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Professional qualifications

Solicitor: 1972-1996 (England and Wales); 1977-1996 (HK)

Call: 1996 (HK)

Inner Bar: 2007 (HK)

Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators

Panel Member of the Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre

Accredited as a Mediator by the Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution (CEDR)

Education

LLB (Hons), Class 2(1), University of Sheffield, 1969

Practice profile

Ashley Burns, SC has been practicing law in the field of commercial dispute resolution for over 40 years. He first qualified as a solicitor in England in 1972 and was admitted as a solicitor in Hong Kong in 1977. He was a partner of Johnson Stokes & Master (now known as Mayer Brown JSM) from 1981 to 1987, the managing partner of Turner Kenneth Brown's Hong Kong office from 1987 to 1993 and then managing partner of the Hong Kong office of Wilde Sapte (now known as Denton Wilde Sapte) from 1993 to 1996. He was called to the Hong Kong Bar in 1996 and took Silk in 2007.

Ashley Burns has a broad predominantly commercial practice with an emphasis on employment and partnership related matters. He regularly appears in the High Court – in the Court of First Instance; in the Court of Appeal and also in the Court of Final Appeal. He has also been involved in a number of arbitrations (both as arbitrator and advocate) and is available for both arbitration and mediation work.

Selected cases

Employment and partnership

Williams v. Jefferies Hong Kong Ltd (unreported), 8 July 2013, 12 July 2013

Cantor Fitzgerald Europe v. Boyer and others (unreported), 29 February 2012

ICAP (Hong Kong) Ltd v. Chan and others (unreported), 22 December 2010

Kwan Siu Wa Becky v. Cathay Pacific Airways Ltd (unreported), 6 November 2009, 18 November 2011 (Court of Appeal)

Chong Cheng Lin Courtney v. Cathay Pacific Airways Ltd, (unreported), Court of Appeal, 16 November 2010

Tajjuddin v. Bank of America [2009] 4 HKC 507

IBM China/Hong Kong Ltd v. Knight (unreported), 14 November 2009

PCCW HKT Telephone Ltd v. Aitken and another [2009] 2 HKC 342 (Court of Final Appeal)

HSBC Bank v. Wallace (unreported), 28 November 2007

Au Kwai Fun and others v. Cathay Pacific Airways Limited [2008] 2 HKC 507

ICAP (Hong Kong) Ltd v. BGC Securities (Hong Kong) Ltd [2005] 3 HKC 137

Deacons v. White & Case [2003] 3 HKC 374

Kao Lee & Yip v. Koo [2003] 2 HKC 252

Insolvency

Moulin Global Eyecare Trading Ltd (in liquidation) v. Commissioner of Inland Revenue [2014] 3 HKC 323

Moulin Global Eyecare Trading Ltd (in liquidation) v. Olivia Lee [2011] 2 HKC 545, [2012] 3 HKC 272, [2013] 4 HKC 592

Akai Holdings Ltd (in liquidation) v. Everwin Dynasty Ltd and others [2012] 3 HKC 485

Re Lehman Brothers Securities Asia Ltd (unreported), 20 April 2011

Re Lehman Brothers Securities Ltd (unreported), 27 August 2009

Wills and Estates

Re LLC (unreported), 16 July 2010 [statutory will]

Chinachem Charitable Foundation v. The Secretary for Justice and Administrators of the Estate of Nina King (deceased) [2015] HKCU 1080 (Court of Final Appeal), 18 May 2015 [construction of will, charitable trusts]

Others

Johnson Electric International Ltd v. Bel Global Resources Holdings Ltd [2014] 5 HKC 504 [application for leave to appeal; admission of fresh evidence]

Z v. Z (family law ;V jurisdiction and forum) [2012] HKFLR 346

Chinaplus Wines Ltd v. Berry Bros & Rudd Ltd (unreported) 13 December 2012 [confidential information; interlocutory injunction]

Dynasty Line Ltd v. Sukampto Sia & Anor (unreported), 9 February 2009 [jurisdiction and forum]

Unruh v. Seeberger [2007] 2 HKC 609 (Court of Final Appeal) [maintenance and champerty and estoppel by convention]