

Shayan Farooqi

Driven, analytical and detail-oriented law graduate with restructuring, arbitration, finance and energy experience seeking London-based NQ roles from September 2021. shayan.khan.farooqi@gmail.com **she / her**
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Education

The American School of Dubai

High School Diploma (A*AA equivalent achieved) 2008 - 2014 3.89 GPA; AP Scholar with Distinction

University College London

LLB Law 2014 - 2017 Upper Second Class Honours

LLM International Commercial Law 2017 - 2018 Merit

Company Law • Future of Legal Practice • Legal Aspects of International Finance • **Regulation of Financial Markets** (Distinction)

BPP University

Legal Practice Course 2017 - 2018 Distinction

Experience

Dentons

Trainee solicitor 2019 - 2021 London

Secondment to BP Mar 2021 - Sep 2021

Assisting the European Gas & Power division in Canary Wharf, responsible for physical and financial trading and supply to and from BP's upstream and downstream assets (gas / power, LNG and green energy), with transactional and contentious matters.

- **Commercial:** negotiating and drafting NDAs and gas and power EFETs and appendices; PPAs; JOAs; Concession Agreements
- **Contentious:** legal research / drafting for energy trading, upstream / downstream financing, emissions and other disputes

International Arbitration Sep 2020 - Mar 2021

Acting on a range of contentious matters, including investor-state disputes; ad hoc and institutional arbitrations and challenges to arbitral awards; major commercial litigation in the Commercial Court; and recognition and enforcement proceedings out of the jurisdiction.

- **Newcastle United Football Club:** Assisting with preparation of witness statements, exhibits and pleadings for high-profile football arbitration involving issues of the owners & directors test in relation to a potential takeover of an English club, including English court applications under the Arbitration Act (expedition and removal of arbitrator for bias). Media sweeps and monitoring leaks.
- **RAKIA v India:** Acting for the state of India against claims arising out of the alleged non-fulfillment and subsequent cancellation of a bauxite mining contract (ICSID). Preparation of exhibits and chronologies in pleadings; bundling and drafting key witness statements
- **Lighthouse Labs:** Extensive preparation of witness statements, expert evidence, physical and e-bundles for a prominent procurement litigation / settlement involving the supply of laboratory services to the Government for COVID-19 testing.
- **ICSID arbitrations:** Assisting with an arbitral hearing in the *Griffin v Poland* case concerning the alleged expropriation of the claimant's usufruct rights to historic property in Warsaw (2019) - making hearing arrangements with IDRC, providing tech and logistical support to tribunal, liaising with translators and stenographers
- **LNG and oil:** Undertaking legal research in relation to an energy / oil and gas dispute involving force majeure, breach of contract and fraud elements; assisting with reviewing evidence and drafting correspondence on an arbitration arising from a failed price review
- **Shareholder dispute:** Drafting key legal research (e.g. on s.994 unfair prejudice and the availability of injunctive relief to shareholders in advance of AGM) in support of statements of case for a major North American bank in connection with a commercial arbitration arising out of disruptive conduct by an activist minority shareholder
- **Service, recognition and enforcement:** Acting as primary on a multiple applications to serve court documents out of the jurisdiction, liaising with the Foreign Process Section, and enforcing court orders and judgments including on uncooperative defendants in the Ukraine; arranging notarisation, apostille and translation of court documents; drafting statement of case and witness statements
- **Human rights claims:** Drafting extensive legal memorandums pro-bono in support of an application in the ECOWAS Community Court of Justice against the state of Senegal - including advice on whether mistreatment was IDT or torture and on the availability and appropriateness of compensatory order
- **Aircraft leases:** Drafting correspondence and legal memoranda in favour of multiple prominent European airlines in order to advise on renegotiation of aircraft leases
- **Supplier dispute:** Drafting ongoing legal advice to a children's air ambulance service re a contractual dispute with a supplier, particularly on issues of contractual interpretation, force majeure and EU regulations
- **BD:** Producing client briefings concerning the revised LCIA arbitration rules and impact on banking & finance arbitrations, and financial services investor treaty arbitrations

Banking (Securitisation)

Mar 2020 - Sep 2020

Advising arrangers, originators and trustees on complex and bespoke structured finance transactions and regulatory obligations (including CLOs, CDOs and ESG securitisations).

- **Notes downgrade:** Due diligence review of provisions in 10 historic CLO transactions triggered on the occurrence of a downgrade in the rating of those Notes, including sale, trading and reinvestment restrictions as well as credit rating and reporting obligations
- **Barings (U.K.) warehouses and CLOs:** Drafting documentation in support of four warehouse transactions and note issuances (including Servicing Agreements, Note Purchase Agreements, and Trust Deed)
- **Alhambra SME originator / servicer:** Advising client on ongoing regulatory obligations as origination agent and servicer on the Alhambra SME Funding 2019-1 transaction (and the warehouse that preceded it), for which Be-Spoke Capital won the 2020 Global Capital Award for 'Debt Securitisation Issuer of the Year'
- **Listing Particulars:** Drafting Listing Particulars for the issuance of notes for a high-value commercial real estate venture
- **Regulatory advice:** Drafting firm's ESMA guidance on the reporting obligations of issuers as affected by Covid-19 and on the EU framework for ESG-compliant securitisations; advising a servicer on potential liabilities arising from a failure to report an event of default

Restructuring & Insolvency (Contentious) Sep 2019 - Mar 2020

Advising insolvency practitioners and the directors, shareholders and creditors (including state entities, multinationals and financial institutions) of distressed companies in the conduct of administrations, compulsory liquidations, CVAs and other related disputes.

- **Railway nationalisation:** Conducting extensive review of key supplier contracts of a prominent railway operator to determine trigger points and possible liabilities arising from the premature publicity of their troubled financial position; legal research and advice memos on the Operator of Last Resort nationalisation scheme and directors' duties in the zone of insolvency
- **Lehman Bros litigation:** Preparation of bundles, gathering of key legal authorities and logistical support in relation to waterfall litigation stemming from the Lehman Bros insolvency
- **Bell Group:** Preparing bundles for use in Australia's longest-ever litigation resulting from the liquidation of the Bell Group; obtaining and issuing new claim numbers and submitting court filings; undertaking legal research on the suitability of bankers' drafts as a settlement mechanism
- **Airline insolvency:** Determining possible legal and financial exposure of an energy supplier as a result of the liquidation of a major airline by conducting contract reviews and preparation of memo for the client on mitigating losses
- **Toys R Us litigation:** Extensive Model C disclosure exercise pertaining to the advancement of further funding and the granting of security prior to the insolvency of this multinational retailer
- **Appointing receivers:** Regularly drafting notices of appointment and assisting in the recovery of several high-value UK based properties with mortgagees in default, including preparation of evidence and transcripts for a contested appointment of administrative receivers heard in the Court of Appeal
- **Fraudulent trust:** Single-handedly discovering key evidence in support of allegations that a trust declared in relation to a bankruptcy estate acquired by a litigation funder client was fraudulent; preparing and updating chronologies and dramatis personae / theories of case
- **Employment and inter-company disputes:** Negotiating and drafting a settlement agreement between an Australian company and a former employee in relation to potentially illegal conduct of the employee, including a possible curtailment of residency rights; preparing a memo for a prominent consulting firm in Canada on the English law position on contractual good faith obligations
- **HMRC fraud:** Taking a lead role in the conduct of a matter acting for the trustees of a highly contentious family trust with elements of criminal fraud, tax fraud and hostile beneficiaries - including engaging in direct correspondence with all parties, liaising with HMRC and gathering evidence
- **Retailers in distress:** Advising the creditors of a Middle Eastern e-retailer on reducing liability under the UK and UAE bankruptcy regime; advising multiple UK high street retailers and leisure businesses on conducting CVAs and redrafting the firm's precedents on the same; advising a prominent hotel chain on the equivalent procedure to a statutory demand in France

Easter vacation scheme

2017

London

Two week placement, shadowing the firm's banking and TMT practices.

Abu Dhabi Islamic Bank

Summer legal intern

2017

Abu Dhabi / Dubai

Assisting in-house legal counsel at a leading Middle Eastern bank, focusing on sharia-compliant debt finance structures. Drafting and negotiating English language facility agreements: commodity murabahas (asset-backed), sukuks (bonds) and LMA-compliant syndicated loans with UK and Middle Eastern counterparties.

Herbert Smith Freehills

Summer legal intern (banking)

2016

Dubai

Supporting banking and finance team with conventional and Islamic debt finance transactions (commodity murabahas, project finance and syndicated lending facilities) - drafting, preparing ancillary documentation, conducting due diligence and shadowing client meetings and training sessions.

Contributions

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

- Dentons' LGBT Network (GLOW) Committee member
- Dentons' D&I 'reverse mentor' to two members of the firm's Board of Directors
- Advisory member of the firm's Race Strategy (promotion of BAME talent)
- Switchboard LGBT+ trained helpline caller
- Co-organiser of GLOW / Trans* awareness event, "Recognising the 'Cis-tem': A Trans* Timeline' (2020)
- Co-organiser of 'Coming Out Day' event (2020)
- Aspiring Solicitors BAME mentor
- Pathways to Law mentor
- Early childhood tutor of English & maths
- Introduction to Counselling certification, The Counselling Foundation

PRO BONO

- Ongoing legal advice to a children's air ambulance service re a contractual dispute with a supplier
- Ongoing legal advice to Reprieve in lodging a human rights claim for unlawful detention and cruel and inhumane treatment
- Providing legal advice and assistance for NCDV cases
- Reprieve project member (drafting regular newsletters to Guantanamo Bay detainees)
- Dentons' Poplaw legal advice clinic advisor
- 65+ CSR hours logged (2020)
- UCL Guttman Centre Legal Clinic Advisor

RECRUITMENT, BRANDING & BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

- Featured Speaker (Applications and Trainee Life), Chambers Student Podcast (2020)
- Mentor and assessor, Dentons 2020 Winter Vacation Scheme
- Firm representative for student events at Oxford, LSE, UCL and Birmingham
- Dentons' London Social Committee team leader
- Cofounder of "Off the Shelf" firm book club, focused on diverse authors and themes
- Creating and managing divisional business development records
- Lead of firm theatre club
- Producing client brochures on investor-state experience; financial institutions arbitrations; retail CVA experience; and R&I expertise

RECOGNITION

- Recipient, Macfarlanes LLP Writing Award (2016)
- Aspiring Solicitors Commercial Awareness Competition Semi-Finalist (2016)
- UCL Laws Mooting Competition Semi-finalist and Judge (2016-2017)
- UCL Laws Debating Competition Semi-finalist and Judge (2016-2017)
- LSE Helen Reece Memorial Moot Finalist (2017)
- AP Scholar with Distinction; Dean's List (2013 - 2014)

LANGUAGES

- English (fluent)
- Hindi (native, conversational)
- Urdu (native, conversational)
- Spanish (limited working proficiency)
- Arabic (elementary - in progress)