

Katherine Wakeham

Senior Associate

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About Katherine

Katherine Wakeham is a senior associate in the Litigation team in London.

Katherine's work involves dealing with a range of disputes and advisory work, specialising in corporate disputes involving shareholders, directors and claims arising out of M&A transactions including private equity deals; contentious regulatory matters in the financial services sector; and complex commercial disputes.

Katherine has experience acting on cases in the High Court, on appeal and in arbitral tribunals, including in London and Singapore. She also works with clients involved in internal and regulatory investigations, often with an international element.

Experience

Corporate Disputes

- Acting for a group of shareholders in unfair prejudice proceedings brought by a minority shareholder following his exit from the business.
- Acting for a co-founder and substantial minority shareholder in a software company in cross-border unfair prejudice claims against the directors following a sale of underlying business to a related party.
- Acted for a leading IFA aggregator in several related warranty & indemnity claims and other dispute resolution processes brought by and against the sellers of a business following a bolt-on acquisition.
- Acting for a UK property developer in a multimillion-pound dispute arising from the expulsion of a member from a limited liability partnership established to develop a £75 million UK residential development site.
- Acted in LCIA arbitration proceedings against a venture capital investor arising from a fund-raising round.
- Advising on both the buy and sell-side of numerous warranty and indemnity claims arising following corporate acquisitions, including insurance-backed warranty and indemnity claims.

Commercial Disputes

- Acting for a food products manufacturer in breach of contract and fraudulent misrepresentation claims in the Commercial Court and on appeal. Our team was shortlisted for Commercial/Corporate Litigation Team of the Year at the Legal Week Commercial Litigation and Arbitration Awards for its work on this case.
- Advising for a Middle Eastern public body on the successful, early strike out of a circa £50 million claim involving parallel proceedings in the UK and New York courts, arising out of a consulting agreement with a US-based firm.
- Acting for a sports data business in the defence of complex, multijurisdictional tort claims linked to alleged unlawful data collection activity.
- Advising an importation and distribution company in London High Court proceedings relating to repayment of finance, leading to a favourable settlement.
- Advising employers on a range of restrictive covenant breach cases arising out of employee team and individual moves, including involving misuse of confidential information.
- Acting for a number of high-net-worth individuals in a Commercial Court professional negligence dispute arising from a £30 million company sale.
- Advising a marketing agency in litigation and arbitration proceedings in connection with disputes over digital advertising space.

Contentious Financial Services and Investigations

- Assisting an FCA regulated business in dealing with over 300 claims arising out of the failure of one of its authorised representatives and the collapse of a well-known mini-bond issuer. This included designing and using innovative case management systems to cost-effectively handle the volume of cases.
- Acting as a skilled person in s.166 review under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000, focusing on AML and sanctions compliance.
- Defending a business owner in High Court proceedings brought by the FCA alleging that the individual was knowingly concerned in the operation of unauthorised Collective Investment Schemes.
- Acting for a lender in claims for non-payment by the borrower under a multijurisdictional secured loan.
- Advising a provider of co-working facilities on claims exposure and the defence of mis-selling claims arising out of a series of financial promotions, and potential actions for negligent advice relating to the same events.
- Advising regulated firms on their regulatory disclosure obligations in connection with disputes.
- Working on large-scale bank investigations to review potential breaches of AML and compliance regulations. Each of the investigations was conducted in the bank's jurisdiction, including the and included a number of banks in the Middle East, as well as banks in and Europe (including Malta) and the UK.

Other Experience

- Undertook secondments to a multinational events business, and boutique financial institution, advising on contentious, commercial and regulatory matters.

- BPP Law School, M.A., Law and Business, *Distinction*,
- BPP Law School, L.P.C., *Distinction*,
- King's College, London, LL.B., *1st Class Honours*,

Admissions

- England and Wales, 2016

Recognitions

- Listed as a Leading Associate for Commercial Litigation:Mid-Market in *Legal 500 UK* 2025.
- Rising Star and highly regarded for Commercial Litigation:Mid-Market in *Legal 500 UK* 2022-2024.
- *Legal 500 UK* 2024 interviewees describe Katherine as “diligent and knowledgeable” and “an associate who punches well above her seniority. She has a good tactical mind.”
- Recommended in *Legal 500 UK* 2024 for Financial Services: Contentious.
- Listed in *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch* 2023 and 2024 for Litigation.
- *Legal 500 UK* 2023 interviewees describe Katherine as follows: “Associate Katherine Wakeham is energetic, on the ball, and a brilliant technical lawyer. She commands the respect of clients and is a team player.” “Chris Webber and associate Katherine Wakeham make for a fantastic team. They are capable of providing strategic advice in addition to execution; and their grasp of complex issues and ability to distil them into straightforward advice with high degrees of autonomy is what makes them excel over others.

Expertise

Services

- Litigation

About our firm

One of the world’s strongest integrated law firms, providing insight at the point where law, business and government meet. We deliver commercially focused business solutions by combining our legal, lobbying and political capabilities and invaluable connections on the ground to a diverse mix of clients, from long-established leading corporations to emerging businesses, startup visionaries and sovereign nations. More than 1,500 lawyers in over 40 offices across four continents provide unrivaled access to expertise.