

Mohammed Reza



Partner

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General Experience

Reza is an experienced advocate, who regularly advises on disputes involving financial institutions and multinational corporations across various business sectors.

He has extensive experience in complex commercial and banking disputes, having been involved in trial, appellate work and arbitrations in the technical fields of banking and investment, energy, insurance, sport, and in a range of corporate disputes.

His practice areas also include advising on anti-bribery and corruption issues, advising on and litigating a range of employment matters, particularly those involving termination of employment and enforcement of non-compete agreements. He is generally recognised as a leading individual by Legal Directories which note “his expertise on multi-jurisdictional financial and funds disputes” and his “extraordinary intellectual energy”.

Recent Work

- successfully acted at trial before the Singapore International Commercial Court for a European engineering, procurement and construction company involved in the oil and gas sector, in an engineering and construction dispute with the prominent Malaysian listed Bumi Armada Group
- successfully acted at trial for Standard Chartered Bank in one of the most complex banking cases in Singapore, involving the multi-billion dollar sophisticated Madoff fraud
- advised a prominent asset manager on market misconduct issues under Singapore law in relation to insider information obtained overseas pertaining to a foreign listco. Novel points of law were considered including whether defences to insider trading in a foreign jurisdiction would be applicable under Singapore law
- advised a global independent specialty finance house in its complex and multi-jurisdictional secured finance and commodities dispute with two counterparties arising out of a complex series of loan facilities and forward funding agreements between the parties
- advised numerous global financial and technology companies on Singapore employment law issues pertaining to deferred bonus and restrictive shares schemes, restrictive covenants, summary dismissal, working hours' regulations, withholdings, moral rights, cross-border enforceability against non-local

employees

- advised various global leading financial institutions on Singapore law compliance of data protection laws and on the transfer of personal data to external jurisdictions, subject always to banking secrecy and data privacy regulations.

Background

Reza is admitted to the Singapore Bar, having read law at the University of Nottingham, the National University of Singapore and the University of Melbourne. He is a partner with the firm's dispute resolution group and is concurrently a partner of Simmons & Simmons JWS and a director of JWS Asia Law Corporation, where he heads the dispute resolution and employment practice group, which has been described by legal directories as "extremely responsive and very knowledgeable". All Singapore litigation and related advice is provided through JWS Asia Law Corporation.

Reza has been recognised as a leading individual by Chambers Asia-Pacific and Chambers Global. He has also been recognised as one of Singapore's best litigation lawyers by the publication Best Lawyers, as well as a dispute resolution star by Benchmark Asia-Pacific in the practice areas of General Commercial Litigation and Labour & Employment. Reza was identified in 2014 as one of "Singapore's 20 most influential 40 and under lawyers" by Singapore Business Review, in which he was described as "exactly the kind of guy you want on your side". Client comments include:

- "Mohammed Reza is 'technically very strong, able to deduce complex matters on commercial decisions on a sensible risk basis, factoring legal and non-legal issues'." (The Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2018)
- "noted for his expertise on multi-jurisdictional financial and funds disputes" (Chambers Asia-Pacific and Chambers Global 2016)
- "very smart and capable" (Chambers Asia-Pacific and Chambers Global 2015)
- "absolutely first rate" (The Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2015)
- "extraordinary intellectual energy and is very good for complex cases" (Chambers Asia-Pacific and Chambers Global 2014)
- "incredibly client-friendly' and straightforward in communication ." (Chambers Global 2014)
- "a user-friendly and brilliant lawyer." (Chambers Global 2013, Chambers Asia-Pacific 2013)
- "For Mohammed Reza ... comprehensive analysis of complex legal issues is a walk in the park" (Benchmark Litigation 2013)

In 2005, Reza was seconded to the Monetary Authority of Singapore. In addition to being an advocate, Reza is also the author of numerous legal articles. He was a contributing editor to the publication Singapore Civil Procedure, and has contributed to the textbooks Singapore Precedents of Pleadings and Law and Practice of Corporate Insolvency.

Publications

In addition to being an advocate, Reza is also the author of numerous legal articles. He was a contributing editor to the publication Singapore Civil Procedure, and has contributed to the textbooks Singapore Precedents of Pleadings and Law and Practice of Corporate Insolvency.

- Victory at Singapore International Commercial Court (25 September 2017)
- Silence and fraudulent misrepresentation: *Alacran vs. Broadley* (24 July 2017)

- Singapore's new restructuring laws - what creditors need to know (19 July 2017)
- Singapore decision on a bank's alleged mis-selling of investment products (02 May 2017)
- Singapore regulatory enforcement update: Q4 2016 (8 February 2017)
- SICC bring viable new platform to Asia, *Asia Business Law Journal* (July-August 2016 Volume 1, Issue 1)
- Singapore Employment Claims Tribunal to come into operation from April 2017 – whither employment arbitration? (August 2016)
- Singapore Implements the Hague Convention on Choice of Court Agreements: What This Means for International Disputes, *IPBA Journal* (June 2016, No. 82) pp. 27 – 33
- Coming to grips with the Employment Claims Tribunal, featured article in *HRM Asia* (May 2016)
- Setting the right tone from the top, Interview in *Asia Asset Management* (April 2016)
- Hague Convention on Choice of Court Agreements: Singapore tables bill in Parliament to make Singapore a more attractive dispute resolution venue (April 2016)
- Hague Convention on Choice of Court Agreements: Courting the Freedom of Choice, featured article in the *Singapore Law Gazette* (February 2016)
- Singapore's Employment Claims Tribunal is a step in right direction, Op-ed in the *Singapore Straits Times* (09 January 2016)
- Penalty clauses post Cavendish Square: Wither Singapore law?, *Singapore Law Watch* (23 Nov 2015)
- Electing between contractual and common law right to terminate employment contracts, *Singapore Law Watch* (10 Nov 2015)
- Arbitrability of Minority Oppression Claims, *Singapore Law Watch* (6 Nov 2015)
- Interpreting contracts commercially: Recent developments in the UK and Singapore (November 2015)
- Judgment Commentary: *Cassa di Risparmio di Parma e Piacenza SpA v Rals International Pte Ltd* [2015] SGHC 264 (November 2015)
- Singapore decision on a bank's alleged mis-selling of investment products
- Assignee's claim on bills of exchange not required to be arbitrated
- Singapore Court of Appeal affirms arbitrability of minority oppression claims
- The Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) plans to strengthen its market misconduct enforcement regime
- Singapore arbitration case note - *Malini Ventura v Knight Capital*
- SIAC releases new model arbitration clause.
- How to reclaim a gift (April 2015)
- Industrial Relations Act: Amendments to Act come into operation (April 2015)