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WILLIAM WEBB

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Areas of practice

- Construction & Engineering
- Energy & Natural Resources
- Professional Negligence
- PFI/PPP
- International Arbitration
- Adjudication

Clerks' Details

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Practice overview

Described in legal directories as an “excellent junior” and particularly noted for his “excellent cross-examination”, William has a busy specialist practice in all aspects of construction, engineering, energy and PFI disputes including claims relating to payment, defects, delay and disruption and professional negligence. William is a popular choice as an advocate in the Technology and Construction Court, where he has a wide experience of both trials and interim applications and has a particular expertise in adjudication enforcement actions. He has also acted in the Court of Appeal, Commercial Court and Chancery Division.

In addition to domestic court work, William is regularly involved in substantial international arbitrations including claims arising out of projects in Qatar, Oman, Dubai, Yemen, Greece, Spain, Africa, Singapore and Russia.

William is also regularly instructed in domestic adjudications and arbitration to advise, prepare written submissions and act for parties at hearings. He is also a TECBAR accredited adjudicator and has received appointments as adjudicator and arbitrator in both domestic and international disputes.

William is heavily involved in academic and practitioner texts on construction law, being an Editor of Chitty on Contracts (32nd Ed), an Editor of the Construction Law Reports and a Contributor to Keating on Construction Contracts.

Recent Cases

Construction & Engineering

- Acting for a water company in relation to a major delay claim arising from upgrade works to a waste treatment facility in Essex.
- Acting for a building contractor in a High Court TCC trial concerning issues of delay and valuation under a cost plus contract.
- Acting for a Sub-Contractor in a substantial delay and variations claim arising out of the construction of a mechanical and biological treatment facility in West Sussex.
- Acting for a developer in a High Court TCC trial concerning the application of the prevention principle.
- Counsel for a major contractor in a multi-million pound final account dispute in respect of an art gallery in East Anglia.
- Acting for a leading outdoor advertising company in a dispute regarding delay and disruption to a project to extensively upgrade and enhance the advertising estate on a major metro system.
- Acting for a contractor on an arbitration concerning a major road interchange project in Dubai.
- Acting for an engineer on an arbitration concerning a major road project in Hong Kong.

“Great specialist knowledge and a confident court presence.”

Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2019

Energy & Natural Resources

- Acting for the civil works contractor on a TCC claim relating to a power station in Wales.
- Acting for a solar farm developer in a claim arising from a failure to connect several solar farm sites prior to the deadline for a higher rate of ROCs.
- Acting for a contractor in a payment claim by a sub-contractor arising from the construction of a thermal power station.
- Acting for an electricity supply company on a dispute regarding wrongful termination of the supply contract.

Professional Negligence

- Acting for a group of homeowners in the TCC and Court of Appeal in a claim against a surveying architect who failed to identify defects in a new-build block of flats during construction.
- Acting for the ground engineering contractor in a five party TCC claim involving subsidence of a building in Mayfair.
- Acting for an engineering consultancy in respect of allegations of negligence in ground investigation work.
- Advising and drafting pleadings for the owner of an industrial unit on a claim against the design and build contractor and engineer in respect of water ingress.
- Acting for the owner of a factory on a claim regarding defective design of a waste treatment plant.

PFI/PPP

- Advising and representing a major facilities management firm in an adjudication concerning fire stopping defects in a hospital.
- Advising and representing a facilities management firm in an adjudication concerning the cost of

transferred employees at a hospital.

- Advising and representing three councils in adjudications and Commercial Court proceedings concerning the excess profit share provisions of a long term waste management agreement.
- Advising and representing a waste contractor in an arbitration arising from waste being diverted from an energy-from-waste plant to landfill.
- Advising a waste contractor regarding the effect of price changes on the energy from waste payment provisions of its waste management agreement.

“Hardworking, clever, responsive and decisive.”

Legal 500 2018

International Arbitration

- Acting for an EPCM Contractor in a substantial delay and breach of contract claim arising out of a substantial infrastructure project in Qatar.
- Acting for the contractor in an arbitration arising from the termination of a mine shaft sinking contract in Russia.
- Acting for the purchaser in an arbitration about termination of a contract for construction of a deepwater drilling vessel.
- Acting for the owner in a dispute about delay and disruption to an oil refinery upgrade project in Greece.
- Acting for the contractor on a claim arising out of the construction of a major road interchange in Dubai.
- Acting for the contractor on a money claim arising out of rail works in Africa.
- Acting for the contractor on substantial road improvement projects in Oman and Yemen.

Adjudication

- Acting for Referring and Responding Parties in all areas of expertise identified above.
- Counsel in numerous adjudication enforcement actions in the TCC including stays of execution and adjudicator fee disputes.
- TECBAR accredited adjudicator.
- Editor of the Adjudication Society Newsletter, 2009-2011.

“You’re always in safe hands with him - he’s strategically and commercially excellent.”

Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2019

Selected Reported Cases

- Grove Developments Ltd v Balfour Beatty Regional Construction Ltd [2016] EWHC 168 (TCC)
- Fahstone v Biesse Group UK Ltd [2015] EWHC 3650 (TCC).
- RMP Construction Services Ltd v Chalcroft Ltd [2015] EWHC 3737 (TCC)
- Caledonian Modular Ltd v Mar City Developments Ltd [2015] EWHC 1855 (TCC)

- Cockell (t/a Cockell Building Services) v Holton (No. 2) [2015] EWHC 1117 (TCC)
- Cockell (t/a Cockell Building Services) v Holton [2015] EWHC 459 (TCC) (06 March 2015)
- Hunt & Ors v Optima (Cambridge) Ltd & Ors [2014] EWCA Civ 714
- Arcadis UK Ltd v May and Baker (t/a Sanofi) [2013] EWHC 87 (TCC)
- FG Skerritt Ltd v Caledonian Building Systems Ltd [2013] EWHC 1898 (TCC)
- Hunt & Ors v Optima (Cambridge) Ltd & Ors [2013] EWHC 681 (TCC)
- True Fix Construction Ltd v Apollo Property Services Group Ltd [2013] EWHC 2524 (TCC)
- Carillion Construction Ltd v Stephen Andrew Smith [2011] EWHC 2910 (TCC)
- Fenice Investments Inc v Jerram Falkus Construction Limited (No. 4) [2011] EWHC 1678 (TCC)
- Jerram Falkus Construction Limited v Fenice Investments Inc (No. 3) [2011] EWHC 1935 (TCC)
- Countrywide Properties v MDS Civil [2009] EWHC 3418 (TCC)
- Fenice Investments v Jerram Falkus Construction (No. 1) [2009] EWHC 3272 (TCC)
- Gipping Construction Limited v Eaves Limited [2008] EWHC 3134 (TCC)
- PJ Spillings (Builders) Ltd v Bonus Flooring Ltd [2008] EWHC 1516 (QB)
- Aveat Heating Ltd v Jerram Falkus Construction Ltd [2007] EWHC 131, [2007] All ER (D) 13
- DGT Steel and Cladding Ltd v Cubitt Building and Interiors Ltd [2007] EWHC 1584 (TCC), [2007] All ER (D) 43 (TCC), [2007] CILL 2492, [2007] BLM Vol 24 No.8
- Zurich Insurance Co v Gearcross Ltd [2007] EWHC 318 (TCC)

Education & Professional Career

King Edward's School, Birmingham	1992-1999
BA (Law), Trinity College, Cambridge	1999-2002
LL.M., University of Virginia School of Law	2002-2003
BCL (Distinction), St. Catherine's College, Oxford	2003-2004
Bar Vocational Course, Inns of Court School of Law	2004-2005
Keating Chambers	2006

Memberships

Society of Construction Law
 Technology and Construction Bar Association (TECBAR)
 Commercial Bar Association (COMBAR)

Seminars, Publications & Papers

- Editor of Chitty on Contracts, 32nd Edition.
 - Contributor to Keating on Construction Contracts, 9th and 10th Edition.
 - Editor of the Construction Law Reports.
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