

Commercial Disputes

Our team of 6 partners and 9 counsel and associates comprises highly experienced commercial litigators with a proven track record in managing high stakes complex litigation often against the most prominent, top tier global defence firms related to:

- asset recovery
- financial services
- general corporate disputes
- insolvency
- shareholder claims
- technology

Hausfeld is reputed for its claimant-friendly, dynamic, entrepreneurial and innovative approach to dispute resolution. The team are skilled negotiators and experienced litigators but have the expertise to mediate or arbitrate, if that should be the client's preferred legal strategy.

What sets us apart?

Our conflict-free platform means that we can take instructions where many other firms cannot. We have considerable expertise in doing so for high profile and high value disputes. We are willing to take on cases that involve novel and complex points of law.

Our ability to offer flexible engagement structures and willingness to share risk, enables clients to pursue their claims with a level of cost risk best suited to their circumstances.

As one of the first law firms to include litigation funding as part of the litigation strategy, we have forged strong relationships with leading funders. We are therefore uniquely placed to advise on funding solutions and to leverage our close relationships to obtain the best funding deal.

With offices in the UK, continental Europe and the US as well as close relationships with select firms in other jurisdictions, as well as a number of dual-qualified lawyers, we are able to work seamlessly on a global basis. Our broad range of experience across the team, as set out below, enables us to deal with almost all disputes our clients encounter. It also explains why some of the leading law firms refer matters where they are conflicted to us, as they trust us to assist their clients with the same high standard of legal advice.

Financial Services

Hausfeld has extensive expertise in representing claimants against large financial institutions.

- *Graiseley Properties v. Barclays Bank Plc* was considered to be the leading case in the area of LIBOR manipulation.
- *Wall v. RBS* was a £670 million interest rate swap miss-selling claim, recognized by The Lawyer as one of its top 20 claims of 2017.
- Currently working on a significant claim for seven local authorities against Barclays Bank relating to LIBOR manipulation.

Technology Disputes

The firm's technology team, headed by Michael Bywell, transcends multiple sectors and areas of law. These include competition/anti-trust, cybersecurity, data breach, distribution/agency, financial services, government contracts and the public sector, internet and e-business, IT projects, manufacturing, outsourcing, software development, software licensing and telecoms.

The team has represented both customer and vendor side organizations and has acted on litigation and arbitration matters arising from some of the UK's largest IT projects including:

- the NHS Programme for IT
- the HMRC (new) tax credits project and
- the London Congestion Charging Scheme

Shareholder Disputes

What sets us apart is our extensive experience of group actions which is relevant when considering shareholder claims. We are regularly approached to investigate bringing shareholder group actions. Hausfeld partners also have experience representing majority and minority shareholders in shareholders disputes.

- Hausfeld acted for a third-party funder in the RBS Rights Issue litigation, a multi-billion-pound claim subject to a GLO in the High Court.
- *Destiny Investments & Others v. TH Holdings Ltd & Others*: partners have acted for the majority shareholders in an unfair prejudice petition relating to a company that owned several of the country's largest hotels.

Insolvency Litigation

The team has extensive experience representing insolvent claimants. Hausfeld partners have experience advising junior bond holders in contentious restructuring. Partners acted for the junior bond holders in the European Directories restructuring on an expedited appeal to the Court of Appeal (HHY Luxembourg SARL & anr v Barclays Bank plc & ors). Hausfeld:

- is currently acting for the joint liquidators of Ventra Investments Limited in a £80 million claim against Bank of Scotland plc
- is currently acting for a leading insolvency practitioner in relation to a bankruptcy estate in order to recover assets and investigate potential claims
- acted for the liquidators of Go Science Limited
- acted for the liquidators of Premier Motor Auctions Limited
- acted for the liquidators of Arthur Holgate and Sons

General Corporate Disputes

Across the team, we are also currently working on a wide variety of general corporate disputes involving areas of law such as:

- employment
- arbitration
- breach of confidence
- breach of contract

Please contact Anthony Maton and Lianne Craig for more information.