance worth up to £300m.

## **Product Liability**

Carlo's product liability practice overlaps with his commercial, construction, property damage and professional negligence practice, with those cases often involving an element of product liability, for example:

- Allcopy v Vision This was a debt claim, and the defence of a counterclaim in the TCC which was put in the region of £1m, in which it was alleged that photocopier toner provided to the Defendant and Counterclaimant over a period of 6 years was defective, and caused damage to reprographics machines and significant economic losses. The claim settled shortly before trial.
- Sanglier v Apollo Sanglier v Apollo Carlo was counsel for Apollo (leading Michael Harper) on a 5 week trial, following which (and before judgment) Sanglier discontinued against Carlo's clients, and agreed to pay a significant sum in respect of costs. Concerned complex expert evidence as to the formulation of an adhesive, and questions of limitation of liability and complications arising from long cross-border contractual chains of supplies.
- Instructed as sole counsel in arbitral proceedings concerning a water treatment plant in Eastern Europe, which is said to have been defectively constructed and / or designed (the claim is put at circa Euro 2m).
- Various fire claims involving the failure of electrical components, including being for a leading highstreet chain seeking to recover damages including for business interruption following a fire started by a defective component within a freezer in one of their shops.
- Junior to Andrew Bartlett KC in a London arbitration relating to coverage under a product liability policy in a pharmaceutical context potentially determinative of claims and various layers of insurance worth up to £300m.

## Professional Liability

Carlo has been recommended as a Leading Individual in the Legal 500 in this area since 2017 and is frequently instructed in professional negligence claims involving the full spectrum of professionals, including lawyers, liquidators, accountants, architects / engineers / design consultants, valuers and



brokers. He is regularly instructed on his own or as a leading junior against KCs, and likewise as a part of a larger counsel team.

He has recently conducted a (resoundingly successful) adjudication under the pilot professional negligence adjudication scheme.

Carlo is also a PNBA accredited adjudicator.

#### Selected Cases

- Representing an international firm of insurance brokers in relation to alleged negligence leading to an alleged inability by an international group of companies to recover in approximately €400M of Covid-related business interruption losses.
- Ingenious Litigation Instructed, with Ben Quiney KC and Frederick Simpson, for one of the lead Defendants in the Ingenious Litigation. The litigation concerned the alleged fraudulent and negligent mis-selling of investments in a series of film and game finance schemes. The Claimants totalled over 600 and brought claims for in excess of £200m. The case was named as one of The Lawyer's Top 20 cases of 2018. Carlo and Ben were successful in applying for security for costs from a commercial litigation funder funding a number of the Claimants' claims. Carlo later led Frederick Simpson in the Court of Appeal in relation to the conditions to be attached to that security. The overall claim settled shortly before trial.
- Broker's negligence Sole counsel for the claimant insurance company in a broker's negligence claim arising out of the fraudulent 'placement' of a (non-existent) reinsurance policy by a subbroker. Damages are in the region of £15m. Currently pre-action.
- Broker's negligence Sole counsel defending a broker in relation to allegations of fraud and breach of fiduciary duty in the context of amending policy documents without the insured's consent, and allegedly falsifying documents to induce a renewal.
- Saunders & Craig v Hunt Carlo is instructed as sole counsel (against a KC and senior junior) for a liquidator, Stephen Hunt, to defend a section 212 application brought against him by the successful opposing parties from previous litigation.
- Surveyor's negligence leading Toby Chandler in a claim against a surveyor who failed to identify relevant asbestos in a full pre-purchase survey of a substantial property causing significant loss (preaction).
- Architect's dispute with Oxbridge College Together with Ben Quiney KC, Carlo successfully defended an architect's practice in a £9M adjudication brought by an Oxbridge College in relation to the renovation of one of its main listed courts.
- Loss adjuster's negligence Carlo is instructed as sole counsel by a leading loss adjuster who is accused of having negligently caused insurers loss in the region of £5m in the course of adjusting a complex loss arising out of a hurricane.
- Kinde & Knight v Dellapina & Diaz Instructed for a Spanish lawyer said to have negligently advised on and conducted an arbitration in the US, in a claim in the English Courts pleaded at \$26 million. In addition to the more usual issues concerning scope and breach of duty, and causation of damage, the case raises questions involving the illegality and public policy defence.
- Harris & Trotter v Bazargan Instructed, with Ben Quiney KC, for accountants who (when suing for their fees) have been met with an allegedly significant claim for damages relating to a series of HMRC enquiries / COP9 / fraud investigations which they managed for their clients.
- A v B instructed for a broker against a leading law firm in a matter recently settled on confidential terms. The brokers had designed a new insurance product, the structure of which had been the



subject of negligent advice from the law firm in question.

- Birdi & Senna v McAndrew allegedly valuable claim against a valuer and auctioneer by two parties, one of whom was bankrupt and one of whom was alleged to have some interest in property apparently forming part of the other's bankruptcy estate. Carlo succeeded in having the claim by both claimants against his client struck out by Newey J at the conclusion of pleadings (it continues between one of the claimants and another defendant).
- Jones v Kaney [2011] UKSC 13; [2011] 2 WLR 823 During pupillage, Carlo assisted Roger ter Haar KC and Daniel Shapiro in the preparation and research for the landmark appeal to the Supreme Court.

## Qualifications

- Queen Mother Scholarship, Middle Temple (2010)
- Harmsworth Entrance Exhibition, Middle Temple (2010)
- Lovells Examination Prize, Downing College (2006)
- PricewaterhouseCoopers Scholarship (2005 2007)
- MA (Cantab.) (2008)

## Memberships

- CLCBAR
- COMBAR
- TECBAR
- PNBA

### Recommendations

"Carlo is an excellent barrister. He is bright, hardworking, and a good strategist."..."Carlo is very commercial, but not scared to get into the detail and provide robust advice on the merits too. He is a top class barrister."

Legal 500, 2025

"Carlo is able to distil from mountains of information the key issues and formulate appropriate strategies. His advice is thorough and clear, his written submissions are compelling, and on his feet, he outperforms counsel many years his senior."

Legal 500, 2025

"Carlo is an excellent advocate – a real fighter. He is very tenacious and not afraid to pursue difficult points. He is able to persuade courts very effectively. His written advocacy is also of a very high standard." Legal 500, 2024

"Carlo's enthusiasm and eye for detail are exceptional and he adopts a common sense approach to strategy which is a significant benefit to both us and our clients."..."Carlo is superb - extremely bright, a great lawyer and immensely hard-working. An outstanding junior."

Legal 500, 2024



"Carlo knows his craft extremely well. A very able draftsman and able to turn a phrase in court. His advocacy is fluent and persuasive."

Legal 500, 2024

"Technically very able and quick thinking, able to communicate very effectively, and provides solid advice on strategy and the merits."

Legal 500, 2022

"An astute and confident advocate who is very robust in his analysis. He is attentive and has a real eye for detail."

Legal 500, 2022

"A great blend of being exceptionally bright, hardworking and responsive together with a charming personality. Engenders confidence of clients both in conference and courtroom. More than a match for experienced counsel both in mainstream professional indemnity work and more specialist." Legal 500, 2021

"Carlo is incredibly forensic in his approach to work, he deals with large quantities of information in a methodical manner and is an excellent communicator."

Legal 500, 2021

"Handles a diverse range of construction disputes." Legal 500, 2020

"He is very bright and thorough when it comes to considering all the possible issues." Legal 500, 2020