MAITLAND

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OLIVER CLEMENT

CALL: 2024
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OVERVIEW

Oliver's practice spans the full range of insolvency, civil fraud, company, and commercial disputes.

He appears regularly in the High Court and County Court, both as sole counsel, and led as part of a team. He is comfortable advising at any stage during proceedings.

His recent work includes acting in significant personal insolvency proceedings arising from the ongoing liquidation of Global Steel Holdings and the affairs of the family of Pramod Mittal ("Britain's biggest bankrupt"). Related proceedings are ongoing in England, the BVI, Isle of Man, and Nigeria. He is currently instructed on several other fraud matters before the High Court.

EXPERTISE

CIVIL FRAUD

Oliver acts in actions where allegations of fraud and dishonesty are made, and where asset recovery is a core concern. His recent matters include:

- An insolvency action relying on a risk of dissipation in breach of undertakings given to the Court as a condition for the discharge of freezing injunctions.
- ***Chatwani & Ors v Mehta & Ors*** [2026] EWHC 2455 (Ch): acted for the successful Claimants in three-week trial involving findings of breach of fiduciary duty by trustees and obtaining declaratory relief in relation to the governance of an important charity.
- ***Various Investors v Glencore plc & Ors***: Oliver acted for one of the Claimant parties, in substantial claims

under FSMA for losses caused by alleged wrongdoing in various jurisdictions.
- Oliver is acting in a civil fraud matter relating to the purchase of a company and claims exceeding £1m. The case involves allegations of fraud, misrepresentation, and illegality. Trial is due to be listed for early-2027.

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION & ARBITRATION

Oliver acts in significant commercial litigation, including where matters are fast-moving and require urgent action. Recent work includes:

- Obtaining urgent without notice injunctive and springboard relief following alleged breaches of restraint-of-trade clauses in a financial and trading context.
- Successfully obtaining directions for an urgent final hearing of a preliminary issue as part of an ongoing ad hoc arbitration (in which Oliver is instructed as sole counsel). Oliver successfully defended this award following an application to the High Court for a stay of enforcement; Oliver's client was awarded all of his costs.
- As sole counsel, obtaining a stay of the entirety of a High Court proceeding following an application under section 9 of the Arbitration Act 1996.

COMPANY & PARTNERSHIP

Oliver is acting as sole counsel in a partnership arbitration with an estimated value in excess of £1m, and related company proceedings, including two unfair prejudice petitions, and other High Court claims. He has provided advice and representation across all elements of the proceedings, including before an arbitral tribunal, and before Insolvency and Commercial Court judges.

- ***In re Plantation Wharf Management Ltd*** [2025] EWHC 2938 (Ch): Oliver assisted in the action, which related to the validity of company notices and meetings, and the consequences thereof.
- ***Chatwani & Ors v Mehta & Ors*** [2026] EWHC 2455 (Ch): acted for the successful Claimants in three-week trial which involved declaratory relief consequent on the validity of actions purportedly calling general and trustee meetings relating to the administration of a charity.

INSOLVENCY & ASSET RECOVERY

Oliver commonly represents creditors and officeholders in the Insolvency and Companies Court in the full suite of insolvency related applications and petition. Recent work includes:

- Obtaining an order under section 284 of the Insolvency Act following a contested two-day hearing, as sole counsel.

- Obtaining a winding-up order following a contested final hearing, in which Oliver was successful in persuading the Court to strike out all of the opposing evidence as having been made without authority, as sole counsel.
- Other officeholder applications, including applications for appointment, and for distributions to unsecured creditors.

In addition, Oliver is currently acting:

- On behalf of Court-appointed BVI receivers in personal insolvency proceedings relating to the liquidation of Global Steel Holdings.

As sole counsel, for the liquidators of Midland Skip Hire Ltd in claims against former directors and related companies, and in criminal restraint proceedings in which they are interested parties.

OFFSHORE & TRUSTS

Oliver regularly assists in proceedings which have an offshore element, or are due to be heard offshore.

Amongst other advisory work, Oliver assisted Ryan Turner in successfully resisting an appeal in ***Dekel v Clerkenwell Lifestyle Limited*** (September 2026), before the ECSC Court of Appeal.

BANKING & FINANCIAL SERVICES

Oliver accepts instructions in relation to banking and financial services, and has been involved in claims concerning securities.

REAL ESTATE

Oliver appears regularly in property-related matters, including applications for possession and / or sale (L&T, mortgage, or insolvency).

CRYPTOASSETS

Oliver has advised at the pre-litigation stage in relation to novel crypto-asset disputes, including where there is urgency resulting from the risk of dissipation and interim relief is being considered.

During pupillage, Oliver was involved in assisting in several insolvency applications concerning crypto-assets.

CHARITIES

Oliver has been involved in two significant trials relating to the administration of charities in the High Court:

Chatwani & Ors v Mehta & Ors [2026] EWHC 2455 (Ch): acted for the successful Claimants in three-week trial including findings of breach of fiduciary duty by purported trustees of an English charity following a religious schism in India.

Dasji v Bhudia [2026] EWHC 455 (Ch): the leading case relating to the High Court's making of administrative schemes, in which Oliver assisted at trial.

AWARDS

Lord Millet Equity Prize, Lincoln's Inn (2024)

John Deech Prize in Land Law, Magdalen College, University of Oxford (2023)

Slaughter and May Prize in English Legal History, University of Oxford (2023)

Demyship (Open Scholarship), Magdalen College, University of Oxford (2021–2023)

International Champion, Helga Pederson Moot Court Competition, University of Oxford (2022)

Winner, DCU Irish National Moot, University of Oxford (2021)

Slaughter and May Prize in Roman Introduction to Private Law, University of Oxford (2021)

QUALIFICATIONS

- BA Jurisprudence (First Class), Magdalen College, University of Oxford (2023)
- BTC (Distinction), BPP Law School (2024)

MEMBERSHIPS

- R3 Association of Business Recovery Professionals

- Commercial Bar Association
- Chancery Bar Association
- Insolvency Lawyers Association
- INSOL

NOTABLE CASES