

CONSTRUCTION AND ENGINEERING ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES PROFESSIONAL NEGLIGENCE ARBITRATION AND ADJUDICATION GENERAL COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

Caspar Ramsay

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PRACTICE

Caspar's practice encompasses all of Chambers' core specialisms, including construction, engineering and infrastructure, energy and utilities, and technology.

Caspar's recent instructions include appearing as sole counsel in a High Court dispute concerning alleged defects in a professional football pitch and as junior counsel in a c.£300 million dispute arising from a prominent UK redevelopment project. Caspar has gained particular experience acting as sole and junior counsel in disputes concerning alleged fire safety defects.

His work has involved a broad range of bespoke and standard form contracts including JCT, NEC, FIDIC and ACE standard forms, and he has gained experience at all stages of arbitration, litigation and adjudication.

Caspar holds a double first in Politics and International Relations and an MPhil in Political Thought and Intellectual History from the University of Cambridge. He received distinctions for his performance on both the GDL and the Bar Vocational Studies course at City, University of London. He has been awarded eleven scholarships and awards for his academic studies.

CONSTRUCTION, ENGINEERING AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Caspar has acted in a range of technically complex disputes. He has gained particular experience in claims for cladding and fire-stopping issues discovered since the Grenfell Tower tragedy. He is familiar with all standard forms as well as bespoke contracts. Recent work includes:

- Acting as junior counsel in c.£12m High Court proceedings concerning fire safety defects in a multistorey student accommodation block.
- Acting as junior counsel in c.£8m High Court proceedings dispute concerning fire safety defects in three multistorey residential and commercial blocks.
- Acting as junior counsel in a c.£2m claim concerning fire safety and waterproofing defects in a multistorey residential block.

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- Appearing as sole counsel in the High Court defending an application for an injunction in a c.£1m dispute concerning the design and construction of a football pitch.
- Advising in a c.£20m dispute concerning fire safety defects in two multi-use blocks.
- As sole counsel, advising, drafting pre-action correspondence and a mediation position statement in a c.£8m multiparty dispute concerning fire safety defects in multistorey residential blocks.
- As sole counsel, preparing an adjudication referral in a residential construction project under a JCT standard form contract.
- In a claim for fire safety defects by a contractor against subcontractors in a PFI project, drafting an advice on limitation and the merits of the claim.
- In a dispute involving a PFI contract for the maintenance of a hospital, drafting an advice on contractual interpretation.
- Drafting an advice on reasonable settlement parameters in a dispute concerning fire safety in the maintenance of a hospital.
- Drafting an advice on limitation and procedural issues with an accompanying particulars of claim in multiparty proceedings relating to defective cladding in student accommodation blocks.
- Drafting an advice for an employer on the merits of a claim against nine potential defendants for fire safety defects in a care home.
- Assisting in drafting an advice on the construction of an insurance policy and quantum of a claim involving subsidence of a warehouse.
- Drafting an advice on termination clauses in an amended NEC3 contract for the decontamination of a site.
- Drafting particulars of claim in a multiparty residential party wall dispute.
- Drafting an advice on the merits of a claim against an insurer and under a conditional bond arising out of a project on a water treatment plant.

ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Caspar's energy and natural resources experience includes:

- As junior counsel, acting in a c.100m USD dispute concerning a contract for the sale and purchase of oil and gas products.
- Drafting an advice on the contractual interpretation of a joint venture agreement for the construction and maintenance of electrical infrastructure and the transmission of energy.
- Providing research for a senior junior in Chambers in an insurance claim concerning the design and installation of biomass gasification CHP technology.
- Drafting advice on the merits of a claim concerning the construction of an offshore wind farm.

ARBITRATION

Caspar has developed experience in a number of international arbitrations, including:

- Acting as junior counsel in an arbitration concerning the sale of oil and gas products under DIAC Rules, including responding to the Respondent's jurisdictional challenge.
- Working with a King's Counsel in Chambers in a civil fraud claim in an international arbitration under DIFC-LCIA Rules, providing research relating to the evidential basis of fraud allegations, the effect of express terms to the effect that warranties were agreed upon due and careful inquiry, and restraint of trade.

ADJUDICATION

Caspar has acted in a number of adjudications, including final account and 'smash and grab' payment disputes, as well as in enforcement proceedings. His recent adjudications include:

- Successfully acting for a football club in an adjudication concerning the defective construction of a professional standard football pitch.
- Successfully acting for a contractor in response to a claim for liquidated damages and, in a subsequent adjudication, claiming for extensions of time and revised sectional completion dates.
- Successfully acting for a contractor in a final account dispute arising from the construction of a hotel in Reykjavik, Iceland.

GENERAL COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

Caspar has experience in a range of commercial disputes, including:

- As sole counsel, advising a global professional services company on procedural issues raised in the early stages of litigation.
- Assisting King's Counsel in Chambers with legal research on state immunity from enforcement action.
- Assisting in research for an insurance claim, providing research outputs relating to whether an engineer had guaranteed the accuracy of its drawings and whether the information represented in a notification under a policy gave rise to an estoppel from contradicting that information in a later claim.
- Drafting a written advice relating to the construction of exclusion clauses in a sale of goods contract.
- Drafting an advice on settlement offers, involving issues of maintenance and champerty
- Drafting skeleton arguments for various interim applications, including for the adjournment of a trial, extended disclosure and summary judgement and/or strike out.

QUALIFICATIONS AND AWARDS

City, University of London

- 2020-2021 BVS (Distinction)
 - Prince of Wales Scholarship awarded by Gray's Inn
 - City Law School Scholarship for Academic Excellence
- 2019-2020 GDL (Distinction)
 - The Frances Moran Scholarship awarded by Gray's Inn
 - GDL Scholarship awarded by The City Law School
 - 11 KBW Prize for finishing top of his year in Public Law, with a mark of 100%

Jesus College, University of Cambridge

- 2019 MPhil in Political Thought and Intellectual History
- 2015-18 BA Hons in Politics and International Relations (Double First)
 - The Keller Prize awarded by Jesus College to five graduating students for exceptional academic performance across their undergraduate studies
 - Malthus Prize awarded by Jesus College for finishing top of his year in Part IIA Human, Social and Political Sciences
 - Theology and Religious Studies Prize awarded by Jesus College for finishing top of his year in Part I Theology and Religious Studies
 - Two Scholarships awarded by Jesus College
 - Exhibition awarded by Jesus College

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Caspar frequently acts on a pro bono basis for claimants in discrimination claims under the Equality Act 2010.

Caspar speaks conversational Spanish and Portuguese.