



Laurie Brock

Call 2013

"An intellectual heavyweight who excels in all areas" "an outstanding junior who is highly responsive, detail-focused and excellent with clients."

Chambers & Partners

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Laurie Brock has a broad commercial chancery practice, with a focus on complex and high value banking and financial services disputes (acting both for and against financial institutions). His expertise also extends across property disputes, company law and arbitration.

He is described in *The Legal 500* as "one of the leading junior barristers in the banking and finance world", and in *Chambers and Partners* as having "a brain the size of a planet", as "absolutely brilliant" and as "exceptionally hard-working and very sharp".

He has been and continues to be instructed on some of the largest pieces of commercial litigation in the High Court, including in some of the most notable and high-profile cases concerning allegations of civil fraud, derivative mis-selling and/or market manipulation.

Laurie is regularly instructed as part of a large counsel team but is equally at home acting as sole counsel.

Recent Highlights

Loreley Financing (Jersey) No.30 v Credit Suisse Securities (Europe) Ltd & ors [2023] EWHC 2759 (Comm)

Acting (with Patrick Goodall KC, Adam Sher and Marcus Field) for the Defendants, Credit Suisse, in successful defence of \$160 million claim based on alleged fraudulent misrepresentations relating to the credit quality of residential mortgage-backed securities. Following a 9-week trial between April and June 2023, the claims were dismissed at every level. Credit Suisse was awarded indemnity costs for the entire proceedings: [2023] EWHC 3359 (Comm). The case was listed as one of *The Lawyer's* "Top 20 Cases" of 2023.

Riley & Riley v Natwest Markets Plc [2023] EWHC 2401 (Ch)

Acting (with Paul Sinclair KC) for the Defendant, Natwest Markets Plc, in its successful defence of c.£100 million claim for fraudulent misrepresentation. The claim was struck out and/or summary judgment was granted (and the Defendant also obtained summary judgment on its counterclaim) on the basis that the claim had been compromised and released as part of a prior Settlement Deed.

Fiesta Hotels and Resorts SL & ors v Deutsche Bank

Acting (with Laurence Rabinowitz KC and Tony Singla KC) for the Claimants in c.\$500 million foreign exchange derivative dispute including allegations of breach of tortious duty and in relation to capacity (ongoing).

CJ & LK Perks & ors v Natwest Markets Plc [2022] EWHC 726 (Comm)

Acting (with Paul Sinclair KC) for the successful Defendant, Natwest Markets Plc, in eight-day trial of a c.£28 million claim for derivative mis-selling and unlawful means conspiracy. All claims were dismissed.

Mars Capital Finance Limited v Hussain & Ors [2021] EWHC 2416 (Ch)

Acting (with Thomas Grant KC) for the Claimant, Mars Capital in its successful claim (following a five day trial) relating to the enforceability of an assigned multi-hundred-million pound mortgage portfolio. The dispute involved issues of Cypriot law relating to steps taken at the very highest level during the Cypriot financial crisis and the Judgment included a significant (obiter) decision on the formalities for companies entering into land contracts.

Expertise

Banking & Finance

Notable Banking & Finance cases

Property Alliance Group v Royal Bank of Scotland Plc

Acting for the successful defendant, the Royal Bank of Scotland (with Richard Handyside KC, Paul Sinclair KC and Adam Sher), in this landmark £30 million claim based on allegations of derivative mis-selling, unfair practice in RBS's Global Restructuring Group and LIBOR Manipulation. The LIBOR Manipulation claim was the first of its kind to have reached trial before the English Courts and the case was one of *The Lawyer's* 'Top 20 Cases of 2016'. Following a ten-week trial (May-July 2016), judgment was handed down in December 2016 ([2016] EWHC 3342) dismissing all of the claimant's claims. Laurie was also instructed (with Richard Handyside KC and Adam Sher) on the seven-day appeal heard between Jan-Feb 2018, which was unanimously dismissed ([2018] 1 WLR 3529). The case also involved urgent injunctive proceedings against the solicitors for Property Alliance Group (concerning the obligations on law firms to protect confidential information held by an employee of that firm as the result of his prior employment) in which Laurie was instructed with Patrick Goodall KC and Adam Sher.

Stuart Wall v Royal Bank of Scotland Plc

Acting for the Royal Bank of Scotland (with Andrew Mitchell KC, Jeremy Goldring KC, Tamara Oppenheimer KC, James Cutress KC and Adam Sher) in a multi-hundred million pound claim based on the alleged mis-selling of an interest rate swap in the context of a securitisation. The case also involved allegations relating to RBS's Global

Restructuring Group and LIBOR manipulation. The case was one of The Lawyer's 'Top 20 cases of 2017' and settled shortly before a 12-week trial.

Red Kite Management Limited & Ors v Barclays Bank Plc

Acting (with Catherine Newman KC and Alec McCluskey) for the claimants in a multi-hundred-million-pound claim based on alleged mis-use of confidential information (and market manipulation) in the context of London Metal Exchange copper trading.

CJ & LK Perks & ors v Natwest Markets Plc [2022] EWHC 726 (Comm)

Acting (with Paul Sinclair KC) for the successful Defendant, Natwest Markets Plc, in eight-day trial of a c.£28 million claim for derivative mis-selling and unlawful means conspiracy. All claims were dismissed.

Loreley Financing (Jersey) No.30 v Credit Suisse Securities (Europe) Ltd & ors [2023] EWHC 2759 (Comm)

Acting (with Patrick Goodall KC, Adam Sher and Marcus Field) for the Defendants, Credit Suisse, in successful defence of \$160 million claim based on alleged fraudulent misrepresentations relating to the credit quality of residential mortgage-backed securities. Following a 9-week trial between April and June 2023, the claims were dismissed at every level. The case was listed as one of *The Lawyer's* "Top 20 Cases" of 2023.

Fiesta Hotels and Resorts SL & ors v Deutsche Bank

Acting (with Laurence Rabinowitz KC and Tony Singla KC) for the Claimants in c.\$500 million foreign exchange derivative dispute (ongoing).

Riley & Riley v Natwest Markets Plc [2023] EWHC 2401 (Ch)

Acting (with Paul Sinclair KC) for the Defendant, Natwest Markets Plc, in its successful defence of c.£100 million claim for fraudulent misrepresentation. The claim was struck out and/or summary judgment was granted (and the Defendant also obtained summary judgment on its counterclaim) on the basis that the claim had been compromised and released as part of a prior Settlement Deed.

The FDIC Litigation

Acting (with Robert O'Donoghue KC and Adam Sher) for Natwest Markets Plc in claim against seven major banks (and the British Bankers' Association) alleging collusive LIBOR manipulation during the global financial crisis.

Longcross Securities Limited v Natwest Markets Plc

Acting as sole counsel for Natwest Markets Plc in its defence of derivative mis-selling claim.

Boyse International Ltd v Natwest Markets Plc

Acting (with Laura John KC) for the successful Respondents in an appeal relating to summary judgment on limitation (section 32 Limitation Act 1980) in a LIBOR manipulation claim (the first such case to be decided).

London Bridge Holdings Ltd & Ors v Royal Bank of Scotland Plc

Acting for the Royal Bank of Scotland (with Adrian Beltrami KC and James Cutress KC) in a c.£450 million claim based on allegations of LIBOR manipulation.

Fine Care Homes Ltd v Natwest Markets Plc [2020] EWHC 3233 (Ch)

Acting for the successful defendant, Natwest Markets Plc (with Edward Levey KC), in a seven-day trial of a derivative mis-selling claim: [2020] EWHC 3233 (Ch).

Basalt Holdings Ltd & another v Royal Bank of Scotland Plc

Acting for the Royal Bank of Scotland (with James Cutress KC) in a multi-million-pound claim based on alleged derivative mis-selling and LIBOR manipulation.

Lampo v Natwest Markets Plc

Acting for Natwest Markets Plc (with Paul Sinclair KC) in a claim based on alleged derivative mis-selling.

TP Properties LP v (1) National Westminster Bank Plc (2) Natwest Markets Plc

Acting for the defendants (with Paul Sinclair KC) in a multi-million-pound claim based on alleged derivative mis-selling. The case settled shortly before trial.

London Executive Aviation v Royal Bank of Scotland Plc

Acting for the Royal Bank of Scotland (with Paul Sinclair KC) at an interlocutory stage in a multi-million-pound claim based on alleged derivative mis-selling, including successfully resisting an application by the claimant for expert evidence: [2017] EWHC 1037 (Ch).

Commercial Disputes

Notable Commercial Disputes cases

National Algerian Space Agency v Wisscom Aerospace Limited

Acting (with Anneliese Day KC) for National Algerian Space Agency in its claim to enforce a multi-million pound foreign judgment in England.

Riley & Riley v Natwest Markets Plc [2023] EWHC 2401 (Ch)

Acting (with Paul Sinclair KC) for the Defendant, Natwest Markets Plc, in its successful defence of c.£100 million claim for fraudulent misrepresentation. The claim was struck out and/or summary judgment was granted (and the Defendant also obtained summary judgment on its counterclaim) on the basis that the claim had been compromised and released as part of a prior Settlement Deed.

Mars Capital v Hussain & Ors

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Fiesta Hotels and Resorts SL & ors v Deutsche Bank

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Loreley Financing (Jersey) No.30 v Credit Suisse Securities (Europe) Ltd & ors [2023] EWHC 2759 (Comm)

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Mohamed v Breish

Assisting Christopher Pymont KC and Benjamin John (on behalf of the successful applicant, Dr Mohamed) in relation to the hearing and determination of issues relating to a dispute over the chairmanship of the Libyan Investment Authority (see [2020] EWHC 696 (Comm)).

Advised two individual defendants on jurisdictional issues relating to service of the Claim Form in a claim for

damages estimated at £150-175 million.

Advising (with Christopher Pymont KC and Siward Atkins) a car dealership on agency issues and equitable remedies arising out of the sale of a number of classic cars.

Commercial Disputes - Property

Notable Commercial Disputes - Property cases

Acting (with John McGhee KC) for developers in a number of cases involving disputes over rights to light.

Acting (with John McGhee KC) for an investor in a dispute relating to a proposed development in Woolwich.

Acting (with John McGhee KC) for a developer in relation to a trial of the quantum of “negotiation” damages owed to the claimant developer following breach of an overage agreement.

Acting (with John McGhee KC) for a developer in a dispute relating to the lease of a dock.

Acting (with John McGhee KC) for a developer in an expert determination relating to the interpretation of an option agreement.

Acting (with Thomas Grant KC) for a real estate business in an expert determination relating to contractual interpretation and estoppel.

Company, Restructuring & Insolvency

Notable Company, Restructuring & Insolvency cases

Acting (with Andrew Ayres KC) in unfair prejudice proceedings relating to a group of companies making up an international luxury fashion brand.

Acting (with Mark Cunningham KC) in unfair prejudice/partnership proceedings in Gibraltar relating to two Gibraltarian companies.

Acting (led by Andrew Walker KC) for the defendant in the trial of a claim and counterclaim relating to the ownership and control of two companies.

Advising an incorporated charity in relation to rectification of its register of members.

International Arbitration

Notable International Arbitration cases

Acting as sole counsel in £2 million arbitration proceedings concerning an abortive corporate acquisition.

Directory Quotes

"It has been said that he has a brain the size of a planet. Having worked with him, I can confirm that this statement is true."

Chambers & Partners

"Laurie is one of the leading junior barristers in the banking and finance world. He has been in many of the leading cases and is a favourite of many of the leading light silks."

The Legal 500

"He is absolutely brilliant. I am very confident that he will be a great star."

Chambers & Partners

"He has a fantastic ability to absorb and assimilate information and get on top of very complex issues quickly. He is always on hand to help out in any way he can and is a great asset to any team."

Chambers & Partners

"Exceptionally hard-working and very sharp - consistently showing high levels of understanding across the most complex cases."

Chambers & Partners

"An intellectual heavyweight, who excels in all areas. He is able to form good relationships and explain information in

a 'client-friendly' manner, and his commercial knowledge and research skills are outstanding. His advice is always logical, thoroughly researched and easily understood. Importantly, he is able to understand the client's goals and apply these to his advice throughout the matter."

Chambers & Partners

"Knowledgeable and both tactically and legally sound." "Incredibly thorough, incredibly responsive and an absolute pleasure to deal with, operating at an experience level many years ahead of his call."

Chambers & Partners

"Incredibly industrious" and has "an almost photographic memory."

Chambers & Partners

"Laurie is incredibly responsive, on top of the detail and great client service."

Chambers & Partners

Directory Rankings

Chambers & Partners – Global

- Commercial Dispute Resolution

Chambers & Partners

- Banking & Finance
- Chancery: Commercial

The Legal 500

- Banking & Finance

Education

- BPTC (Kaplan Law School) – Outstanding, 1st in year
- GDL (Kaplan Law School) – Distinction, 1st in year
- MA (Cantab) Classics (Girton College, Cambridge – First Class Honours (5th in year)

International Bar / Court Appointments

- Ad hoc admission to the Gibraltar Bar

Appointments, Memberships and Prizes

- Chancery Bar Association
- COMBAR
- London Common Law & Commercial Bar Association
- BPTC Best Student and Leading Advocate, Kaplan Law School
- Princess Royal Scholar, Inner Temple
- Wace Medal (Outstanding performance in Art & Archaeology), Cambridge University

Awards

