



ROBIN PICKWORTH

PARTNER

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Robin Pickworth is a commercial litigator and head of Armstrong Teasdale's U.K. Civil Fraud practice with extensive experience of international fraud and private client disputes. His practice is quite diverse, having worked across a number of industries from financial services and banking to natural resources. His experience includes handling several multibillion-pound disputes, as well as claims involving sovereign wealth funds and governments. Robin is ranked in the directories and has been described as: "the perfect all-round litigator. Very good on the law, attentive, great with clients and excellent on strategy. A thoroughly nice guy and very easy to work with, I have recommended him to a number of colleagues and clients"; "Really stand-out. One of the best solicitors I have worked with. Engaged; hard-working; commercial and very bright"; "tough as nails"; "excellent"; "highly skilled"; "impressive"; and "gets on very well with clients."

Commercial Fraud

Robin has acted in ultra-high value alleged frauds in the banking, pharmaceutical, natural resources and public sectors, usually in the Commercial Court. His cases routinely involve worldwide freezing injunctions. His recent experience includes obtaining urgent injunctions to restrain and recover assets arising out of the purchase of PPE during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Shareholder and Company Disputes

Robin has extensive experience with shareholder disputes, including unfair prejudice petitions, as well as partnership and joint venture disputes.

Finance and Banking

Robin acted in several financial disputes including achieving what is understood to be one of the largest ever judgments in the Gulf Region (worth over \$700 million), in respect of financial derivative product. Robin has also been seconded to a private equity house.

Insolvency

Robin has acted across insolvency issues, including as an external administrator of a foreign bank in a multibillion-dollar alleged fraudulent scheme which involved multi-jurisdictional litigation over several years.

Arbitration

Acting in both litigation and arbitration, Robin's arbitral experience includes an ultra-high value professional negligence dispute in the accountancy industry.

SERVICES AND INDUSTRIES

Alternative Dispute Resolution
Appellate
Restructuring, Insolvency and
Bankruptcy
Class Action Litigation
Complex Commercial
Litigation
Corporate
Insurance Coverage Litigation
Internal Investigations and
Regulatory Compliance
Litigation
Noncompete and Trade
Secrets
Ethics and Professional
Responsibility
White-Collar Criminal Defense
and Government
Investigations
Energy and Utilities
Financial Services and Banking
Health Care and Life Sciences
Technology

ADMISSIONS

England and Wales

Commodity Disputes

Having acted in many international commodities disputes, usually in the energy and natural resources sector, Robin has experience advising on termination rights, hardship clauses and the enforcement of restrictive covenants in the mining industry.

Private Client and Trusts Issues

His experience includes a multibillion-dollar offshore trust dispute and advising on asset protection strategies. Robin often acts for high-net-worth individuals, and his experience ranges from defending an alleged multimillion-pound unpaid gambling debt in the Commercial Court, to various ultra-high value auction disputes.

Middle East

Robin has spent a considerable part of his career acting on disputes in Middle Eastern and African jurisdictions and routinely manages cross-border disputes.

Robin is a recognised lawyer for Commercial Litigation work in the 2021 edition of the Legal 500, in which one practitioner commented, "I have worked closely with Robin Pickworth. We were adverse to each other in a very hostile and volatile situation. Normally I end up despising the lawyer on the other side but although he was tough as nails, he won my respect as an excellent lawyer – he is also unflappable and a pleasure to deal with."

BACKGROUND

Prior to joining Armstrong Teasdale, Robin served as a partner at Kerman & Co. in London. He joined Armstrong Teasdale in early 2021 when the firms combined. Before that, he worked for two high-profile metropolitan law practices.

EDUCATION

- University of Bristol (LL.B., 2004)
 - Law

ACCOLADES

- The Legal 500, Recommended Lawyer, Commercial Litigation: Mid-Market (2021-present)

EXPERIENCE

Favorable Settlement in Long-Running High Court Case Involving Shareholder Dispute

Represented the minority shareholder of a sports and media consultancy in a Section 994 claim against a total of nine individual and corporate respondents, and in an application for injunction to prevent the individual respondents from using company money to pay their legal costs in defence of the petition. The High Court granted the injunction, citing the well-recognised principle that a company's money should not be spent on disputes between shareholders. The respondents' defence strategy included counterclaims and claims in Germany, but ultimately they settled.

Obtained Successful Injunctions in Ongoing Unfair Prejudice Proceedings

Advised minority shareholder in obtaining injunctions in matters involving wrongful exclusion from business partnership.