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RYAN TURNER

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OVERVIEW

Ryan has a diverse practice, with a particular focus on large-scale civil fraud and commercial litigation before the English Court or offshore and arbitration.

Ryan appeared in the landmark appeals before the Privy Council in ***Convoy Collateral Ltd v Broad Idea International Ltd*** (concerning freezing injunctions and private international law) and before the Supreme Court in ***Re The Children's Investment Fund Foundation (UK); Cooper v Lehtimäki*** (concerning the fiduciary status of members of a charity and the supervisory powers of the court). He also appeared before the Court of Appeal in ***Expert Tooling & Automation Ltd v Engie Power Limited*** — an important judgement on the law of bribery.

Ryan maintains a strong academic interest in the law that complements his practice. He is the author of a well-received book on commercial law, ***Rights, Powers, and Remedies in Commercial Law*** (Sweet & Maxwell 2021), and a contributor to ***Grant & Mumford on Civil Fraud: Law, Practice and Procedure*** (Sweet & Maxwell; second edition forthcoming).

EXPERTISE

ARBITRATION & RELATED COURT APPLICATIONS

Ryan has a considerable arbitration practice. He has been instructed either as sole counsel or junior counsel in commercial arbitrations conducted under the rules of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), the London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA), British Virgin Islands Arbitration Centre (BVI IAC), and the Grain and Feed Trade Association (GAFTA). He has also been instructed, ordinarily unled, to advise or appear in ancillary proceedings before domestic courts concerned with enforcement, anti-suit injunctions to restrain

the breach of an arbitration agreement, and interim relief under s 44 of the Arbitration Act 1996.

Ryan's experience includes:

- Ryan acts on behalf of a multinational company in a commercial dispute arising out of a shareholders' agreement that is valued in the order of US$500 million (led by Thomas Grant KC and Robert Weekes KC).
- ***Re Certain Funds***: Ryan acted on behalf of offshore investment funds and a fund manager specialising in crypto-investments. The claims (said to be in excess of US$100 million) were pursued via arbitration following a successful application to the BVI Commercial Court to stay domestic proceedings, and concerned issues of company law and contract law (led by David Mumford KC; leading Rory Forsyth).
- Two arbitrations under the LCIA Rules in which a substantial litigation funder sought relief in connection with litigation funding contracts. Ryan was instructed as junior counsel on behalf of the litigation funder and in domestic proceedings to recognise and enforce the award.
- An arbitration concerned with a €5 million claim under grain supply contracts. Ryan acted as sole counsel throughout the arbitration, including appearing as sole counsel at ex parte and on-notice hearings before the English Commercial Court to obtain a freezing injunction under s 44 of the Arbitration Act 1996 and then to enforce the award (reported as ***OOO Nevkoe v UAB Alfagra*** [2023] EWHC 15 (KB)).
- Two arbitrations concerned with a US$40 and US$2.5 million insurance claim.
- Proceedings in the English Commercial Court claiming an anti-suit injunction to enforce arbitration agreements contained in insurance policies.
- An arbitration under the ICC Rules concerned with a joint venture agreement. Ryan acted as sole counsel before the English Court in an action to enforce the US$45 million award.
- An arbitration under the LCIA Rules concerned with a dispute under the articles of a Limited Liability Partnership. Ryan appeared as junior counsel at the trial of the claim (led by ***Gregory Banner KC***).

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

Ryan is regularly instructed in commercial disputes across the full spectrum of commercial practice.

In addition to the commercial arbitrations described above, Ryan has been instructed in the following reported cases involving commercial disputes before the English Court:

- ***PT Services Malta Limited v Tecnologia En Entretenimiento Caliplay, S.A.P.I. de C.V.:*** Ryan acted as junior counsel on behalf of the defendant to a claim for declaratory and other relief under a multi-billion Euro software and services supply contract (led by Roger Masefield KC and Alan Gourgey KC): [2023] EWHC 3060 (Comm) (anti-suit injunction).
- ***Goyal & Anor v BGF Investment Management Ltd & Ors*** [2023] EWHC 1180 (Comm) and [2023] EWHC 1283 (Comm), [2023] Cost LR 1169: Ryan was instructed as junior counsel on behalf of

four defendants to a claim for damages in excess of £40 million for deceit and unlawful means conspiracy arising out of an investment by a growth capital investor (led by). The claims were dismissed after a three-week trial in the Commercial Court.

- ***UK College of Business & Computing Ltd v Bath Spa University*** [2020] EWHC 2157 (Comm): Ryan was instructed as junior counsel to obtain an urgent interim injunction following the purported termination of a long-term contract (led by Thomas Grant KC). The claim involved issues of estoppel, waiver, and force majeure in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic. The case settled on confidential terms shortly before an expedited trial.
- ***HML PM Ltd v Canary Riverside Estate Management Ltd*** [2019] EWHC 3496 (QB): Ryan was instructed as junior counsel in the successful defence of an application for an interim confidentiality injunction. After a contested hearing over three days, the proceedings were discontinued by the claimant (led by Thomas Grant KC).
- ***Balengani v Sharifpoor*** [2020] EWHC 1571 (QB): Ryan appeared as sole counsel and then as junior counsel in the Queen's Bench Division in defending enforcement measures raising jurisdictional issues and applying to set aside a historic judgment rendered in the applicant's absence and then to strike out the claims.

CIVIL FRAUD

Ryan is regularly instructed in heavyweight disputes involving allegations of fraud and dishonesty, particularly those where a fiduciary is accused of wrongdoing or bribes are alleged to have been paid.

Ryan also appears as sole counsel or junior counsel at hearings seeking or resisting interim remedies such as freezing or proprietary injunctions and debarring orders and in claims for ***Norwich Pharmacal*** orders prior to the commencement of a substantive claim.

Reported cases involving allegations of dishonesty or fraud or issues that arise in civil fraud claims include:

- ***Bourlakova & Ors v Bourlakov & Ors:*** Ryan is instructed on behalf of the court-appointed representative of the estate of Oleg Bourlakov in a multi-billion dollar fraud claim before the English Court (led by Thomas Grant KC with Josh Lewison and Marlena Valles)
- ***Expert Tooling and Automation Limited v Engie Power Limited*** [2025] EWCA Civ 292; [2026] 1 All E.R.825: A test case for half-secret commissions paid to brokers to procure an electricity or gas supply contract for their principal (led by Thomas Grant KC, with Professor Paul Davies).
- ***R&S Trust***: Ryan is instructed as junior counsel (led by David Mumford KC and Stephen Midwinter KC) on behalf of two defendants in (allegedly) high value claims before the BVI Commercial Court. The claims concern the alleged fabrication of a trust in order to seize control of a substantial Ukrainian business group from a deceased business partner.
- ***Tolkynneftegaz LLP (in bankruptcy) v Terra Raf Trans Trading Limited***: acting on behalf of the Claimants in US$500m fraud proceedings before the Gilbraltar Supreme Court (led by Richard Morgan KC and Paul CK Wee)
- ***Wang v Real Assets (RA) Global Opportunity Fund I:*** acting on behalf of the Claimant on an application for

leave to appeal to the privy Court in civil fraud litigation (led by David Mumford KC).

- ***Convoy Collateral Ltd v Broad Idea International Ltd & Cho*** [2021] UKPC 24: [2023] A.C. 389: Ryan was instructed as junior counsel in a challenge to the jurisdiction of the British Virgin Islands' Court and the power of the Court to grant a freestanding freezing order in support of foreign proceedings. The majority judgment of a seven-member panel of the Privy Council advanced an expanded conception of the Court's power to grant injunctive relief and overruled the prevailing understanding of ***The Siskina*** (led by).
- ***Lakatamia Shipping Co Ltd v Su*** [2021] EWCA Civ 1187: Ryan was instructed as junior counsel before the Court of Appeal in an appeal concerning the temporal limitations on a passport order and the effect of a passport order on the entitlements of a foreign national under Article 8 of the European Convention of Human Rights (led by Thomas Grant KC, with).
- ***Glossop Cartons and Print Ltd v Contact (Print & Packaging) Ltd*** [2021] EWCA Civ 639; [2021] 1 W.L.R. 4297: Ryan was instructed as junior counsel on behalf of the successful appellants before the Court of Appeal in a claim for damages for fraudulent misrepresentation as a result of the acquisition of loss-making business assets (led by Thomas Grant KC). He was subsequently instructed unled in actions to debar the judgment debtors from defending detailed assessment proceedings and to enforce the judgment debt.
- Ryan was instructed as junior counsel (led by Thomas Grant KC) in three high-profile group actions against Zurich Insurance plc concerning deceit and, in one case, an unlawful means conspiracy. The three disputes involved the (alleged) unlawful certification of apartments in three defective developments: the Meridian Quay development in Swansea, the John Green Building in Bradford, and New Lawrence House in Manchester. The three proceedings settled on confidential terms after a number of interlocutory hearings and judgments: see ***Goldman & Ors v Zurich Insurance plc*** [2020] EWHC 192 (TCC); [2020] B.L.R. 236 (successfully resisting an application to strike out for ***Henderson v Henderson*** abuse); ***Curtiss v Zurich Insurance plc*** [2021] EWHC 1999 (disclosure under (what was then) Practice Direction 51U); [2022] EWHC 1749 (TCC) (application to strike out witness statements under Practice Direction 57AC); and [2022] EWHC 1514 (TCC) (indemnity costs awarded where application under Practice Direction 57AC oppressive).
- ***Hanson v Carlino*** [2019] EWHC 1940 (Ch): Ryan appeared as sole counsel and junior counsel in a series of proceedings successfully seeking a range of remedies against a director and related parties. The proceedings involved claims for breach of duty, breach of trust, dishonest assistance, knowing receipt, and a claim to relief under the Companies Act 2006 to convene company meetings. The proceedings ultimately led to the bankrupting of the malfeasant director.

INTERNATIONAL & OFFSHORE

Ryan's work often has a foreign or cross-border component. He has considerable experience of issues of private international law, including jurisdiction challenges and applications for anti-suit injunctions on a contractual or non-contractual basis.

Ryan commonly works with foreign lawyers and experts on foreign law. He has experience dealing with issues arising under the laws of Australia, New Zealand, Switzerland, Monaco, the Netherlands, Russia, Ukraine,

Lithuania, China, Thailand, Qatar, Kazakhstan, Panama, Cyprus, the Cayman Islands, the British Virgin Islands (where he is called to the Bar), the United States, Gibraltar, and Mexico.

Notable offshore cases include:

- ***R&S Trust***: Ryan is instructed as junior counsel (led by and Stephen Midwinter KC) on behalf of two defendants in (allegedly) high value claims before the BVI Commercial Court. The claims concern the alleged fabrication of a trust in order to seize control of a substantial Ukrainian business group from a deceased business partner.
- ***Re Certain Funds***: Ryan acted on behalf of offshore investment funds and a fund manager specialising in crypto-investments. The claims (said to be in excess of US$100 million) were pursued via arbitration following a successful application to the BVI Commercial Court to stay domestic proceedings, and concerned issues of company law and contract law (led by David Mumford KC; leading Rory Forsyth).
- ***Convoy Collateral Ltd v Broad Idea International Ltd & Cho*** [2021] UKPC 24; [2023] A.C. 389: Ryan was instructed as junior counsel in a challenge to the jurisdiction of the British Virgin Islands' Court and the power of the Court to grant a freestanding freezing order in support of foreign proceedings. The majority judgment of a seven-member panel of the Privy Council advanced an expanded conception of the Court's power to grant injunctive relief and overruled the prevailing understanding of ***The Siskina*** (led by).
- : acting for the Claimants in US$500m fraud proceedings before the Gibraltar Supreme Court (led by and Paul CK Wee).
- ***Oscar Trustee Limited v MBS Software Solutions Limited***: acting for non-party Respondents who successfully challenged the jurisdiction of the BVI Court (led by).
- ***Wang v Real Assets (RA) Global Opportunity Fund I***: acting on behalf of the Claimant on an application for leave to appeal to the Privy Council in civil fraud litigation (led by).
- ***Dekel v Clerkenwell Lifestyle Limited*** (BVIHC (COM) 0466 of 2024): Ryan was instructed (unled) to resist a claim by a minority shareholder for leave to bring a derivative action on behalf of a capital-raising vehicle.

APPELLATE

Ryan is building an appellate practice. He appeared before the Supreme Court or Privy Council in:

- ***Convoy Collateral Ltd v Broad Idea International Ltd & Cho*** [2021] UKPC 24: [2023] A.C. 389: Ryan was instructed as junior counsel in a challenge to the jurisdiction of the British Virgin Islands' Court and the power of the Court to grant a freestanding freezing order in support of foreign proceedings. The majority judgment of a seven-member panel of the Privy Council advanced an expanded conception of the Court's power to grant injunctive relief and overruled the prevailing understanding of ***The Siskina*** (led by).
- ***Re The Children's Investment Fund Foundation (UK); Cooper v Lehtimäki*** [2020] UKSC 33; [2022] A.C.115: The Supreme Court described a new test of fiduciary status and held that the members of a charitable company are fiduciaries and subject to fiduciary duties as such. Ryan was instructed as junior counsel in

the Supreme Court (led by Guy Morpuss KC, Professor Sarah Worthington KC (Hon), and Theo Barclay).

Ryan has also appeared before the Court of Appeal in the following cases:

- ***Adcamp LLP v Office Properties PL Ltd (in liquidation)*** [2026] EWCA Civ 50: Ryan acted for the respondent to an appeal concerned with the Court's power to substitute or add a defendant after the expiry of a limitation period(led by Thomas Grant KC) (appeal to Supreme Court pending).
- ***Expert Tooling and Automation Limited v Engie Power Limited*** [2025] EWCA Civ 292; [2026] 1 All E.R. 825: A test case for secret commissions paid to brokers to procure an electricity or gas supply contract for their principal (led by Thomas Grant KC, with Professor Paul Davies) (appeal to Supreme Court conceded by respondent).
- ***Lakatamia Shipping Co Ltd v Su*** [2021] EWCA Civ 1187: The Court of Appeal set out temporal and purpose-based limitations on passport orders. Ryan was instructed as junior counsel in the Court of Appeal (led by Thomas Grant KC; leading Rory Forsyth).
- ***Glossop Cartons and Print Ltd v Contact (Print & Packaging) Ltd*** [2021] EWCA Civ 639; [2021] 1 W.L.R. 4297: The Court of Appeal restated the principles governing the measure of damages in a deceit claim that induced the claimants to acquire loss-making business assets. Ryan was instructed as junior counsel in the Court of Appeal (led by Thomas Grant KC).
- Ryan has also appeared (unled) before the Court of Appeal of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court, assisted with appeals in foreign jurisdictions, and drafted multiple applications for permission to appeal at all levels of the court hierarchy.

PUBLIC LAW AND ELECTIONS

Ryan has a specialist practice in relation to the law of elections and political parties. He has been instructed in relation to election petitions challenging the result of an election under the Representation of the People Act 1983 and on behalf of candidates and election agents to make applications in connection with an election. By way of example:

- ***Re the General Election held on 4 July 2024:*** Ryan advised on matters concerning the general election.
- ***Re the Blackpool South By-election held on 2 May 2024***: Ryan was instructed by the Returning Officer to strike-out an election petition alleging breach of an unsuccessful candidate's rights under RPA 1983.
- ***Re the Local Government Election held on 6 May 2021:*** Ryan was instructed on behalf of the successful candidate to strike out an election petition impugning his election.
- ***Re the General Election held on 12 December 2019***: Ryan was instructed to appear on behalf of a candidate claiming relief in connection with electoral filings.
- ***Re the Local Government By-election held on 22 November 2018***: Ryan was instructed to appear on behalf of a candidate claiming relief in connection with electoral filings.

Ryan has experience of selection processes and disciplinary proceedings conducted by political parties and unincorporated associations, and of issues arising under the Equality Act 2010 in that context.

Ryan has also been instructed unled to make or oppose claims for judicial review in the Administrative Court and is particularly interested in the jurisprudence on the privileges of voting and property.

COMPANY & PARTNERSHIP

Ryan is regularly instructed in disputes concerning companies, partnerships, LLPs and other incorporated and unincorporated associations — most commonly in the context of allegations of wrongdoing by the directors or partners. He also advises in relation to all aspects of company law, including the rights, powers, and obligations of directors, partners, and members or transactions that an entity proposes to enter into.

INSOLVENCY & ASSET RECOVERY

Ryan welcomes instructions in all aspects of insolvency, bankruptcy, and company law. He regularly advises and appears on behalf of shareholders, creditors, insolvency practitioners, and company management in contentious matters, including claims against directors and claims to avoid transactions prior to the commencement of an insolvency procedure.

Ryan also advises on non-contentious matters, such as restructurings, the conduct of domestic insolvency procedures, and the domestic component of foreign insolvency procedures. He is regularly instructed to appear on applications under the Insolvency Act 1986 and the Insolvency Rules.

Some examples of Ryan's recent practice include acting or appearing in the following matters:

- ***Re Greensill Capital (UK) Limited***: Acting as junior counsel on behalf of a secured creditor owed a debt of US$60 million in connection with the high-profile administration of Greensill Capital (UK) Limited(led by).
- Acting on behalf of an alleged shadow director of an English company operating a cryptocurrency exchange in response to a €65 million misfeasance claim. The company was wound up following a substantial fraud perpetrated on the company by third parties that resulted in the loss of Bitcoin then valued in the order of €30 million. The proceedings settled at mediation.
- Acting as junior counsel on behalf of the proposed special administrators of an English subsidiary of a foreign corporate group in connection with the Electronic Money Regulations 2011 and the Payment and Electronic Money Institution Insolvency Regulations 2021 (led by).
- ***Re Xpress Money Services Limited (in Special Administration)*** [2023] EWHC 1120 (Ch): Acting as junior counsel on behalf of the special administrations of an authorised payment institution in an application for novel orders authorising the setting of a hard bar date and the approval of a distribution plan (led by) and as sole counsel on a subsequent application.

- Advising on the treatment of liabilities under the various Emissions Trading Scheme Regulations in an insolvency procedure (led by).
- Acting on behalf of a creditor seeking to enforce a judgment debt against the domestic assets of a company in liquidation abroad in the absence of an application for recognition or assistance under The Cross-border Insolvency Regulations 2006 (reported as ***OOO Nevkoe v UAB Alfagra*** [2023] EWHC 15 (KB)).
- Appearing as sole counsel on behalf of administrators before the High Court and the County Court at the hearing of applications concerned with the conduct of administrations.
- Appearing as sole counsel before the High Court and the County Court in proceedings to restrain the presentation of winding-up petitions, to set aside statutory demands, or to wind-up companies.

CRYPTOASSETS

As cryptoassests of one of a kind or another have become ubiquitous, Ryan has acted in a number of disputes concerned with them. Recent examples include:

- ***Re Dooga Limited (in liquidation):*** Following the collapse of a crypto exchange due to a substantial third-party fraud, Ryan acted in c. €70 million proceedings brought against the de jure and alleged de facto and shadow directors of the exchange.
- ***Re Certain Funds***: Ryan acted on behalf of offshore investment funds and a fund manger specialising in crypto-investments. The claims (said to be in excess of US$100 million) were pursued via arbitration, following a successful application to the BVI Commercial Court to stay domestic proceedings, and concerned issues of company law and contract law (led by David Mumford KC; leading Rory Forsyth).

CHARITIES

Ryan has a growing practice in relation to the law of charities and associations. In his first year in practice, he was instructed on behalf of the British Government to advise on a major expansion of the scope of the Dormant Bank and Building Society Accounts Act 2008, culminating in the Dormant Assets Act 2022. He was subsequently instructed as junior counsel in ***Re The Children's Investment Fund Foundation (UK); Cooper v Lehtimäki*** [2020] UKSC 33; [2020] 3 W.L.R. 461, a landmark appeal to the Supreme Court concerning the scope of the court's supervisory jurisdiction in respect of charities, the nature of fiduciary relationships, and the duties of the members of a charitable company. Since then, he has undertaken a range of contentious and non-contentious work in connection with charities and associations.

MEDIA & ENTERTAINMENT

Ryan's commercial and chancery practice involves disputes in the media, entertainment, and fashion sectors. For

example, he has been instructed in multiple claims for unpaid commission and royalties, disputes between the members of a partnership/LLP, and disputes concerned with the ownership of intellectual property.

SANCTIONS

Ryan has been instructed in multiple commercial proceedings involving sanctions issues and accepts instructions to advise on the effect of sanctions.

QUALIFICATIONS

- BA (First Class); LLB (First Class), Australian National University
- LL.M (First Class); PGDLS, Trinity College, University of Cambridge (papers on international investment law; international commercial litigation; commercial equity; and insolvency law)

NOTABLE CASES

- *Adcamp LLP v Office Properties PL Ltd (in liquidation) (2026)*
- *Dekel v Clerkenwell Lifestyle Limited (2025)*
- *Lee v BDB Pitmans LLP (2025)*
- *Expert Tooling and Automation Limited v Engie Power Limited (2025)*
- *Bourlakova v Bourlakov (2024)*
- *Oscar Trustee Limited v MBS Software Solutions Limited (2024)*
- *Goyal & Anor v BGF Investment Management Ltd (2023)*
- *Tolkynneftegaz LLP (in bankruptcy) v Terra Raf Trans Trading Limited (2023)*
- *Convoy Collateral Ltd v Broad Idea International Ltd & Anor (2021)*
- *Lakatamia Shipping Co Ltd v Su (2021)*
- *Glossop Cartons and Print Ltd v Contact (Print & Packaging) Ltd [2021]*
- *Cooper v Lehtïmaki; Re The Children's Investment Fund Foundation (UK) (2020)*
- *UK College of Business & Computing Ltd v Bath Spa University (2020)*
- *Convoy Collateral Ltd v Broad Idea International Ltd & Cho Kwai Chee (2020)*
- *Goldman v Zurich Insurance Plc & Anor (2020)*
- *HML PM Ltd v Canary Riverside (2019)*