



Samuel Burns

Call 2024

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Sam joined Chambers in October 2024, following the successful completion of his pupillage under the supervision of Simon Atrill KC, Rupert Allen, and Christopher Langley.

Sam has a broad commercial practice and has recently acted in matters involving construction, energy, international arbitration, financial services, aviation, and professional discipline.

Before coming to the Bar, Sam received a first-class degree in History from St John's College, Oxford and worked for a large commercial bank.

Recent Highlights

Acting (led by Anneliese Day KC) in a one-week gas price review arbitration (ICC).

Acting (led by Rupert Allen KC) in an ongoing aircraft leasing dispute (Commercial Court).

Acting (as sole counsel) for the claimant in two ongoing cross-border debt claims (Circuit Commercial Court).

Assisting Anneliese Day KC with a construction arbitration (SIAC).

Expertise

Art & Cultural Property

Notable Art & Cultural Property cases

Drafting advice on merits of a claim arising out of the acquisition of a counterfeit Picasso painting (during pupillage).

Aviation & Travel

Notable Aviation & Travel cases

Acting (led by Rupert Allen KC) in an ongoing aircraft leasing dispute (Commercial Court).

Drafting advice on merits of a claim for the recovery of unpaid rental payments and damages under the leases of aircraft removed from Russia in the wake of the 2022 invasion of Ukraine, involving issues of duress and contractual construction (during pupillage).

Banking & Finance

Notable Banking & Finance cases

Acting (as sole counsel) for the claimant in two ongoing cross-border debt claims (Circuit Commercial Court, total value \$4m+).

Drafting particulars of claim in a claim for the recovery of a success fee for advisory work on a corporate acquisition (during pupillage).

Drafting advice on the merits of claims arising out of the withdrawal of an investor from a private equity investment vehicle, involving issues of contractual formation and construction (during pupillage).

Producing legal research concerning the effect of a jurisdiction clause for a jurisdiction challenge in a swaps mis-selling claim by a European municipality against an investment bank (during pupillage).

Civil Fraud

Notable Civil Fraud cases

Drafting written submissions on a disclosure application in a civil fraud case, involving issues including the effect of the Crime (International Cooperation) Act 2003 and the scope of disclosure ancillary to freezing injunctions.

Company, Restructuring & Insolvency

Notable Company, Restructuring & Insolvency cases

Producing legal research on the scope of the fraudulent and wrongful trading causes of action under the Abu Dhabi Global Market Insolvency Regulations 2022 in the context of ongoing insolvency proceedings in that jurisdiction (during pupillage).

Construction, Energy & Infrastructure

Notable Construction, Energy & Infrastructure cases

Acting (led by Anneliese Day KC) in a one-week gas price review arbitration (ICC).

Assisting Anneliese Day KC with a construction arbitration (SIAC).

Drafting written submissions for a preliminary issue hearing on contractual termination in an LCIA arbitration of an international energy supply dispute (during pupillage).

Drafting a defence and counterclaim in a dispute concerning the early termination of a contract (during pupillage).

Assisted with researching and drafting advice on the application of an indemnity clause in a business sale agreement to the cost of remedial building work (during pupillage).

Employment

Notable Employment cases

Producing legal research on the effect of variations to employee benefits under a collective bargaining agreement on individual employees' contracts (during pupillage).

Drafting a note on penalties for a contempt of court application against a former employee for breaches of anti-harassment and confidential information injunctions (during pupillage).

Drafting particulars of claim for the recovery of trading losses caused by the gross misconduct of an employee of a financial services business (during pupillage).

Group Litigation

Notable Group Litigation cases

Assisting with defendant's response to a Group Litigation Order application (during pupillage).

Insurance

Notable Insurance cases

Drafting points of claim for a \$25 million professional liability reinsurance arbitration (during pupillage).

Producing legal research on various issues relating to insurance claims arising out of the 2022 Russian invasion of Ukraine (during pupillage).

Drafting advice on the effects of a corporate redomiciliation to Jersey on claims under an insurance contract, including issues of foreign law, insurance, and reinsurance (during pupillage).

International Arbitration

Notable International Arbitration cases

Acting (led by Alexander Milner KC) in arbitral proceedings concerning the sale and purchase of precious metals (LCIA).

Offshore

Notable Offshore cases

During pupillage, Sam assisted other members of Chambers with cases being heard in the Abu Dhabi Global Market and the Dubai International Financial Centre.

As a tenant, Sam has also assisted with a SIAC-seated construction arbitration.

Professional Discipline

Notable Professional Discipline cases

As a tenant, Sam has assisted senior members of Chambers in advising on professional regulation matters

concerning barristers and solicitors.

Drafting advice on jurisdictional issues in auditors' disciplinary proceedings, involving interpretation of the Audit Enforcement Procedure and the International Standards on Auditing (UK) (during pupillage).

Professional Negligence

Notable Professional Negligence cases

Producing legal research relating to a major audit negligence claim in the Dubai International Financial Centre (during pupillage).

Education

- BA (Hons) in History (First Class), St John's College, Oxford (2020)
- Graduate Diploma in Law (Distinction), City, University of London (2022)
- Bar Course (Merit), Inns of Court College of Advocacy (2023)

Appointments, Memberships and Prizes

- Casberd Scholarship (St John's College, Oxford)
- Lord Brougham Scholarship (Lincoln's Inn)
- Lord Denning Scholarship (Lincoln's Inn)

Languages

- French (intermediate)