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DAVID MUMFORD KC

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OVERVIEW

David's practice focusses on civil fraud, commercial litigation & arbitration, company & partnership, insolvency & asset recovery, banking & finance and offshore disputes. He acts as advocate and adviser at all levels of the English court system, as well as in domestic and international arbitrations, and in proceedings offshore. He is the co-editor of the leading practitioner text, ***Civil Fraud: Law, Practice and Procedure.*** He also takes appointments as an aribitrator and provides expert evidence in proceedings abroad.

David is recommended in the directories in seven practice areas. In 2025 he was awarded '***Chancery Silk of the Year***' at the Chambers UK Bar Awards. Before taking silk, he was one of the few juniors at the Bar to be ranked in the ***'Stars at the Bar'*** section of ***Chambers UK,*** was featured by the Times as a ***'Future Star of the Bar'*** and was included in the ***Chambers Bar 100,*** a listing of the top 100 UK barristers. Previous recognition at the Chambers UK Bar Awards includes winning '***Chancery Junior of the Year***' in 2012, being shortlisted for '***Commercial Dispute Resolution Junior of the Year'*** in 2013 and being shortlisted for '***Company Silk of the Year***' in 2021.

David has been involved in some of the most high-profile disputes of the last 20 years, including the investor claims under FSMA against ***Glencore plc*** and ***Tesco plc,*** the ***Magomedov*** jurisdiction dispute, the leading Privy Council decision on freezing injunctions in ***Broad Idea v Convoy Collateral, Crescent Gas v NIOC, BTI v Sequana,*** the ***Beresovsky*** joint venture litigation, ***Erste v Red October, Masri v Consolidated Contractors International*** and the proceedings against the former directors and auditors of ***Equitable Life.***

David is recommended in ***Chambers UK*** in the following fields: Chancery: Commercial (Band 1); Fraud: Civil (Band 1); Commercial Dispute Resolution (Band 1); Banking & Finance (Band 2); Company (Band 2); Offshore (Band 2); and Partnership (Band 1). He is recommended in ***The Legal 500*** for: Banking and Finance; Commercial Litigation; Company; Fraud: Civil; Offshore; and Partnership. David is also recommended by ***Chambers Global*** for Dispute Resolution Commercial (Band 2); Dispute Resolution Commercial Chancery (Band 1) and Offshore (Band 2).

David read Greats at Oxford and completed the Diploma in Law at City University. He was a Mansfield Scholar and then a Denning Scholar of Lincoln's Inn, winning the Buchanan Prize for 2000. At Bar School he won the Croner CCH Company Law Prize and the Scarman Scholarship, for coming top of his year.

David is called to the Bar in the British Virgin Islands, is a Part II registered practitioner in the DIFC and has been called (ad hoc) to the Bar in the Cayman Islands and Gibraltar. He is registered as an arbitrator with ICC and LCIA.

David is co-editor (with Thomas Grant KC) of the Sweet and Maxwell publication ***Civil Fraud: Law, Practice and Procedure;*** and is on the editorial panel of ***Forum***, the Maitland jurisdiction newsletter.

EXPERTISE

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION & ARBITRATION

Much of David's practice comprises commercial litigation, including claims under business agreements (such as warranty and indemnity claims under share or business sale agreements), claims for breaches of fiduciary and other duties owed in connection with commercial arrangements (for example, in joint ventures), claims for fraud in the commercial arena and claims for the infringement of shareholder and other investor rights.

Notable cases include:

- ***Aabar Holdings SARL v Glencore Plc*** [2026] EWHC 1328 (Comm), [2026] EWHC 877 (Comm), [2024] EWHC 1556 (Comm): claims by various investors under s.90 and s.90A FSMA in relation to alleged bribery, corruption and price manipulation at the mining and commodity company
- A BVIAC arbitration concerning profit sharing arrangements in a fund investing in crypto tokens
- ***SL Claimants, Omers, Manning & Napier v Tesco Plc*** [2020] EWHC 2106 (Ch), [2019] EWHC 3312 (Ch), [2019] EWHC 3315 (Ch), [2019] EWHC 2858 (Ch): claims under s. 90A FSMA brought by various institutional investors against the well-known retailer in relation to the accounting scandal which broke in 2014; the leading authority on the standing requirements under the statute

- ***Travelport v Wex*** [2020] EWHC 1960 (Comm): dispute about the applicability to the Covid-19 pandemic of a "Material Adverse Effect" clause in an agreement for the US$1.7bn acquisition of a travel payments business
- ***UC Rusal plc v Crispian Investments Ltd*** [2018] EWHC 2415 (Comm): successful claim to prevent Roman Abramovich selling down his $1bn stake in Norilsk Nickel, Russia's largest mining company. David also acted in subsequent proceedings against Vladimir Potanin concerning alleged breaches of a shareholder agreement concerning Norilsk Nickel
- ***Guardian News & Media v Rubicon Project***: defending a provider of online advertising services from claims by the well-known newspaper that it had taken undisclosed commissions
- ***Cepia HK v The Character Group*** [2016] EWHC 3133 (Comm): successful defence of claims to enforce an option to acquire shares in a distributor of well-known toy brands
- ***Berezovsky v Abramovich, Hine & Ors*** [2012] EWHC 2463 (Comm), [2011] EWHC 1776 (Ch), [2011] EWHC 1716 (Ch), [2010] EWHC 2044 (Ch): two related multi-billion pound proceedings arising out of an alleged investment joint venture, in which David represented the former fund managers
- ***Masri v Consolidated Contractors International Company SAL*** [2011] EWHC 1780 (Comm): successful defence (on jurisdiction grounds) of conspiracy and procurement of breach of contract claims arising out of the alleged non-payment of judgment debts exceeding US$75 million
- ***In re the Buncefield Incident (2009) 2 Lloyd's Rep 1***: claims in the Commercial Court in negligence, nuisance and ***Rylands v Fletcher*** arising out of the explosion at the Buncefield oil terminal
- ***Equitable Life v Ernst & Young, Bowley & Ors*** [2005] EWHC 722 (Comm): David acted unled for Roy Ranson, the former MD and Appointed Actuary of Equitable Life, at the trial of its £3.3bn professional negligence and breach of directors' duties claim against its former auditors, Appointed Actuary and Board, arising out of the collapse of the Society

David has also acted in numerous warranty and indemnity claims arising out of business and share sale agreements, including ***Plexus Law Ltd v McDougall*** (warranty claims arising out of a private equity investment in an insurance law firm),***Cabot v Faccenda Investments*** (warranty claims relating to the sale of a debt recovery business), ***Lyondell Basell v Shell Petroleum NV*** (claims under an environmental contamination indemnity following the sale of a number of petrochemical facilities), ***Infinity Invest v Caffe Nero*** (claims to recover escrow monies held following the sale of part of the well-known coffee chain), ***Ageas (UK) Ltd v Kwik-Fit (GB) Ltd*** [2013] EWHC 3261 (QB) (warranty claims concerning the accounting treatment of a debt purchase facility) and ***Telekom Slovenije v Cosmote*** (warranty claims relating to the sale of one of Macedonia's largest mobile telecoms operators).

CIVIL FRAUD

David is co-editor of a leading textbook on Civil Fraud (***Civil Fraud: Law, Practice and Procedure,*** Sweet & Maxwell) and has appeared in many leading fraud cases in the commercial context. He has experience in bringing and defending claims in deceit, conspiracy, bribery, breach of fiduciary duty and statutory frauds (e.g. s.90/90A FSMA and s.423 IA 1986), as well as in obtaining and resisting the interlocutory relief that is so often decisive in such claims (such as freezing orders, asset disclosure orders and receiverships).

Notable cases include:

- ***Magomedov v TPG Group Holdings*** [2026] EWHC Civ 516, [2025] EWHC 1996 (Comm), [2025] EWHC 304 (Comm), [2025] EWHC 59 (Comm): successful jurisdiction challenge against a multi-billion dollar conspiracy claim arising out of an alleged campaign by the Russian state against the former owner of a Russian shipping and logistics company
- ***Goyal v BGF Investment Managment Ltd*** [2023] EWHC 1180 (Comm), [2023] 4 W.L.R. 65: successful defence by a private equity group of a claim in deceit relating to a substantial investment in an IT consulting business
- ***Broad Idea International Ltd v Convoy Collateral Ltd*** [2021] UKPC 24, [2023] AC 389: successful challenge on jurisdiction grounds to a freezing order granted in BVI in support of fraud claims in Hong Kong; now the leading authority on the courts' powers to grant freezing orders
- ***SL Claimants, Omers, Manning & Napier v Tesco plc*** [2020] EWHC 2106 (Ch), [2019] EWHC 3312 (Ch), [2019] EWHC 3315 (Ch), [2019] EWHC 2858 (Ch): claims in fraud under s.90A FSMA brought by various institutional investors against the well-known retailer in relation to the accounting scandal which broke in 2014; the leading authority on the standing requirements under the statute
- ***Qatar v Banque Havilland*** [2020] EWHC 1248 (Comm): claims in conspiracy arising out of an alleged international scheme to manipulate the value of Qatari currency and bonds
- ***Conway v Eze***: [2018] EWHC 29 (Ch), [2018] EWHC 1569 (Ch): claim to set aside a contract to acquire a high value London residence on the grounds of bribery
- ***State Bank of India v Mallya & Ors***: David acted for companies allegedly holding assets for the prominent entrepreneur (behind Kingfisher and the Force India F1 team) in relation to various "Chabra" orders obtained against them
- ***Asia Resource Minerals plc***: David acted for the FTSE-listed mining conglomerate in a number of matters arising out of alleged financial irregularities and misappropriations, including a successful SIAC arbitration
- ***Ikon International v Ikon Finance***: Commercial Court and arbitration proceedings concerning alleged frauds and diversions of profits in a foreign exchange trading joint venture
- ***MWP v Sinclair*** [2012] EWHC 2560 (Comm): conspiracy and dishonest assistance claims brought against third parties allegedly implicated in the diversion of corporate opportunities from a Kazakh firm concerned in natural resources transactions
- ***ITS Ltd v Pitt Capital Partners Ltd***: claims in conspiracy and dishonest assistance arising out of the alleged fraudulent misapplication of £52 million from certain UK pension schemes
- ***Jennington International Inc v Assaubayev*** [2010] EWHC 2351 (Ch): US$500 million fraud action brought by a Russian gold mining conglomerate concerning the sale of a gold mining business in Kazakhstan; a leading authority on cross-examination on asset disclosure
- ***Cadogan Petroleum plc v Tolley***: fraud, conspiracy and dishonest assistance claims by a listed petroleum company against its former CEO and others for alleged bribery in connection with transactions in Ukraine
- ***Fifth Street Owner Corp v Rolin***: deceit and restitutionary claims brought by a group of US property holding companies against a property advisor for $46 million worth of allegedly false invoices
- ***Stirling Mortimer Global Property Fund Ltd v ELS***: claims in fraud, contract and dishonest assistance arising out of the misappropriation from a solicitor's client account of €10 million deposited by a global property investment fund
- ***Marlwood v Kozeny*** [2008] EWHC 1538 (Comm): fraud and conspiracy claims advanced by AIG and

other investors in respect of a scheme to invest in Azeri privatisation options

COMPANY & PARTNERSHIP

Company and partnership disputes form a substantial part of David's practice, particularly as they arise in the commercial context. He has acted in such disputes in litigation and arbitration, both domestically and abroad. Such work includes unfair prejudice claims and other shareholder disputes, claims for breach of directors' duties, claims for frauds on creditors or minorities and partnership dissolution actions. He has also acted in a number of disputes involving joint ventures.

Notable cases include:

- ***Asturion Fondation v Alibrahim*** [2023] EWHC 3305 (Ch), [2024] 1 W.L.R. 2947**,** [2020] 1 WLR 1627, [2019] EWHC 274 (Ch): claim by a vehicle holding assets of the Saudi royal family to set aside a transfer for want of authority on the part of one of its board members; now the leading authority on "warehousing" abuse of process
- ***AICO International v AIIC***: David represented the liquidator of a Bahraini company, succeeding in obtaining an injunction preventing the redomiciliation of a company from the BVI to Palestine
- ***BTI v Sequana*** [2019] EWCA Civ 112, [2019] BCC 631, [2017] EWHC 211 (Ch), [2016] EWHC 1686 (Ch) (at first instance and in the Court of Appeal): multi-million Euro claim to claw back allegedly unlawful dividend distributions in order to satisfy potential indemnity liabilities arising out of environmental contamination in the US; now the leading authority on directors' duties in the zone of insolvency
- ***Reyl & Cie SA v LK Bennett Group Ltd***: claims under s.423 IA 1986 and in conspiracy arising out of the restructuring of the group owning and operating the well-known shoe and fashion retailer
- ***Re SAB Miller***: advice in connection with the US$121bn takeover of SAB Miller by AB InBev (then the largest ever in the brewing industry)
- ***Berezovsky v Abramovich, Hine & Ors*** [2012] EWHC 2463 (Comm), [2011] EWHC 1776 (Ch), [2011] EWHC 1716 (Ch), [2010] EWHC 2044 (Ch): two related multi-billion pound proceedings arising out of an alleged investment joint venture, in which David represented the former fund managers
- ***Boghani v Nathoo*** [2011] 2 BCLC 704: dissolution action concerning a branded hotel partnership, with a leading decision on the application of s.38 of the Partnership Act 1890
- ***Heron Quays v Administrators of Lehman Brothers Ltd***: dispute in the administration of Lehman Brothers as to the administrators' liability to pay rent for the bank's flagship Canary Wharf office

David has also acted in numerous unfair prejudice and minority shareholder claims, including ***Re VK Com*** (unfair prejudice and breach of shareholder agreement claims arising from the alleged diversion of opportunities from the group owning the VKontake Russian social network), ***Re Northacre plc*** (derivative proceedings for breach of directors' duties concerning an AIM-listed property development company), ***Rothschild v Bumi Plc*** (unfair prejudice proceedings brought by the well-known financier relating to alleged defalcations at the FTSE-listed mining conglomerate), ***Re Beck Group plc*** (unfair prejudice proceedings involving a group specialising in museum fit-outs) and ***Moher v Ashley*** (unfair prejudice and constructive trust claims in connection with the exploitation

by Mike Ashley of the Lonsdale brand of sportswear).

He has acted in several other claims arising out of the breakdown of partnerships and joint ventures, particularly those engaged in property development, including ***Grainmarket Asset Management***, ***Reuben v Ruimy***, ***Newmarket Holdings v Confiance*** and ***Adler v Adler***

BANKING & FINANCIAL SERVICES

David has acted in a range of banking and finance related matters, both in the High Court and in domestic and international arbitrations, including complex debt recovery actions, enforcement of securities, disputes over securitisations and bond issues, and the financing of government contracts.

Notable cases include:

- ***Chen v Lion Best:*** multi-million dollar dispute over the financing arrangements for the development of Taiwan's second largest skyscraper, involving allegations of a conspiracy to take control of the development though the (allegedly) improper obtaining and enforcement of security
- ***Core Foundation v Maple International Operations spc***: injunction proceedings and an associated arbitration concerning the creation of a new digital token by one of the leading providers of on-chain lending and finance
- ***Goyal v BGF Investment Management Ltd*** [2023] EWHC 1180 (Comm), [2023] 4 W.L.R. 65: successful defence by a private equity group of a claim in deceit relating to a substantial investment in an IT consulting business
- ***Solar Achiever***: dispute over the appointment of receivers over shares in BVI companies by way of enforcement of claims by PRC banks in relation to the financing of a Hong Kong property development
- ***Qatar v Banque Havilland*** [2020] EWHC 1248 (Comm): claims in conspiracy arising out of an alleged international scheme to manipulate the value of Qatari currency and bonds
- ***Various banks v D & Ors***: LCIA arbitration claims to enforce complex debt and security instruments against emerging market borrowers alleging frustration due to military unrest
- ***Canary Wharf Finance II v Deutsche Trustee Co*** [2016] EWHC 100 (Comm): dispute over redemption premia payable under notes issued as part of the securitisation of the Canary Wharf estate
- ***Erste Group Bank v JSC VMZ Red October*** [2015] EWCA Civ 379, [2013] EWHC 2926 (Comm): successful defence (on jurisdiction grounds) of conspiracy and s.423 IA 1986 claims by an Austrian bank against state-owned Russian steel companies
- ***CHC Scotia v RBPIL***: defending Royal Bank of Scotland in claims resulting from the failure of a consortium to secure a government contract for the provision of helicopter search and rescue services
- ***Cinnamon European Structured Credit Master Fund v BCP SA*** [2009] EWHC 3381: jurisdiction challenge and contractual claims in connection with the securitisation of a €1.5bn portfolio of Portuguese mortgages

David has also acted in various other claims (in the Commercial Court and in LCIA, ICC and SIAC arbitrations) to enforce debts and amounts due under commercial contracts, including ***F&I v Virosat***, ***Piemonte v Samsung Heavy Industries***, ***Rabobank v Shree Renunka Sugars*** and ***ARM v Roeslani.***

INSOLVENCY & ASSET RECOVERY

David has been involved in a number of insolvency and asset recovery cases, particularly in offshore jurisdictions.

Notable cases include:

- ***Chia Hsing Wang v Real Assets (RA) Global Opportunity Fund I Ltd, Floreat Real Estate Ltd*** (BVIHCMAP 2022/0055&6)*:* just and equitable winding up proceedings in the BVI and Cayman relating to 4 investment funds, in which some $500m has been invested and (allegedly) mismanaged. David led in the EC Court of Appeal in a sizeable appeal on issues relating to the appointment of provisional liquidators and receivers.
- ***Rasmala Trade Finance Fund***: David acted for a Cayman Fund investing in trade finance instruments facing a winding up petition on just and equitable grounds, following the fall-out from the COVID-19 pandemic
- ***Caparo Inc plc v Lord Paul***: claim by administrators in respect of the sale (allegedly at an undervalue) of the US arm of the steel conglomerate
- ***Solar Achiever***: dispute over the appointment of receivers over shares in BVI companies by way of enforcement of claims by PRC banks in relation to the financing of a Hong Kong property development
- ***Tillman v Lloyds & Better Capital***: claim in conspiracy by the former owner of Jaeger and Aquascutum against firms involved in the restructuring and rescue of the businesses
- ***BTI v Sequana*** [2019] EWCA Civ 112, [2019] BCC 631, [2017] EWHC 1339 (Ch), [2017] EWHC 211 (Ch), [2016] EWHC 1686 (Ch) (at first instance and in the Court of Appeal) multi-million Euro claim to claw back allegedly unlawful dividend distributions in order to satisfy potential indemnity liabilities arising out of environmental contamination in the US; now the leading authority on directors' duties in the zone of insolvency
- ***Reyl & Cie SA v LK Bennett Group Ltd***: claims under s.423 IA 1986 and in conspiracy arising out of the restructuring of the group owning and operating the well-known shoe and fashion retailer
- ***Erste Group Bank v JSC VMZ Red October*** [2015] EWCA Civ 379, [2013] EWHC 2926 (Comm): successful defence (on jurisdiction grounds) of conspiracy and s.423 IA 1986 claims by an Austrian bank against state-owned Russian steel companies

OFFSHORE & TRUSTS

David is called to the Bar in the British Virgin Islands and (ad hoc) the Cayman Islands, is a Part II registered practitioner in the DIFC, and has been involved in offshore disputes in Gibraltar, Hong Kong, Jersey, Guernsey and Singapore. A lot of his offshore work is in fraud, company and trust disputes, as well as in the obtaining or resisting of interlocutory relief (in the form of freezing orders, interim receiverships and provisional liquidations).

Notable cases include:

- ***National Iranian Oil Co v Crescent Gas Corp Ltd*** [2025] EWCA Civ 1211, [2026] 2 W.L.R. 757: claims under s.423 in connection with attempts to enforce an arbitration award against a substantial London property, raising issues as to the declaration of a trust over that property and its effect in light of the requirements of s.53(I)(b) LPA 1925
- ***Core Foundation v Maple International Operations spc***: injunction proceedings before the Cayman Grant Court and associated CIMAC arbitration concerning the creation of a new digital token by one of the leading providers of on-chain lending and finance.
- ***AICO International v AIIC:*** David represented the liquidator of a Bahraini company, succeeding in obtaining an injunction preventing the redomiciliation of a company from the BVI to Palestine
- ***Oscar Trustee Limited v MBS Software Solutions Limited:*** successful challenge to the jurisdiction of the BVI court to permit the service out of third-party costs applications
- ***Chen v Lion Best***: multi-million dollar dispute over the financing arrangements for the development of Taiwan's second largest skyscraper, involving allegations of a conspiracy to take control of the development though the (allegedly) improper obtaining and enforcement of security
- ***Ikana Holdings v Putney Capital***: claims in the BVI concerning the alleged wrongful withholding of dividends under an agreement for the sale of an interest in a Dominican Republic power company; went to the EC Court of Appeal on the question of control of company documents.
- ***Broad Idea International Ltd v Convoy Collateral Ltd*** [2021] UKPC 24, [2023] AC 389: successful challenge on jurisdiction grounds to a freezing order granted in BVI in support of fraud claims in Hong Kong; now the leading authority on the courts' powers to grant freezing orders
- ***Ieremeiva v Estera, Lagur, Ivakhiv (R&S Trust)***: claims before BVI Courts in relation to the alleged fabrication of a trust in order to seize control of a substantial Ukrainian business group from a deceased business partner
- ***Re NWVF***: proceedings in Gibraltar and the BVI relating to a fund holding assets associated with Boris Berezovsky and Badri Patarkatsishvili
- ***Investec Trust (Guernsey) Ltd v Glenalla Properties Ltd***: claims in Guernsey to recover the proceeds of loans made by the Icelandic bank Kaupthing to trust companies holding investments associated with the Tchenguiz brothers
- ***Deutsche Bank (Nominees)***: advising Jersey trustee and nominee shareholders of a feeder fund in connection with exposures to the Madoff ponzi scheme fraud
- ***In re the Phi Settlement***: proceedings seeking Court sanction for the division of a substantial Jersey trust
- ***In re Baltic Partners Limited***: unfair prejudice and derivative claims in the Royal Court of Jersey relating to investments in certain German properties
- ***In re Internine and Intertraders Trusts***: breach of trust proceedings in the Royal Court of Jersey relating to certain Saudi family trusts

PROFESSIONAL NEGLIGENCE

David has acted in a number of professional negligence claims, particularly defending auditors and financial services advisers in connection with commercial transactions.

Notable cases include:

- ***Topping Chance v CCIF***: audit negligence claims in relation to a food exporting business operating out of Hong Kong, China and the Bahamas
- ***AngloStarlite v NCMF***: audit and actuarial negligence claims in Hong Kong for in excess of HK$1 billion arising out of the collapse of a motor insurer
- ***Makar v PricewaterhouseCoopers*** [2011] EWHC 3835 (Comm): striking out of an audit negligence claim by a director on the grounds of lack of a duty of care (and subsequent strike-out of related claims at [2012] EWHC 3681 (Comm))
- ***Scottish & Newcastle plc v PricewaterhouseCoopers***: professional negligence claim in relation to management consultancy advice given on the restructuring of the S&N distribution network
- ***Gregson v HAE Trustees*** [2008] 2 BCLC 542: leading case on the availability of a "dog-leg" claim by beneficiaries of a trust directly against the directors of the trustee company in relation to management of the trust investments
- ***Finlan v Eyton Morris Winfield (a firm)*** [2007] 4 All ER 143: professional negligence claim against corporate finance advisers and solicitors in connection with a management buy-in
- ***Equitable Life v Ernst & Young, Bowley & Ors*** [2005] EWHC 722 (Comm): David acted unled for Roy Ranson, the former MD and Appointed Actuary of Equitable Life, at the trial of its £3.3bn professional negligence and breach of directors' duties claim against its former auditors, Appointed Actuary and Board, arising out of the collapse of the Society.

DIRECTORY QUOTES

"Excellent knowledge of the papers; excellent advocacy; very realistic about what is achievable."

Legal 500 UK: Commercial Litigation (2027)

"David is tough, clever, extremely polite, very knowledgeable and, if he is not a High Court judge in 5–10 years, I would be surprised."

Chambers UK Banking & Finance (2027)

"David is one of the brightest barristers ever. This is demonstrated both in his client management, his written submissions, and his advocacy."

Legal 500 UK: Company (2027)

"David is an absolute superstar. He is so calm and confident and bright, and he is able to cut through things and get to the core of the argument."

Chambers UK Fraud: Civil (2027)

"He is a very technical expert, who handles demanding clients well and clearly knows his stuff."

Chambers UK Partnership (2027)

"A standout individual who is very well known for doing a lot of company law work around the globe."

Chambers UK Chancery: Commercial (2027)

"David is an outstanding advocate with a deep knowledge of the law. He is commercially sensitive and able to give strong advice on merits and strategy. "

Chambers UK Chancery: Commercial (2027)

"David Mumford is in a class above the rest. Whenever we instruct David... His ability to dissect complex matters in a short space of time and to deliver arguments in a compelling and concise manner is unmatched."

Chambers UK Offshore (2027)

"His ability to analyse and advise on complex, novel areas of law is unparalleled. His calm, confident advocacy is as good as it gets."

Chambers UK Chancery: Commercial (2027)

"He is superb and a man with a brain the size of a planet".

Chambers UK: Commercial Dispute Resolution (2026)

"David has a rare ability to absorb enormous amounts of information and break it down into what is important. His advocacy style is very composed and confident".

Chambers UK: Chancery Commercial (2026)

"He is very clever, enormously hard-working and a fantastic advocate".

Chambers UK: Civil Fraud (2026)

"He can assimilate facts brilliantly".

Chambers UK: Offshore (2026)

"David is extremely bright, has a rare ability to absorb enormous amounts of information and break it down into what is important. His advocacy style is very composed and confident".

Chambers UK: Offshore (2026)

"David is responsive, practical and his advocacy is very measured and persuasive".

Chambers UK: Banking & Finance (2026)

"David Mumford is very good. He does beautiful pleadings; they are almost witty. He is very effective".

Chambers UK: Partnership (2026)

"David Mumford is superb and is someone who is in the very biggest multibillion dollar commercial chancery cases".

Chambers UK: Chancery Commercial (2026)

"David is an incredibly intelligent and diligent guy. His brain is just on a different level".

Chambers UK: Chancery Commercial (2026)

"David Mumford has a brain the size of a planet".

Chambers UK: Partnership (2026)

"David Mumford KC has an uncanny ability to understand complex fact patterns almost instantly and can provide cogent and rigorous legal advice on nuanced issues on the fly".

Chambers UK; Civil Fraud (2026)

"He is quick to get to grips with the facts".

Chambers UK: Commercial Dispute Resolution (2026)

"He is very clever, enormously hard-working and a fantastic advocate. He is someone you want in court on a complex matter".

Chambers UK: Commercial Dispute Resolution (2026)

"He is very personable, has a very strong reputation amongst judges and is an accomplished and standout individual".

Chambers UK: Banking & Finance (2026)

"David wrote the book on civil fraud He is very good, particularly for offshore work, and he knows how judges think".

Chambers UK: Chancery Commercial (2026)

"David gets to the point and is firm in his advocacy. His written submissions are always excellent too".

Chambers UK: Chancery Commercial (2026)

"David's careful analytical approach brings clarity to complex situations. His measured advocacy style oozes credibility".

Legal 500: Commercial Disputes (2026)

"David is very clever, tactically strong, and works unbelievably hard. On his feet, David is a very capable advocate. He is effective, efficient, and always well prepared".

Legal 500: Partnership (2026)

"He is a down-to-earth, extremely bright and client-centric counsel, who delivers solutions rather than problems".

Chambers UK: Commercial Dispute Resolution (2026)

"David is incredibly intelligent and can always be trusted to provide the right advice".

Legal 500: Commercial Litigation (2026)

"He is really the go to-person in fraud law. Switched on and responsive, he has huge depth of knowledge and thinks very practically".

Chambers UK: Commercial Dispute Resolution (2026)

"David is brilliant, and he is very, very smart. He is a very strategic thinker and is great on his feet in court. David is one of the standout stars of the Bar."

Chambers UK Offshore (2027)

"David has a very persuasive advocacy style. He never appears to become agitated and has an extraordinary amount of success in the BVI courts."

Legal 500 English Bar Offshore (2026)

"He is a very cerebral lawyer who looks at a case from all angles and is very thorough in his approach".

Chambers UK: Offshore (2026)

"David is extremely bright. He has a rare ability to absorb enormous amounts of information and break it down

into what is important. His advocacy style is very composed and confident".

Chambers UK: Company (2026)

"David is a very impressive advocate. His understanding of trust law is second to none."

Chambers UK: Chancery Commercial (2025)

"David is absolutely brilliant. If you have got a really complex, very detailed case that needs a forensic mind, then David's your man."

Chambers UK: Chancery Commercial (2025)

"David is incredibly analytical and has encyclopedic knowledge of both fraud and procedure. Clients like him and he has a very good manner with everyone on the team."

Chambers UK: Civil Fraud (2025)

"David Mumford KC is a go-to silk who is instructed in the most valuable cases for our most important clients. His written and oral advocacy is of absolutely the highest quality."

Chambers UK: Partnership (2025)

"David deconstructs the claimant's arguments with sniper-like precision."

Chambers UK: Chancery Commercial (2025)

"He's meticulous and hard-working but also commercial and has a great sense of what arguments are going to work and what ones need to be left alone."

Chambers UK: Banking & Finance (2025)

"David has an incredible intellect, which just breaks down arguments and reconstructs them favourably."

Chambers UK: Banking & Finance (2025)

"David is very thorough and goes into points well."

Chambers UK: Company (2025)

"David is the perfect all-rounder; he works hard and consistently delivers."

Chambers UK: Company (2025)

"He is very good on strategy and the details. He is methodical and logical in his approach and on his feet he's wonderfully clear and logical."

Chambers UK: Banking & Finance (2025)

"David is genuinely excellent. He's user-friendly and has a first-rate reputation."

Chambers UK: Offshore (2025)

"He is absolutely brilliant. An intellectual heavyweight fast becoming a superstar."

Chambers UK: Offshore (2025)

"David Mumford is pragmatic, to the point and very reassuring to work with."

Chambers UK: Commercial Dispute Resolution (2025)

"David is a great choice for international complex litigation."

Legal 500 UK: Commercial Litigation (2025)

"David's careful analytical approach brings clarity to complex situations. His measured advocacy style oozes credibility."

Legal 500 UK: Commercial Disputes (2025)

"A hugely intelligent and capable silk"

Legal 500 UK: Fraud: Civil (2025)

"David is ferociously bright, meticulous in his preparation, excellent on his feet and a very good team player."

Chambers UK: Fraud: Civil (2024)

"There is nothing he doesn't know about fraud and trusts. He is very impressive."

Chambers UK: Fraud: Civil (2024)

"David is steeped in law and all over the facts."

Chambers UK: Fraud: Civil (2024)

"Has seen it all and wrote the book. He is one of the go-to barristers for complex civil fraud work, particularly with an offshore element."

Legal 500: Fraud: Civil (2024)

'David is an immensely intelligent and hardworking advocate who efficiently analyses complex legal issues and provides concise commercial solutions.'

Legal 500: Company (2024)

David has a razor-sharp mind, works incredibly hard, is excellent on his feet, can distil the most complex point into something easy to understand, has the respect of the court and is great with clients – he is the complete package.'

Legal 500: Banking & Finance (2024)

'Incredibly bright and creative thinking.'

Legal 500: Commercial Litigation (2024)

"David Mumford is super intelligent and is always really well prepared on cases. Because of his copious intelligence he has the ear of the court. He is an absolute star. His advocacy was top-notch."

Chambers UK: Offshore (2023)

"A first-rate litigator, who is incredibly measured and is able to present the trickiest points with great persuasion. A great opponent. He is very persuasive and very good at managing solicitors and clients."

Chambers UK: Chancery Commercial (2023)

"Very good and commercially very switched on. Despite his standing, he also has a lot of time for juniors and pupils." "He is really, really bright, very analytical and highly impressive."

Chambers UK: Chancery Commercial (2022)

"David is so articulate and has the ear of the court, making him capable of arguing the most difficult points. He can make any argument sound reasonable and is absolutely tremendous." "His written advocacy is superb and he's got a mind like a steel trap. He's a real intellectual with a brain the size of a planet and his submissions are wonderful. He's meticulous in his preparation."

Chambers UK: Fraud: Civil (2022)

"Extremely able technically and someone who has an unusual ability to understand the clients' commercial

objectives."

Chambers UK: Commercial Dispute Resolution (2022)

"He's not only brilliantly clever but he's so nice to work with and collaborative."

Chambers UK: Offshore (2022)

"He is very calm, clear and a very good team player. He is excellent."

Chambers UK: Banking & Finance (2022)

"He has a gift for understanding the client's commercial objectives."

Chambers UK: Company (2022)

"Very calm and highly analytical, he gets the ear of the court." "An assured performer with a gentle advocacy style, who is very easy to work with."

Chambers UK: Partnership (2022)

"A very considered and knowledgeable silk who knows how to run and win complex cases at trial."

Legal 500 UK: Fraud: Civil (2022)

"An exceptionally measured and impressive advocate who commands the respect of the court."

Legal 500 UK: Commercial (2022)

"An incredibly knowledgeable team player, he rolls up his sleeves to get into the meat and details and leads from the front."

Legal 500 UK: Offshore (2022)

"Extremely calm and methodical in approach, David considers all aspects of a case at the outset."

Legal 500 UK: Company (2022)

"He very calm and measured - he's so sophisticated in his approach." "A very effective operator who truly knows the law. He can marshal the details of the case brilliantly and is a very, very safe pair of hands."

Chambers UK: Chancery Commercial (2021)

"He is very bright and provides clear advice." "The quality of his written work is very high." "He is excellent - cool, calm and collected and always on top of the papers."

Chambers UK: Fraud: Civil (2021)

"A popular choice in the commercial field, he's a very clever barrister with a wonderful advocacy style, who is a wonderful team player."

Chambers UK: Commercial Dispute Resolution (2021)

"He is an extremely able advocate - incredibly hard-working and very, very good."

Chambers UK: Offshore (2021)

"I marvel at the elegance with which he presents extremely complicated cases." "A fantastic, creative barrister, dogged and very hard-working. He'll go very far for his clients."

Chambers UK: Banking and Finance (2021)

"He's technically brilliant, very conscientious and passionate about his work."

Chambers UK: Company (2021)

"Very engaged and knows what he is doing. He provides exactly what the client wants and needs."

Chambers UK: Partnership (2021)

"Very clever and hard working – covers all bases and ensures all cases are extremely well-prepared before trial."

Legal 500 UK: Fraud: Civil (2021)

"A highly cerebral, thoughtful advisor, and a real asset on any team."

Legal 500 UK: Commercial Litigation (2021)

"An amazing advocate who can change the weather in a hearing."

Legal 500 UK: Offshore (2021)

"Highly cerebral, thoughtful advisor. A real asset on any team."

Legal 500 UK: Company (2021)

"He's absolutely excellent; a very clear thinker and a sensible adviser." "He's collaborative, great at working as part of a team, very diligent and a good tactical thinker."

Chambers UK: Chancery Commercial (2020)

"David doesn't waste any words. He is exceptionally bright, even amongst his peers - he stands out".

Legal 500: Company (2026)

"An impressive advocate who is not afraid to tell you how it is." "Has a great brain and is an absolute pleasure to work with." "A tremendously cerebral barrister and an extremely clever person."

Chambers UK: Fraud: Civil (2020)

"It's great to watch David Mumford work because he's so measured and calm; there's no drama, just forensic analysis, and he commands respect." "He's one of the cleverest around."

Chambers UK: Commercial Dispute Resolution (2020)

"Very bright and able." "His advice is very thoughtful."

Chambers UK: Offshore (2020)

"Great at working as part of a team, he's very diligent and a good tactical thinker." "He is really good on his feet and a fine all-round advocate."

Chambers UK: Banking and Finance (2020)

"David's got a very good eye for the key points in a case and is a great advocate. He has a very understated but effective manner with judges."

Chambers UK: Company (2020)

"He's great at working as part of a team, very diligent and a good tactical thinker."

Chambers UK: Partnership (2020)

"He is a first-rate lawyer and an astute litigator."

Legal 500 UK: Company (2020)

"A first-rate lawyer and an astute litigator as well as a tenacious advocate."

Legal 500 UK: Fraud: Civil (2020)

"Extremely bright, very hard-working and very articulate." "If you want someone with a great legal brain who just gets on with it and is a pleasure to work with, he's your guy."

Chambers UK: Banking and Finance (2019)

"He is an excellent advocate, who is client-friendly and approachable."

Chambers UK: Company (2019)

"Excellent advocate who is client-friendly and approachable."

Chambers UK: Partnership (2019)

"Very calm as an advocate, he gives an air of assurance in court. He is bright, assured and effective." "A very cerebral advocate whose thoughtfulness comes across in his submissions."

Chambers UK: Chancery Commercial (2019)

"Very measured in his approach. He has a great legal brain." "Easy to deal with and a smooth performer in front of a tribunal."

Chambers UK: Fraud: Civil (2019)

"Has an excellent manner in addressing the court, and can see through the detail to get to the key points." "He has a strong eye for detail coupled with an excellent strategic view, and he's very user-friendly."

Chambers UK: Commercial Dispute Resolution (2019)

"He is an astute litigator who anticipates problems well in advance and devises winning solutions."

Legal 500 UK: Company (2019)

"Very astute and a safe pair of hands – he never lets solicitors down."

Legal 500 UK: Offshore (2019)

"Has an amazing breadth of knowledge, is extremely clever and is an excellent advocate." "He's very strong analytically and very good in court."

Chambers UK: Banking and Finance (2018)

MEMBERSHIPS

- Chancery Bar Association
- COMBAR
- LCIA and ICC registered arbitrator

QUALIFICATIONS

- MA (Oxon) First Class
- Dip Law

AWARDS

WINNER
UK BAR AWARDS 2025

Chancery Silk of the Year
Chambers UK Bar Awards 2025

Company Silk of the Year (shortlisted)
Chambers UK Bar Awards 2021

Commercial Junior of the Year (shortlisted)
Chambers Bar Awards 2013

Chancery Junior of the Year
Chambers Bar Awards 2012

NOTABLE CASES

- *Aabar Holdings SARL v Glencore Plc (2026)*
- *National Iranian Oil Co v Crescent Gas Corp Ltd (2025)*
- *Magomedov v PJSC [2025] EWHC 59 (Comm)*
- *Oscar Trustee Limited v MBS Software Solutions Limited (2024)*
- *Asturion Foundation v Alibrahim [2023] EWHC 3305 (Ch)*
- *Chia Hsing Wang v Real Assets (RA) Global Opportunity Fund I Ltd, Floreat Real Estate Ltd*
- *Goyal & Anor v BGF Investment Management Ltd (2023)*
- *Convoy Collateral Ltd v Broad Idea International Ltd & Anor (2021)*
- *The State of Qatar v Banque Havilland*
- *Convoy Collateral Ltd v Broad Idea International Ltd & Cho Kwai Chee (2020)*

- *Alibrahim v Asturion Foundation (2020)*
- *SL Claimants v Tesco PLC (2019)*
- *Asturion Foundation v Aljawharah Bint Ibrahim Abdulaziz Alibrahim (2019)*
- *BAT v Sequana (2019)*
- *United Co Rusal Plc v Crispian Investments Ltd (2018)*
- *BTI 2014 LLC v (1) Sequana SA (2) Antoine Courteault (3) Pierre Martinet (4) Clive Mountford (5) Martin Newell: Bat Industries Plc v (1) Sequana SA (2) Windward Prospects Ltd (2017)*
- *BTI 2014 LLC v (1) Sequana SA (2) Antoine Courteault (3) Pierre Martinet (4) Clive Mountford (5) Martin Newell: Bat Industries Plc v (1) Sequana SA (2) Windward Prospects Ltd (2017)*
- *Cepia HK Ltd v Character Group Plc (2016)*
- *BTI 2014 LLC v Sequana SA : BAT Industries v Sequana SA & Windward Prospects Ltd (2016)*
- *Canary Wharf Finance II plc v Deutsche Trustee Company Limited (2016)*
- *Erste Group Bank AG (London) v JSC (VMZ Red October) [2015]*
- *Standard Chartered Bank LTD v Zungeru Power LTD (2014)*
- *Ageas (UK) Ltd v Kwick-Fit (GB) Ltd (2013)*
- *Erste Group Bank AG (London) v JSC (VMZ Red October) & Ors (2013)*
- *Mira Makar v Russell Jones & Walker & Ors (2012)*
- *Michael Wilson & Partners Ltd v Thomas Sinclair et al (2012)*
- *Boris Berezovsky v Roman Abramovich (2012)*
- *Shiraz Boghani v Bashir Nathoo (2011)*
- *Baljit Singh Bhandal v Irish Nationwide Building Society (2011)*
- *Mira Makar v Pricewaterhousecoopers LLP (2011)*
- *Munib Masri v Consolidated Contractors International Co SAL & 6 Ors (2011)*
- *Berezovsky v Hine & Ors (2011)*
- *Jenington International INC & Ors v Kanat Shaikhanovish Assaubayev & 6 Ors (2010)*
- *Boris Berezovsky v Roman Abramovich : Boris Berezovsky v Hine & Ors (2010)*
- *Cinnamon European Structured Credit Master Fund v Banco Commercial Portugues SA (2009)*
- *Colour Quest v Total Downstream [2009]*
- *Gregson v HAE Trustees Ltd (2008)*
- *Finlan v Eyton Morris Winfield (a firm) (2007)*
- *Training In Compliance Ltd V Christopher Dewse (T/A Data Research Co) (2004)*