

# JAN L. ALESSANDRINI

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## EDUCATION

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<b>BPP Holborn</b> , London, <b>Law Practice Course with <u>Distinction</u></b>	<b>2018 – 2019</b>
• Advanced Commercial Litigation: 89%; Litigation: 73%; Commercial Law & IP: 75%; Property Law: 79%; Business Law: 70%	
<b>BPP Waterloo</b> , London, <b>Graduate Diploma in Law with <u>Commendation</u></b>	<b>2017 – 2018</b>
• English Legal System: 94%; EU Law: 86%; Case & Statute Analysis: 73% & 74%; Research Essay (Trusts): 70%	
<b>University College London</b> , <b>Ph.D. in History</b>	<b>2009 – 2014</b>
• Published book chapters and journal articles. Presented new research at 12 international conferences. Won over £6,000 in funding	
<b>University of Oxford</b> , <b>M.St. with <u>Distinction</u> in European History, Culture, and Literature</b>	<b>2005 – 2006</b>
• Palaeography and History of the Book with Textual Criticism Essays: 80% & 76%. 3 Special Subject Essays: 76%, 75% & 73%	
<b>University College London</b> , <b>B.A. (Joint Hons) in European Studies with German and Italian (Upper Division 2.i.)</b>	<b>2001 – 2005</b>
• Final year dissertation titled 'Organised Crime in 1990s Germany'	
<b>International School Hamburg</b> , <b>International Baccalaureate Bilingual Diploma</b>	<b>1998 – 2000</b>

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## LEGAL EXPERIENCE

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**Withers LLP, Associate (Litigation and Arbitration)** **September 2021**

*"A very versatile lawyer with good litigation and arbitration experience. Good judgment, hard-working and very reliable... an excellent team worker, it is hard to believe that he joined us as recently as he did, given the amount of people he now knows in the firm and his ability to think about business development opportunities internally and externally... Jan is an extremely hard worker and is motivated to get results. Clients feel reassured by his organisation... delivers detailed and well thought-out written work e.g. completing legal research and drafting applications. He has a good 'ownership' mentality i.e. he takes responsibility for his work and is clearly committed to completing it into 'final form.'"*

- Acting for the Government of a British Overseas Territory subject to a large-scale Commission of Inquiry into the Territory's governance.
- Acting for the claimant in a dispute over the terms of an introductory agreement with a nanophotonic biochemical testing company and non-payment of >US\$60million in fees and equity tranches.
- Acting for a creditor-shareholder bringing a first-of-its-kind challenge to a BVI company creditors' agreement ('CCA') purporting to discharge the creditor's guarantee from an ostensibly solvent subsidiary of the parent owing the creditor a >US\$140million debt.
- Acting for the claimants in a £multi-million property investment fraud.
- Representing a UK company liaising with the Department of the State Administration for Market Regulation of the Peoples' Republic of China in relation to the illegal and unlicensed importation and distribution of one the company's former products.
- Acting for an Italian company in ICSID arbitration proceedings against the Arab Republic of Egypt in relation to the company's investment under the Treaty for the Promotion and Protection of Investments between the Republic of Italy and Egypt.
- Advised heirs in a dispute over the restitution of a Chagall painting valued at >GB£30million spoliated by the Nazis during WWII.
- Acting for a major Italian construction claimant company in an ICSID arbitration against a central African state in relation to a dispute over the state's unilateral termination of a EUR300m contract for the construction of a stadium and sports complex.
- Acting for an Azerbaijani respondent company in an ICC arbitration in relation to a dispute over a US\$30m agricultural project.
- Acting for a creditor of Dolfin Financial (UK) Limited (in Administration) in the recovery of monies owed.
- Representing the claimants in a shareholder dispute relating to the fraudulent removal of assets from a £multi-million joint venture.
- Acting for Italy's largest pension fund in relation to a debt recovery in England and Wales.
- Acting for various other international clients in respect of debt recoveries in England and Wales.
- Advising on merits of an Italian pharmaceutical company's claim for breach of contract under English law against an English company.
- Advising a creditor in connection with the BVI liquidation of a Singapore-based hedge fund.
- Advising and representing heirs in relation to BVI companies and assets in an estate.
- Advising a senior executive on individual disclosure obligations vis-à-vis their former employer – a major international bank.
- Acting for two subjects of separate FCA Enforcement proceedings.
- Advising the government of a Middle Eastern state on a claim for ancient artefacts stolen from the source country.
- Active steering committee member of the Art, Arbitration, and Italian Special Interest Groups

**Commercial Litigation Seat**

“Jan is enthusiastic, keen to get involved and to learn more about the litigation process, **confident, assertive** and often inputs well to the Team. Jan has always been a pleasure to work with – he has been very hardworking, enthusiastic and interested in [the work]. [His] work has been excellent, especially **research**, where he is good at **getting stuck into the detail** and **presents the answer and how he got there clearly**. He has been exposed to a **broad range of claims** and tried to get a good balance of work – from **large international arbitrations** to smaller matters on which he can **take more responsibility**. Jan is also participating in some of the Team’s **business development** activities.”

- Acted for a claimant in a \$100m-1bn defence and intelligence sector dispute over repudiatory breaches of a management agreement:
  - Assisted with a DIFC-LCIA arbitration. Compiled the exhibit to the Claimant’s Written Submissions on Preliminary Issues. Updated Proof of Evidence and its exhibit. Drafted research notes on privilege. Attended several client calls (including with counsel) and took comprehensive notes
  - Drafted Initial Disclosure List and Consent Orders in satellite litigation to the arbitration in the Business and Property Courts of the High Court of Justice (Business List). Drafted covering emails and letters to court and for service on the other parties. Drafted research note on discontinuance under CPR 38 where a claim form had been filed but not served
  - Attended a hearing on preliminary issues: drafted parts of the skeleton; collated hearing bundle; created *dramatis personae* and glossary of terms; independently finalised hearing and transcription arrangements with the IDRC, Counsel, and Epiq
  - Case management including liaising with counsel and clerks, attending meetings, diarising dates, communicating securely with clients via ShareFile to safeguard highly confidential and politically sensitive relationships between parties involved in the dispute
- Represented the UK government in a major High Court Judicial Review case into government procurement of PPE:
  - Reviewed multiple versions of 10+ witness statements to sense-check strength of Grounds of Resistance
  - Proofread final versions of witness statements, added cross-references to exhibit bundles, and created execution versions
  - Compared client list against Consilio list of names to redact
- Acted for corporate clients handling FCA investigations, Financial Ombudsman Service complaints and DSARs:
  - Assisted with FCA investigation witness interviews. Compiled and maintained schedule of complaints and diarised deadlines
  - Drafted detailed responses to the FOS and complainants on behalf of a corporate finance advisory house accused of mis-selling loan notes
  - Handled urgent FOS requests for documentation and successfully sought extensions for our clients. Took attendance notes of client calls. Drafted research note on FOS jurisdiction, timings, and procedure
- Acted for a leading accountant client defending various proceedings and collateral challenges brought by a vexatious litigant in person:
  - Contributed to successful application to dismiss a criminal summons against our client for breach of a technical provision in the Companies Act. Assisted with a collateral ICAEW dispute
  - Drafted a letter inviting the Government Legal Department to open an investigation into the litigant in person with a view of making an All Proceedings Order pursuant to S.43 of the Senior Courts Act 1987
  - Represented client in challenge of the Criminal Case Unit’s decision on our client’s costs and prepared for Judicial Review. Created a chronology of correspondence and documents
- Assisted a minority shareholder in a dispute with majority shareholders over terms of a sale and leaseback agreement:
  - Attended calls with client and partner, took detailed instructions, and conducted thorough investigations of the documentation related to the dispute, including a Members’ Agreement, Sale and Leaseback Agreement, and Framework Agreement
  - Researched the law on unfair prejudice claims and drafted comprehensive memos of advice for the partner and client
  - Provided advice on negotiation strategy with the majority shareholder, specifically to identify pressure points that enable the client to favourably settle the dispute without commencing proceedings
- Acted as primary point of contact for an insurer seeking to enforce a charging order over a claimant’s property:
  - Ran matter independently, established own client relationship and received direct instruction
  - Handled all aspects of negotiating and liaising with, and drafting correspondence to, the client and claimant’s solicitors
  - Recalculated interest on judgment debt and costs order following an unsuccessful defamation claim against the insured
- Acted for an insurer of a logistics company defending a claim for stolen products under its warehouse keepers’ liability policy:
  - Reviewed the insured’s alleged breach of Duty of Fair Representation and failure to meet a condition precedent of the policy
  - Investigated potential coverage of the loss under a separate Global Marine Program
- Assisted a High-Net-Worth Individual bringing a claim for proper provision from an estate under the Inheritance Act 1975:
  - Issued the claim on Part 8 Claim Form in the Family Division of the High Court
- Articles:
  - Drafted [D&O Newsletter article](#) on ‘class action’ litigation in this jurisdiction as well as articles on cross-border litigation and privilege in international arbitration

## Professional and Financial Lines (Insurance and Reinsurance Litigation) Seat

*“Jan impressed with his drafting ... Jan is a **good communicator**... Jan is confident and displays a positive attitude. He **engages comfortably with clients**. His **language skills set him apart from others** and **proved useful to various members of the Global team**.”*

- Acted for a variety of major London Market and International Markets insurers defending D&O, professional indemnity, cyber, and breach of contract claims:
  - Drafted coverage reports and carried out preliminary D&O policy analyses. Prepared client correspondence and documents
  - Drafted various urgent documents for a successful adjudication in respect of a contractual dispute
  - Reviewed large volumes of documents on Relativity, meeting tight deadlines. Drafted sections of witness statements
- Acted for the largest ASX Listed insurer in a breach of contract claim against its insured, a CRM consultancy:
  - Participated in a successful 14-hour mediation, taking an extensive note of proceedings
  - Assisted with drafting a settlement agreement and an update to the client
- Acted for insurers defending a claim brought by a Guernsey incorporated cell company seeking to recover an indemnity:
  - Assisted with negotiations to settle costs awarded to our client following an arbitration of claims of breach of fiduciary duties
  - Drafted a WP letter and liaised with our costs lawyer
- Acted for a leading software company defending a claim brought by a global wealth management firm for loss of profit resulting from FX miscalculations:
  - Prepared first draft of a settlement agreement between the parties
- Acted for a Trustee in Bankruptcy defending a longstanding claim in the High Court brought by a serial litigant:
  - Assisted with running the matter independently, established own client and counsel relationship and received direct instructions
  - Represented client in resisting an application to stay execution of writ at the Rolls Building
  - Drafted applications, witness statements, skeleton argument, court forms, and a WPSAC/settlement letter
- Assisted Corporate Finance with an urgent tender for a considerable new instruction from a German local government authority
- Assisted a UK cannabidiol novel food manufacturer with sourcing accredited food-testing laboratories in the EU and UK
- Prepared and lodged court documents including application notices, consent orders, statement of costs and acknowledgment of service
- Attended court hearings (incl. alone with counsel) at the Rolls Building, RCJ, Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal, and FTT
- Case management for complex matters: researched and liaised with counsel, attended market meetings, meetings with experts, conferences with counsel and co-defendants, taking attendance notes
- Researched topics including the Third Parties (Rights Against Insurers) Act 2010. Prepared a draft article for the D&O/FI newsletter

## Employment Seat

*“[Jan] received great feedback on his attitude, **drafting, legal research** and **communication skills**. Jan has drafted a wide range of employment documents and done so well. The important thing to me was that as a trainee **Jan knew what the practical and legal issues were on the topic and understood the stylistic points on length of email and advice** etc. that we discussed. He has assisted me greatly especially on the [US Bank] Ethics matter (a very high-profile matter involving board level clients at the bank and the Global Head of HR) where as well as drafting, **I used him as a sounding board to test my thoughts and ideas**. He is **sensible, able to challenge** and **showed a good grasp of the law** as well as the politics involved. Jan is **confident** and **assertive** and is **comfortable at communicating clearly with clients and colleagues**.”*

### Litigation

- Acted for high-profile clients defending a full gamut of claims: sex, race and religious discrimination; whistleblowing; unfair and wrongful dismissal
- Attended London ET hearings in person and virtually, took attendance notes, and liaised by phone with counsel and clients
- Drafted a breadth of documents: ET1 Forms & Particulars of Claims; ET3 Forms & Grounds of Resistance; witness statements; strategy reports; WPSAC letter in a complex whistleblowing claim; detailed costs application; urgent ET applications; instructions to counsel for costs hearing with letter enclosing instructions; settlement agreements; and advice emails to clients
- Carried out document management and led teams of paralegals on bundling and indexing tasks for complex matters, including Disclosure, Interim Relief Hearing, Preliminary Hearing, Correspondence, and Witness Packs. Assisted with DSAR reviews on Relativity

### Investigations

- Assisted with investigations involving high-ranking employees of two of the biggest US banks
- Took over 25 attendance notes for an investigation into alleged bullying and age discrimination at the highest levels of management within a bank. Drafted parts of reports and schedules of findings shared with heads of legal HR. Liaised directly with interviewees
- Took and edited 15 privileged attendance notes of interviews of an investigation into alleged race discrimination

## Unilever Secondment Seat

**“Jan has strong communication skills, and recognises the need to flex these for different audiences/situations. Jan interviews internal clients well to understand what is required, and advises to point, having fully explored his instructions.”**

#### Litigation, IP, risk, and cross-border regulatory advice

- Drafted cease-and-desist letters for major Unilever (UL) homecare brand design passing off and TM infringement matter
- Drafted challenge letters for renowned UL homecare brand regarding products which breached Food Imitation (Safety) Regulations
- Provided timely advice following threatened legal action by a former supplier (in administration) in respect of a disputed debt
- Advised on impact of international Competition Law, IP Law, data protection/GDPR, and ASA/COP Rules
- Participated in the FT Innovative Lawyers – Global Legal Hackathon 2020 Challenge and collaborated with UL Global Legal

#### Commercial contracts and negotiations

- Independently led negotiations on terms of a potentially high-risk licensing agreement with a not-for-profit organisation
- Assisted GC in JV discussions with a US personal care multinational. Led subsequent conference calls on risks and drafted NDAs
- Negotiated *ad hoc* partnership agreement for new collaboration involving an automated-refills provider and UL retail customers
- Reviewed, negotiated, and drafted a wide range of commercial contracts for UL’s key divisions, including various types of agreements, trade terms, purchase orders, contract variations, letters of engagement, NDAs, and promotional terms and conditions
- Identified UL’s obligations, highlighted legal risks posed to the business by certain terms or silence and terms in conflict with UL’s Terms of Trade. Drafted amendments, enabling the business to make informed commercial decisions. Considered adequacy of confidentiality and data protection clauses
- Advised business on UL’s legal redlines, limits on liability, indemnities, other contentious clauses and commercial terms

#### **Business Development and Positions of Responsibility**

- Supporting the German, Italian, Israeli and Russian Desk to identify new BD opportunities in the UK and the respective countries
- Invited to the Italian Chamber of Commerce and Industry in the UK (ICCUK) event on Financial Crime. Networked with the President and members of ICCUK. Produced a contact note for the partners, which was praised by the International Business Director
- Gained exposure to the London Market by helping at the Young PIF event with insurers, brokers, and underwriters
- Assisted Graduate Recruitment with law student events co-hosted by Aspiring Solicitors. Represented firm at law fairs & open days
- Initiated legal tech events collaboration with the Corporate team. Set up meeting with the compilers of the FT Innovative Lawyers Report
- Volunteered with DACB local community initiatives, including Westminster Cathedral charity Christmas dinner and collection as well as with Helpforce at Hawthorn Green care home
- Assisted with marketing events held by the firm such as the annual Christmas Fayre charity raffle
- Gave regular presentations, including weekly case updates, and market and regulation insights
- Member of the Junior London Solicitors Litigation Association

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### OTHER LEGAL EXPERIENCE

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#### **BPP Legal Translation Services, Student Director** (Pro Bono) **October 2017 – August 2019**

- Managed requests for translations and interpretations. Oversaw workload and allocation of over 200 volunteers. Acted as primary contact point for external bodies, group members, project supervisors, and Pro Bono Centre staff

#### **BPP SmarTech Society, President** **September 2017 – August 2019**

- Organised networking events, bringing together law students and young professionals with partners and tech experts from leading firms in the Legal Tech sector including NRF, Slaughter & May, Pinsent Masons, Mishcon de Reya, and DWF

#### **BPP Enterprise Legal Advice Clinic, Assistant** (Pro Bono) **September 2017 – August 2019**

- Interviewed clients and completed detailed Client Information Sheets. Acted as a valuable liaison between clients and Clinic Manager. Developed analytical skills needed for practice and provided administrative support using online case management system

#### **Clyde & Co and Lambeth Law Centre (LLC) Shadowing Project, Volunteer** (Pro Bono) **September 2017 – August 2019**

- Conducted client fact-gathering interviews. Managed files. Carried out research and drafted parts of advice letters

#### **1 Essex Court Chambers, London, Mini-Pupil** **November 2016 – February 2017**

- Shadowed a twelve-day trial representing a disappointed beneficiary challenging a will in a £15m+ cross-border probate claim

#### **Norton Rose Interactive Workshop Day & Slaughter and May Open Day, Invited Delegate** **January & March 2009**

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### OTHER EXPERIENCE

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#### **Commission for Looted Art in Europe, London, Senior Researcher** **April 2016 – November 2016**







- Oversaw 15+ cases and coordinated a team of specialists working on multi-jurisdictional restitution claims for looted cultural property. Traced assets and reviewed extensive documentation

<b>University of Oxford</b> , School of History, <b>Editorial Coordinator</b>	<b>December 2015 – September 2016</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consulted on a pioneering Big Data project bid for €5m EU Horizon 2020 funding; accurately assessed EU funding policies. Managed in a professional manner the diverse expectations of +160 project stakeholders and data architects in 32 different countries</li> </ul>	
<b>University of St Andrews</b> , School of History, <b>Post-Doctoral Research Fellow</b>	<b>March 2013 – November 2015</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Managed workload of 5 collaborators. Cooperated with international Big Data project team. Organised 7<sup>th</sup> annual project conference. Contributed to a successful \$500k grant application. Produced extensive AGM data summaries, including charts and trend analyses</li> </ul>	
<b>Interaction London</b> (PR Agency), <b>Research Manager</b>	<b>April 2010 – March 2012</b>
<b>Finaccord</b> (Financial Service Consultancy), London, <b>Research Analyst</b>	<b>November 2008 – June 2010</b>
<b>University of Oxford</b> , St Edmund Hall, <b>Sub-Dean</b>	<b>2007 – 2008</b>
<b>University of Oxford</b> , <b>Heath Harrison Teaching Fellow</b> at Worcester College and <b>Tutor</b> at Lady Margaret Hall	<b>2006 – 2008</b>
<b>Observer Group</b> (Business Intelligence Agency), London, <b>Account Manager/Coder</b>	<b>2005 – 2006</b>

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#### OTHER SKILLS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

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-  **Languages:** English, German, Italian: native/fluent – French, Spanish, Russian: basic
-  **IT:** Proficient in HTML. Familiar with Python and Ruby
-  **Sports:** certified RYA Day Skipper (2015) and advanced Padi scuba diver (worldwide logged dives). Oxford Judo Club (2005-2006)
-  **Drama:** directed three plays at the Garage Theatre (London, 2005) and a Brecht play at the Bloomsbury Theatre (London, 2002)
-  **Photography:** accomplished amateur photographer; organised exhibition of photographs at the Stables Gallery, Oxford (2008)
-  **Music:** Baritone in Corpus Christi College Choir, Oxford (2005-2007)

*[References available upon request]*