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CHAMBERS



## JAMES THOMPSON

**Call:** 2005

**jthompson@keatingchambers.com**

### Areas of practice

- Construction & Energy
- International Arbitration
- Procurement

### Clerks Details

**Declan Redmond**

**T:** +44 (0)20 7544 2616  
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### Practice overview

James was called to the Bar in 2005 and is a specialist in the areas of construction and engineering, energy, technology, infrastructure and related commercial disputes. James is regularly instructed in cases involving complex factual, legal and expert issues in the High Court, as well as in international arbitration. He is also has extensive experience of acting in adjudication proceedings, both during the adjudication process itself and at subsequent enforcement hearings. James is also often instructed to represent clients at mediation, and has had considerable success in negotiating settlements through this process.

Noted in the directories as having “a strong international element to his practice”, James is a particularly popular choice for instructions in the Middle East and is a committee member of the Omani British Lawyers Association.

Examples of James’ recent work includes: acting for the main contractor in a \$150 million termination dispute arising out of the construction of the world’s largest energy research and development centre, in Saudi Arabia; acting for the main contractor in ICC arbitration arising out of the construction of a power plant in the Caribbean; acting as sole counsel in TCC proceedings relating to the failure of electrical components at commercial premises; acting as junior counsel on behalf of the contractor in high-profile proceedings in the TCC concerning the construction of a busway; acting for the contractor in proceedings before the Dubai World Tribunal concerning a construction dispute on the Palm Jumeirah; acting as junior counsel in a £5 million TCC dispute arising out of the construction of a housing development in the UK.

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## Recent Cases

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### Construction & Energy

- Junior counsel representing a contractor in TCC proceedings concerning a high value infrastructure dispute on the NEC2 form.
- Counsel acting for main contractor in numerous disputes relating to construction of new power generation plant in the Caribbean.
- Junior counsel representing a joint venture contractor in a circa \$50m arbitration concerning delay and disruption to the construction of a new highway in Qatar.
- Junior counsel representing a joint venture developer in a multi-million dollar dispute arising out of the construction of a large office complex in Russia.
- Representing a consultant in multi-party TCC proceedings relating to the construction of commercial premises.
- Junior counsel representing the developer in a high value dispute concerning the construction of a new office building in the Caribbean.
- Representing a developer in a dispute arising out of the defective construction of a large residential and retail development in Cornwall.
- Instructed by HM Treasury Solicitor as junior counsel in a high value commercial arbitration relating to 25 year PFI infrastructure contracts covering 3,000 sites in England, Wales and Scotland.
- Instructed by a major supermarket chain in a claim arising out of damage caused to premises by demolition and ground works carried out on a nearby site.
- Instructed by one of the main sub-contractors in the Wembley Stadium project in defence of a multi-million pound claim.

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*“He has a very skilful ability to analyse vast amounts of information.”*

Chambers & Partners, 2016

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### International Arbitration

- Junior counsel representing a joint venture contractor in a circa \$50m arbitration concerning delay and disruption to the construction of a new highway in Qatar. (ICC arbitration in Qatar, Qatari law).
- Junior counsel representing a joint venture developer in a multi-million dollar dispute arising out of the construction of a large office complex in Russia. (ICC arbitration in London, Russian and English law).
- Acted for contractor as claimant in a series of high value international arbitrations arising out of four major road construction and maintenance projects in Oman and Yemen. (Omani law).
- Junior counsel representing the developer in a high value dispute concerning the construction of a new office building in the Caribbean.

## Procurement

- Acting for claimant in dispute arising out of procurement of a framework agreement. Issues arising regard the methodology adopted in a procurement process, whether the process was sufficiently transparent and equal, and whether requirement of objectivity satisfied.
- Advising tenderer regarding breaches in a procurement process relating to failures to provide sufficient information and lack of transparency.
- Advising a local authority on bids submitted on behalf of a consortium and how to proceed if tenderers were dropped because of a breach of tender criteria.
- Advising regarding challenging tenders for the award of contracts for medical supplies to the NHS.
- Acting for claimant in multi million pound procurement dispute arising out of a direct contract award.

## Non - Contentious Work

- Drafting of a confidentiality agreement in relation to a high value construction dispute.
- Advising on particular issues arising out of the contract terms and conditions for use in a redevelopment of large premises on Oxford Street.

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## Selected Reported Cases

- *European Dynamics SA v HM Treasury (sued as Buying Solutions)* [2009] EWHC 3419 (TCC), [2010] Eu LR 397, (2010) 26 Const LJ 191 and 128 Con LR 36
- *Avoncroft Construction Ltd v Sharba Homes (CN) Ltd* [2008] All ER (D) 411 TCC, (2009) 119 Con LR 130
- *Edenbooth Ltd v Cre8 Developments Ltd* [2008] All ER (D) 20 TCC; (2008) CILL 2592

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## Education & Professional Career

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Tripes Part 1A prize, Selwyn College, Cambridge	2002
BA (Cantab) Law, Selwyn College, Cambridge	2004
Bar Vocational Course (Inns of Court School of Law)	2005
Harmsworth Exhibitioner, Middle Temple	2005
Astbury Scholar, Middle Temple	2005
Pupillage, Keating Chambers	2005-2006
Keating Chambers	2006

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## Memberships

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

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## Seminars, Publications & Papers

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- Contributor to the Construction Law Reports
- Co-author of Keating on Offshore Construction and Marine Engineering (2015)
- Procurement Problems in the Credit Crunch Sarah Hannaford QC and James Thompson 17 July 2009
- Researcher, Keating on Construction Contracts 9th Edition (2012)
- Researcher, Keating on Construction Contracts 8th Edition. 1st Supplement (2008)
- Controlling the Adjudicator's Jurisdiction – Construction Law March 2010
- Contributory Author for the Practical Law Company

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## Additional Information

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James enjoys sport and music.