



CONSTRUCTION AND ENGINEERING
INFRASTRUCTURE
PROFESSIONAL NEGLIGENCE
ENERGY, NATURAL RESOURCES AND UTILITIES
GUARANTEES AND BONDS
INJUNCTIVE RELIEF
GENERAL COMMERCIAL

Jennifer Jones KC

Call Date: 2003, Silk: 2024 // jjones@atkinchambers.com

PRACTICE

Jennifer practices both domestically and internationally, with a particular expertise in multi-party TCC litigation and in international arbitrations in the fields of large construction projects and energy disputes. She is typically instructed as sole counsel in multi-million-pound disputes for a range of different types of entity and her clients praise both her intellectual ability and her emphasis on client care.

She is recommended in Chambers and Partners and The Legal 500 in the fields of construction and professional negligence, and also in Chambers Global for construction. Contributors remark in particular that she is “*very impressive and a clear thinker*”, “*an excellent barrister who is very responsive and commercial*”, “*enthusiastic and a very capable team player*”, “*calm, collected and unflappable*” and that she has “*absolutely first-rate legal knowledge*”.

Jennifer’s main areas of specialisation are construction and engineering, professional negligence and energy, and she also has valuable experience in disputes concerning the construction and enforcement of guarantees/ bonds and of jurisdictional and conflicts issues, which regularly arise as incidental to other matters. It is in the nature of construction disputes that they give rise to particularly complex strategic and factual scenarios, either because of the number of different parties and contracts, or because disputes are being fought out in different fora. Jennifer particularly enjoys the tactical challenges inherent in managing these complicated disputes and in doing everything possible to obtain the best result for her clients.

CONSTRUCTION AND ENGINEERING

Jennifer has acted for the full range of parties in disputes arising from the design and construction of a wide range of building and civil engineering projects, including those procured by PFI. She has expertise in issues relating to loss and expense, delay and disruption, defects, design, delay, diminution in value, contractual termination and quantum meruit claims. She is familiar with the main Standard Form contracts. Her experience includes:

- Advising one of the participants in the Grenfell Tower Inquiry about its potential exposure.
- Acting for the M&E sub-contractors in a multi-party dispute concerning a hospital in Northumberland.
- Acting for the owner of a shipyard that builds and refurbishes world-class superyachts in a dispute with a contractor about substantial works carried out at the yard.
- Acting for the employer in a claim about delays and cost-overruns to the refurbishment of a large government property.
- Acting for the Secretary of State for Defence in the arbitration underlying **Secretary of State for Defence v Turner Estate Solutions Limited** [2015] EWHC 1150 (TCC), which was a substantial dispute concerning infrastructure works procured under a maximum price target cost contract. Jennifer was responsible for leading a team of six other barristers dealing with final account issues.
- Acting for a parent company guarantor in a dispute concerning the design and installation of a mechanical biological treatment plant which processes household waste.
- Acting for the owner of a prestigious head-office in a claim about defects in the cladding of its premises.
- Acting for contractors in relation to a dispute about the redevelopment of the Olympic Park site.
- Acting for a healthcare provider in a dispute about the quality of fire protection at its premises.
- Acting for a local authority in a dispute between a school, the local authority, an SPV and the contractor about substantial works carried out at that school.
- Acting for a quarry in a trial about the quality and properties of the stone supplied by it to a volume housebuilder.
- Acting for the owner of a superyacht in a dispute about cost and quality.
- Acting for the developer of a luxury hotel in a dispute about contractors' entitlement to payment.
- Acting for the contractors in a dispute about the construction of Blackburn bus station.
- Acting for contractors in a dispute about the quality of works at a leisure centre.
- Representing a subcontractor involved in disputes arising from and relating to the construction of Wembley Stadium.
- Acting for a contractor in its claim for payment for works carried out under a framework agreement with a social housing provider.

- Acting for a nursery in a fees dispute, which involved a dispute about asbestos removal from site.
- Advising and acting for steel fabricators in a delay and disruption claim, relating to the construction of two hospices and the headquarters of a large charity.
- Acting for a manufacturer of power generation equipment in relation to a claim made in respect of an escape of diesel from that equipment at a shopping centre.
- Advising a residents' association as to its rights against a statutory undertaker pursuant to the Water Industry Act.
- Representing the employer in a claim intended to be heard in the Bahamian courts, relating to defects in the construction of a local property.
- Acting for employers, contractors and professionals in multi-party proceedings about high-value domestic projects.
- Acting for a local council in a dispute concerning the design and construction of a swimming pool.
- Both seeking and resisting enforcement of adjudicators' decisions, in addition to conducting adjudications.
- Advising on the meaning of expert determination provisions, and conducting expert determinations.
- Advising an employer on amendments to a standard form JCT Contract to reflect its requirements when developing a substantial hotel.
- Advising the landlord of a property let to a government department on its dilapidations claim on termination of the lease.
- Advising householders about their statutory and other rights when a mine-shaft opened up on their land.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Jennifer regularly acts and advises on a wide range of infrastructure projects. Her experience includes:

- Acting for a state-owned entity in the Caribbean in proceedings brought by various contractors about the construction of roads in that jurisdiction, with associated ancillary claims against the engineers involved in managing the various contracts. The contracts were on the FIDIC form.
- Acting for a surveying company in its claim for payment for works carried out in connection with a railway electrification project.
- Acting for the contractor in relation to the construction of a metropolitan tramlink system procured under the PFI initiative.
- Instructed to act for the Claimant purchaser of a pan-European fleet of locomotives in relation to defects suffered by those locomotives.

- Instructed in relation to a dispute between parties to a PPP about security camera provision on the London Underground Network.

PROFESSIONAL NEGLIGENCE

Jennifer has experience of dealing with a variety of professional negligence claims involving a wide range of professionals and consultants in the construction and engineering sector, including architects, engineers, surveyors and contractors. Her experience includes substantial recent experience of cladding disputes, including in relation to concerns about the safety of cladding. Given the involvement of insurers in professional negligence disputes they are often multi-party and Jennifer has particular expertise in, and experience of, managing the strategic implications of a dispute involving a number of participants, from the perspective both of the Claimant and the Defendants. Her experience includes:

- Acting for the Claimant in a number of claims about defectively designed cladding to commercial, industrial and residential properties including, most recently:
 - Acting for a local authority in relation to concerns about the development of its main premises.
 - Acting for a housing association in relation to a fire at three of its apartment blocks.
- Acting for Defendant project managers in ten-party TCC proceedings concerning a large fire at a Boots store in Warrington.
- Acting for an engineer in a Contribution Act claim brought about subsidence caused by a flood.
- Acting for an architect in a claim about coastal subsidence and land slip.
- Acting for Defendant project managers in a claim about subsidence under various apartment blocks.
- Advising a hospital in a claim against its architects on a project that ran 50% over budget and significantly late.
- Acting for a wine merchant in relation to the design and quality of flooring at its warehouse
- Acting for a householder in a claim in professional negligence against his project managers.
- Acting for the architects employed as the leaders of an MDP for the construction of a hospital in Ireland.
- Acting in a dispute about the quality of M&E provision in a rugby stadium.
- Acting for structural engineers alleged negligently to have designed the floors of an industrial estate such that they were structurally unsound.
- Acting for a contractor in a claim against its structural engineer and temporary works designer following significant movement caused to an adjacent block of flats.
- Acting for a high net worth householder caught between contractors and the architect where a project ran significantly into delay.

- Acting for Defendant surveyors alleged negligently to have valued property, which was subsequently sold at a loss by the Claimant building society, and advising surveyors as to their potential exposure to claims in negligence.
- Acting for the architects employed to design a local authority school constructed under the BSF scheme.
- Acting for a public school in relation to defective heating design works carried out at the school.
- Representing architects on charges of unacceptable professional conduct before the Professional Conduct Committee of the Architect's Registration Board.
- Acting for a client lacking mental capacity in a claim against his former Court of Protection appointed deputy for poor management of the client's affairs.

ENERGY, NATURAL RESOURCES AND UTILITIES

Jennifer has been involved in a number of cases for purchasers, contractors, designers and operators arising out of issues with energy installations. When she first started working in this field she prioritised power stations and offshore installations utilising traditional energy sources. Whilst she continues to work those areas she is also instructed on an increasing number of cases concerning renewables. Cases include:

- Acting for the owner of a waste-to-energy plant in a payment dispute.
- Acting for the owner of a biomass plant in relation to defects in the structural performance of that plant.
- Acting for the developers and operators of an anaerobic digestion facility.
- Acting for contractors retained under a letter of intent in relation to the development of a potash mine.
- Acting for a main contractor seeking to recover damages in respect of a burst water main pipe supplied by its sub-contractor.
- Acting for the Claimant in TCC proceedings concerning the adequacy of pole screws used in the construction of generators for oil-fired power plants.
- Acting for the contractor in an arbitration about the refurbishment and upgrade of a jack-up drilling unit in the Caribbean.
- Advising in respect of a project to develop a wood pellet production plant and combined heat and power plant.
- Advising in relation to entitlement to payment in respect of commissioning works carried out under the NEC Professional Services Form, at a nuclear power plant.
- Advising on the contractual arrangements for the construction of a nuclear power plant.
- Acting for the employer in a dispute with both the BOP contractor and turbine supplier concerning a wind farm.
- Advising on the contractual arrangements for the purchase of a wind farm.

- Acting for the supplier of cable to a nuclear power plant.
- Acting for the supplier of air compressor systems used in the construction of a gas pipeline between Europe and Africa.
- Acting for the design and build contractor in an international arbitration relating to the construction of a power/ desalination plant in the UAE, between French and German companies.
- Acting for the buyer of two jack-up oil rigs for the North Sea.
- Acting for the claimant contractor under a framework agreement for the provision of civil engineering works relating to the repair, maintenance and installation of gas mains.
- Advising on a settlement agreement concerning the construction of solar photovoltaic plants.
- Acting for the operator of a waste-to-energy plant in a dispute about the performance levels achieved.
- Acting for an insulation supplier in relation to a dispute about entitlement to Carbon Emissions Reduction Target credits.

GUARANTEES AND BONDS

Jennifer is familiar with the issues concerning the proper construction of bonds and guarantees, and regularly advises on the nature and meaning of these documents, together with acting in the following notable examples:

- Acting for an insurance company in relation to its liability under a portfolio of bond and security underwriting that it had purchased from a third party.
- Advised a parent company guarantor as to its liability to indemnify in respect of an adjudicator's decision made against the subsidiary.
- Acted for the guaranteed party in a dispute heard in the Chancery Division concerning whether or not a document was, on its proper construction, an on demand bond.
- Acted for the indemnifier in a dispute heard in the TCC as to the proper construction of a contract of indemnity. The case also concerned the circumstances in which an indemnifier will be estopped from challenging a judgment in underlying proceedings against the party indemnified.

INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

Jennifer has both advised clients on the availability of injunctive relief and appeared in Court to obtain the same, in both with and without notice cases. Her experience includes:

- Advising on and obtaining injunctions in Party Wall matters to prohibit further construction and mandate the taking of steps to ensure that properties remain structurally sound.
 - Advising on and obtaining injunctions to prevent, or limit further construction on, ongoing projects.
 - Advising on the prospects of obtaining freezing injunctions.
-

GENERAL COMMERCIAL

Jennifer has also acted in a range of general commercial disputes including:

- Acting for a supplier of components for use in cosmetic products, following termination of the contract during the pandemic.
- Acting for a Defendant supplier in a claim for loss of profit arising from the Claimant's alleged inability to monetise and develop a magnet that the Defendant had provided for use in medical equipment.
- Acting for a Thai company seeking to recover substantial damages in the commercial court in respect of allegedly unauthorised loan agreements.
- Representing the provider of hardware for use in a simulated training environment.
- Advising purchasers on their entitlement to claim damages for breach of the warranties in a share purchase agreement.
- Acting for a Claimant alleged to have procured a contract by fraud.
- Acting for and advising numerous appellants in appeals from awards made by the CITB and the ECITB.
- Representing a French company challenging the jurisdiction of the English Courts on the basis of its standard terms.
- Advising on the construction of insurance policies.
- Acting for companies on contested winding up petitions concerning the interaction between adjudicators' decisions and winding up.
- Acting for an accountant on a disputed fees claim in Dubai.
- Advising a property owner of the grounds on which mobile telephone masts can be removed.
- Regularly advising and acting in respect of limitation issues.

NOTABLE CASES

Thomas Barnes & Sons v Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council [2022] EWHC 2598 (TCC)

Mallino Development v Essex Demolition Contractors [2022] EWHC 1418 (TCC)

Northumbria Healthcare v (1)(2) Lendlease, (3)(4) Balfour Beatty & others [2022] EWHC 1266 (TCC)

Motacus Constructions Ltd v Paolo Castelli SpA [2021] EWHC 356 (TCC)

Empyreal Energy Ltd v Daylighting Power Ltd [2020] EWHC 1971 (TCC) (22 July 2020)

Specialty Magnetics Ltd v Agilent Technologies LDA UK Ltd [2020] 6 WLUK 398

Gosvenor London v Aygun Aluminium [2019] EWHC 3619 (TCC)

Babcock Marine (Clyde) Ltd v HS Barrier Coatings Ltd [2019] EWHC 1659 (TCC)

Russell v Stone (trading as PSP Consultants) [2017] EWHC 1555 (TCC), 173 ConLR 96.

Towsey v Highgrove [2013] BLR 45

Platform v Anderson [2012] EWHC 1853

Vossloh Aktiengesellschaft v Alpha Trains (UK) Ltd [2010] All ER (D) 86; [2010] EWHC 2443

Rust Consulting Ltd v PB Ltd [2010] EWHC 3243 (TCC)

Allen Wilson Joinery Ltd v Privetgrange Construction Ltd [2008] EWHC 2802

J Murphy & Sons Ltd v Johnston Precast Ltd (formerly Johnston Pipes Ltd) [2008] All ER (D) 114; [2008] EWHC 3024 (TCC)

QUALIFICATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND AWARDS

2018 Recorder (Midland Circuit)

2017 Member – Inn Conduct Committee

2012 – 2018 Member - BTAS Disciplinary Panel Pool

2007 MA (Oxon)

1998-2002 BA, Law with Law studies in Europe (French law), Christ Church, Oxford University

2002-2003 BVC, ICSL

2000-2001 Higher Diploma in French Law and Comparative Law, University of Paris II (Panthéon-Assas)

2001 Lord Denning Scholarship, Lincoln's Inn

Hardwicke Entrance Scholarship, Lincoln's Inn

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Jennifer is an accredited TECBAR adjudicator and a lead advocacy tutor for Lincoln's Inn.

She is a member of TECBAR, COMBAR, the SCL and the Adjudication Society.

She has a good working knowledge of French and some conversational German.

RECENT RECOMMENDATIONS

"Jennifer is very approachable and down to earth and it is a pleasure to work with her. Her advice, both written and verbal, is clear and well-constructed."

"Jennifer is very good. She's adaptable, good on the law and incredibly hard to rattle."

"Jennifer is superb with clients, very responsive, great on her feet and handles complex legal issues."

Construction, Chambers UK Bar 2024

"A very good barrister."

"Jennifer Jones is responsive, insightful and user-friendly."

Professional Negligence, Chambers UK Bar 2024

"Jennifer is a superb construction barrister. She is a true leader in her field. Her advocacy skills are among the very best and she is able to manage very large cases with ease."

Construction, The Legal 500 2024

"Good attention to deal, very hard working, gets on well with clients and with instructing solicitors. Advocacy is calm and effective."

Professional Negligence, The Legal 500 2024

"She provides excellent, commercially focused advice."

"She's very good at client service, she's proactive and willing to be part of a team."

Construction, Chambers UK Bar 2023

"Jennifer is fantastic to work with - responsive, available, and capable of turning around high-quality work in complex matters at very short notice."

Professional Negligence, Chambers UK Bar 2023

"Jennifer is confident and direct whilst being very commercial and outcome focused. She understands the commerciality of the matters involved."

Construction, The Legal 500 2023

"A clear thinker and very client-friendly."

Professional Negligence, The Legal 500 2023

"She has a very good advocacy style - calm but calculated."

Construction, Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2022

AtkinChambersBarristers

"She really delivers: she works hard, gives good advice and is user-friendly."

Professional Negligence, Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2022

"Jennifer is one of the team and rolls up her sleeves up and gets on with the work. Her advice is always clear and straightforward, and she is extremely engaging with clients. She is a true trusted advisor."

Construction, The Legal 500 2022

"Jennifer is responsive, approachable and client-focused, as well as exceptionally technically able. Her advice is always clear and straightforward, and she is extremely engaging with clients."

Professional Negligence, The Legal 500 2022

"An excellent junior barrister who is happy to take on the difficult arguments and win."

Construction, Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2021

"She came across as being in control and very authoritative; she commanded respect and did very well."

Professional Negligence, Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2021

"Clear advice. Highly responsive and experienced."

Professional Negligence, The Legal 500 2021

"Commercially minded with the legal ability to deliver. Strong and clear written and verbal advice. Also a very able advocate on her feet in court."

Construction, The Legal 500 2021

"Jennifer Jones is smart, effective and thorough. She presents her legal advice in a manner which clients can easily grasp. She is an impressive junior." "An excellent barrister, she is very responsive and commercial."

Construction, Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2020

"She is exceptionally bright but also down to earth and a pleasure to work with." "She's very impressive and can hold her own without a silk."

Construction, Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2020

"Enthusiastic and very capable."

Construction, The Legal 500 2020

"Excellent legal skills."

Professional Negligence, The Legal 500 2020

The above are a selection of recent client endorsements from the leading legal directories, both UK and internationally. For a complete list of endorsements, please contact the practice management team at Atkin Chambers.