

What they say about members of Essex Court Chambers in The Chambers Bar 100

David Foxtton QC - Commercial Dispute Resolution; Banking & Finance; International

Arbitration; Insurance; Energy & Natural Resources David Foxtton QC manages a wide-ranging commercial practice that encompasses banking and finance, energy, insurance, and general commercial disputes. He is also noted for his expertise in arbitrations. He was the lead counsel for Deutsche Bank in its high-profile FX and equities trading dispute with Sebastian Holdings. Sources value his willingness to “temper his brilliance with humility when with clients.”

Andrew Hochhauser QC - Employment; Commercial Dispute Resolution

Andrew Hochhauser QC is one of the finest employment advocates at the Bar. He is “very good at assessing points for cross-examination and questioning the other side’s factual case,” and is noted by solicitors as an advocate who “delivers clear and concise advice on complex legal issues” while remaining “mindful of the pitfalls of litigation” and keeping “the client’s best interests in mind.” He was instructed to represent 21 former Dresdner Kleinwort bankers in their successful bid to force the Dresdner Kleinwort bank to pay bonuses promised to its investment bankers before the bank’s 2008 takeover by Commerzbank.

Joe Smouha QC - Commercial Dispute Resolution; International Arbitration; Fraud: Civil; Banking & Finance; Art and Cultural Property Law

Joe Smouha QC is an authority on commercial law. His many areas of expertise include banking and finance, civil fraud, commercial dispute resolution, commercial chancery and international arbitration. Interviewees describe him as “a brilliant lawyer and an exceptional advocate” who is “very good at reducing difficult or complex legal issues to a form lay clients can understand.” He was recently instructed to act on behalf of the property tycoon Robert Tchenguiz in *Tchenguiz v The Serious Fraud Office*, in which Mr Tchenguiz will pursue the SFO for aggravated damages on grounds of trespass, false imprisonment and infringements of human rights. The trial is expected to begin in 2014.

David Craig - Employment

David Craig is a commercial / employment lawyer who has around 40 reported cases to his name. He handles both High Court and tribunal litigation, and has appeared on numerous occasions in the Court of Appeal and House of Lords / Supreme Court. A real expert when it comes to the financial sector, he acted for 21 claimants seeking discretionary bonus awards they claimed they were entitled to from Dresdner Bank and Commerzbank. Craig has “a brilliant legal brain” and “inspires trust and confidence from clients and instructing solicitors alike. He is open to debating issues of law and tactics, is not dogmatic and will put himself entirely into agreed strategies, recognising that in some cases, pure law is not the driver.”

Ricky Diwan - International Arbitration: General Commercial & Insurance

Ricky Diwan handles commercial litigation and arbitration across the globe and also regularly sits as an arbitrator. His mainstay is commercial and investment disputes between corporate entities and governments, and he is au fait with a number of industry sectors including oil and gas, power and telecoms. He recently acted for Dowans Holdings SA in applying to recognise and enforce

an ICC arbitral award to the value of more than USD 65 million. "Prompt, efficient, clear and user-friendly," he is a lawyer who "has a brilliant legal mind," and who offers "top class presentation both on paper and orally."

Edmund King - Banking & Finance; Chancery: Commercial

One of the most talked about juniors at the commercial Bar, Edmund King is adept at all manner of litigation. Banking and finance, fraud, shipping and tax cases, to name but a few, all fall within his ambit. In recent months he has handled both a complicated mezzanine finance dispute, and a complex synthetic securitisation case. When handling such matters "he busts a gut to win, and his energy and commitment to the case seem endless. As well as being an excellent barrister in whom you have complete trust and confidence, he is a delight to work with as he is communicative and responsive."

David Scorey - Insurance; Tax; Commercial Dispute Resolution; International Arbitration

David Scorey is well versed in a wide variety of commercial disputes, and proves particularly strong on insurance and tax related cases. He is one of the foremost experts on Bermuda Form insurance matters, and regularly appears in arbitrations concerning sums running into hundreds of millions of dollars. By way of example, he appeared in AstraZenica v ACE & XL, the first substantive case in the Commercial Court on the proper construction of the Bermuda Form and whether actual legal liability needed to be demonstrated. "He has a complete command of his brief," and is "willing to go the extra mile with our clients, some of whom can be very demanding indeed."