

Jennifer Jones KC

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"Jennifer is a superb construction barrister. She is a true leader in her field."

The Legal 500



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Jennifer Jones KC practises 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.

Jennifer 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.

Jennifer's main areas of specialisation are construction and engineering, infrastructure, 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.

Expertise

Construction & 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,

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design, delay, diminution in value, contractual termination and quantum meruit claim, and the disputes on which she now acts regularly concern issues around the remedies created by the Building Safety Act 2022. She also accepts appointments as an adjudicator.

Her recent experience includes:

- Acting for the M&E sub-contractors in a multi-party dispute concerning M&E and fire protection issues at a hospital in Northumberland.
- Acting for a developer of a mixed residential and commercial development on a cladding claim concerning its potential liability to claims from the new freeholder and leaseholder under the Building Safety Act 2022.
- 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 contractors in a dispute about the construction of Blackburn bus station.
- 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 facilities management service provider in a dispute about sums owed by its client, a specialist chemicals manufacturer.
- Advising householders in a development in the Cayman Islands about various defects in their development.
- Acting for one of the core participants in the Grenfell Tower Inquiry.
- When acting as an adjudicator:
 - Determining a dispute about the use of magnesium oxide boards at a site intended for mixed residential and educational use.
 - Determining disputes about compliance with the payment provisions of HGCRA.

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 and the matter in due course made its way to the Privy Council.
- 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 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.

- Acting for a wine merchant in relation to the design and quality of flooring at its warehouse
- 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 a supplier of transformers following damage at a substation.
- Acting for an engineer in a claim resulting from a concern about structural movement at a car dealership.
- Acting for a school in relation to defective heating design works carried out at the school.

Energy, Natural Resources & 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 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 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.
- Acting for the employer in a dispute with both the BOP contractor and turbine supplier concerning a wind farm.
- 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 arbitration relating to the construction of a power/ desalination plant.
- Acting for the operator of a waste-to-energy plant in a dispute about the performance levels achieved.

Guarantees & 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.
- 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.

Notable Cases

Estate Management and Business Development Company Ltd v Junior Sammy Contractors Ltd (Trinidad and Tobago) [2024] UKPC 33

BDW Trading Ltd v Lantoom Ltd [2023] EWHC 183 (TCC)

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)

Languages

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

Qualifications, Appointments and Awards

- Bencher (Lincoln's Inn) (2024)
- Recorder (Midland Circuit) (2018)
- Member – Inn Conduct Committee (2017)
- Member – BTAS Disciplinary Panel Pool (2012 – 2018)
- MA (Oxon) (2007)
- BA, Law with Law studies in Europe (French law), Christ Church, Oxford University (1998-2002)
- BVC, ICSL (2002-2003)
- Higher Diploma in French Law and Comparative Law, University of Paris II (Panthéon-Assas) (2000-2001)
- Lord Denning Scholarship, Lincoln's Inn (2001)
- Hardwicke Entrance Scholarship, Lincoln's Inn

Additional Information

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

Recent Recommendations

"Jennifer Jones is a tenacious advocate with a down-to-earth approach with clients. She provides clear-eyed, commercial advice."

"Jennifer is very detailed and quick."

"She provides good, sensible advice and is a team player."

Construction, Chambers UK Bar 2025

"Jennifer is clearly a very talented barrister. She is intelligent, knowledgeable and a pleasure to work with."

"She is very personable with clients. She is thorough in drafting with a good understanding of strategy and the wider picture."

Professional Negligence, The Legal 500 2025

"Excellent advice and drafting skills."

Construction, The Legal 500 2025

"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

"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

Memberships

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