

Johnny Shearman
Chief Operating Officer
and Of Counsel

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Johnny is Chief Operating Officer and Of Counsel at Keidan Harrison LLP. He has gained significant experience in handling a broad spectrum of domestic and international disputes and now oversees key administrative functions within the firm as well as advising on legal and procedural developments.

Background

Johnny's inquisitive and methodical approach stems from his undergraduate degree in Biological Sciences (BSc) obtained from the University of Plymouth. He went on to obtain his degree in Law (LLB) from Kaplan Law School before training and qualifying at the international law firm Nabarro LLP (now CMS Cameron Mckenna Nabarro Olswang LLP). Most recently, Johnny practised at Signature Litigation LLP in both client facing and management roles and played a key part in that firm's growth and success.

Johnny is an elected member of the Law Society Council representing members of the profession with between six and twelve years post-qualification experience. As part of the HM Courts & Tribunals Service Reform Programme, Johnny advised HMCTS on changes to be made to its scheduling and listing functions.

Practice and experience

Johnny is ranked as a 'Recommended Lawyer' for Banking Litigation in The Legal 500 UK 2022. He has worked on some of the highest profile cases in the country including those featured in The Lawyer's "Top 20 Cases of the Year".

His legal knowledge encompasses complex contractual and tortious disputes, CIS disputes, professional negligence litigation and contentious insolvency matters. His experience includes disputes at all levels, from County Court to Supreme Court proceedings, as well as international arbitration.

Johnny is recognised as a leading commentator in the London market on civil procedure and legal developments. He was co-editor of the Chambers & Partners UK Litigation Global Practice Guide 2019 and co-author of International E-Discovery: A Global Handbook of Law and Technology, Second Edition. He is routinely published in the legal press and, in particular, has written extensively

on LIBOR cessation, Crypto-assets and blockchain technology as well as the Disclosure Pilot Scheme operating in the Business & Property Courts.

Johnny is regularly asked to participate at panel and round table events discussing key legal and procedural developments as well as deliver talks himself on a number of topical issues.

What the legal directories say

Johnny has been recognised in The Legal 500 and is a **“Recommended Lawyer”** for Banking Litigation: Investment and Retail.

He is described as **“highly recommended”** and **“engaging and very proactive”**.

Representative case examples

Acting for two BVI companies in proceedings against a Georgian businessman and former politician for the misappropriation of the companies’ assets valued at approximately US\$100m.

Acting for the claimants in a professional negligence claim brought against a major international law firm in respect of restructuring advice given in relation to a \$20m distressed loan. Recognised as one of The Lawyer’s Top 20 Cases of 2016.

Advising an investment fund on its global strategy to recover millions owed to it by a Singaporean trustee and Swiss guarantor under a share purchase agreement governed by Italian law.

Acting for a company, which was the victim of a serious vishing fraud, with the recovery of sums stolen from its bank account.

Advising the defendants in a multi-million pound claim being pursued by a BVI company in a LCIA arbitration and associated claims brought in the High Court.

Advising the liquidators of a company in a cross border dispute involving parallel proceedings against the company’s former directors brought under the Civil procedure Rules and the Insolvency Act.

Advising an individual in relation to a worldwide freezing order and contempt of court proceedings.

Acting for a large UK property development company in a multi-million pound loss of chance dispute.

Acting for a large medical defence organisation defending professional negligence claims and regulatory proceedings brought by the General Medical Council and Medical Practitioners Tribunal Service.

Advising a UK corporate in relation to a large multi-jurisdictional claim resulting from the collapse of Kaupthing hf.

Memberships

The Law Society Council
London Solicitors Litigation Association
Financial Services Lawyers Association