

Christopher Bond

Email Address: cbond@3vb.com

Year Of Call: **2008**



Christopher has a general commercial practice, much of it with an international dimension. He has experience of a broad range of work, including banking and financial services, civil fraud, professional negligence, insurance, aviation, infrastructure, insolvency and restructuring, company law, private international law and arbitration. His clients include Boots, Airbus, BNP Paribas and the RBS Group.

Christopher works both as part of a team on major commercial disputes and as a sole advocate. He is recommended as a leading junior by Chambers & Partners, which describes him as **“responsive, user-friendly, bright and hard-working”**, and by the Legal 500, which describes him as **“excellent”**. He has also been listed as **“Highly Commended”** in Legal Week's "Stars at the Bar", an annual survey of the leading commercial barristers under 10 years' call.

Christopher appears un-led (sometimes against QCs) on multi-day trials and appeals in the Court of Appeal, High Court and County Court, as well as interim applications (including freezing injunctions and anti-suit injunctions) and insolvency matters. He also has experience of mediation advocacy.

Directory Quotes

“A seriously impressive set that is packed with quality.”

Legal 500 UK 2014

“one of the premier finance sets in the country, and a chambers that offers a universal service.”

Chambers & Partners UK 2015

Expertise

Banking & Finance

Christopher is identified by Chambers & Partners 2018 as a leading junior in this area, who **“produces careful pleadings and is a good sounding-board on strategy”** and is **“responsive, user-friendly, bright and hard-working”**.

Christopher regularly acts for major domestic and international banks, as well as for individual and institutional investors, hedge funds, asset managers, forex services providers and financial advisors. He has a broad experience of cases involving alleged

breaches of contractual, common law and regulatory duties, including disputes over the interpretation of the ISDA Master Agreement, and of defending various domestic and overseas banks against claims relating to the alleged manipulation of LIBOR and the mis-selling of structured derivatives.

Cases include:

defending Handelsbanken against a claim by property investment companies over alleged economic duress and LIBOR manipulation (with Sonia Tolaney QC – listed for a five-week Commercial Court trial in 2018)

acting for BNP Paribas in a dispute with an Italian municipality over an interest rate swap, including a jurisdictional challenge under the Recast Brussels Regulation (with Adrian Beltrami QC)

representing a Dubai-based hedge fund in its claim against its prime broker (Bank of America/Merrill Lynch) relating to dividend-arbitrage equity trading in Singapore (with John Odgers QC – listed for a two-week Commercial Court trial in 2018)

acting for Standard Chartered Bank in a claim in the Bahamas relating to a mortgage of shares and the collapse of Madoff feeder-funds; successfully resisted an application for leave to petition the Privy Council; listed for a one-week trial in 2018 (with Richard Salter QC)

representing RBS in a high-value dispute relating to a securitisation of Dutch residential-mortgage-backed securities (with Jonathan Davies-Jones QC)

defending RBS/NatWest and Barclays against claims relating to the alleged mis-selling of interest-rate hedging products (swaps) (variously with Adrian Beltrami QC, John Odgers QC, Guy Philipps QC and Sonia Tolaney QC); including *Cameron Developments (UK) Ltd v (1) National Westminster Bank plc (2) Royal Bank of Scotland plc* [2017] EWHC 1884 (QB), in which the bank struck out the claims in respect of the FSA/FCA Review on the basis that they had been compromised by the claimant's acceptance of an offer of preliminary redress and that the bank owed no contractual duty to the claimant

defended Credit Suisse against a \$34 million claim brought by a Greek ship-owner over the alleged fraudulent mis-selling of structured products (with Adrian Beltrami QC – settled on the eve of a three-week Commercial Court trial)

acted for the Serious Fraud Office in the successful prosecution of Tom Hayes, the first trader to be convicted over the manipulation of LIBOR (with Andrew Onslow QC)

defended a major high-street lender against a claim relating to property investments (settled ahead of a two-week Mercantile Court trial)

defended a private bank against claims relating to the enforcement of a Monégasque judgment in France

advised an international bank on the enforceability of a Bahamian injunction in other jurisdictions where it had branches

defended Credit Suisse against a claim relating to an investment in an Indian private equity fund

acted for an Italian bank in a dispute over a performance bond raising complex issues of cross-border insolvency law

defended Credit Suisse against £40 million claims brought by the publisher Richard Desmond over the alleged mis-selling of CPPI swap transactions (with David Quest QC – settled prior to a five-week Commercial Court trial)

successfully defended Credit Suisse in its dispute with Camerata Property Inc over the alleged mis-selling of structured derivatives (with Adrian Beltrami QC)

acted for note-holders in dispute with Lehman Brothers Special Financing arising out of swaps under the Dante Programme

(with Jonathan Davies-Jones QC)

acted for European investors in proceedings in New York and California against various banks in relation to mis-selling of residential mortgage-backed securities; complex English law issues of assignment and contractual interpretation (with Andrew Onslow QC)

defended Merrill Lynch International Bank against a £20 million claim for alleged misrepresentation and breach of warranty brought by investors in a securitisation of sub-prime mortgages (with Ewan McQuater QC and Peter Ratcliffe)

represented Co-Op Bank in the trial of its claim against a firm of solicitors for failing to register a charge (with Andrew Fletcher QC - settled after a two-week trial in the Chancery Division)

acted for Deutsche Bank in its very substantial dispute with Sebastian Holdings Inc arising out of Equities and FX trading

acted for Bank of Cyprus UK Ltd in a successful multi-day trial (issues of alleged undue influence and economic duress)

acted for Rawlinson and Hunter (trustees of the Tchenguiz Family Trust) in its very substantial claim against Kaupthing, a collapsed Icelandic bank (part of a counsel team led by Michael Brindle QC)

defended Barclaycard against a series of claims arising out of its role as merchant acquirer in the credit card payment system (sole counsel on some claims, including a successful multi-day trial; with Jonathan Davies-Jones QC and Andrew Sutcliffe QC on another)

acted for the defendant investor in a claim by an investment bank relating to a failed takeover-bid on the Singaporean stock-market (led by John Jarvis QC)

Civil Fraud

Christopher's experience of civil fraud ranges from working as part of a large team on heavy multi-jurisdictional disputes, to acting as sole counsel on urgent hearings in the High Court, to appearing in a leading case in the Court of Appeal.

Cases include:

acted for Minardi Investments in a high-value, multi-party dispute arising out of an alleged oral agreement to share the profits of a valuable hotel development and related tracing of funds: *Orb arl v Ruhan* [2016] EWHC 850 (Comm) (with David Head QC – now settled ahead of a four-month Commercial Court trial listed for 2017)

representing a leading dealer in rare and antiquarian books and manuscripts in a claim to recover advance payments lost as part of an international fraud; successfully resisted an application to challenge jurisdiction under the Recast Brussels Regulation

acting both for applicants and respondents on numerous freezing injunctions (including proprietary injunctions) relating to (inter alia): allegations of conversion arising from issues raised in the *Abramovitch v Berezovsky* litigation; theft by an employee; breach of a an undertaking to give security for costs; the collapse of a forex trading firm; the construction of an industrial plant in Poland; and advising an international bank on the enforceability of a Bahamian injunction in other jurisdictions where it had branches

defended Credit Suisse against a \$34 million claim brought by a Greek ship-owner over the alleged fraudulent mis-selling of structured products (with Adrian Beltrami QC – settled on the eve of a three-week Commercial Court trial)

brought an appeal in the Court of Appeal on a leading case on the law of knowing receipt, tracing and unjust enrichment: *Relfo Ltd (in liquidation) v Varsani* [2013] EWCA 538 (with Richard Salter QC)

represented a company director in a claim relating to the fraudulent diversion of funds from an insolvent telecoms company

acted for the joint liquidators in proceedings against an allegedly fraudulent insolvency practitioner under s.4 of the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986 (with Ewan McQuater QC)

defended Barclaycard against a series of claims arising out of frauds in the credit card payment system (sole counsel on some claims, including a successful multi-day trial; with Jonathan Davies-Jones QC and Andrew Sutcliffe QC on another)

Commercial Dispute Resolution

Christopher acts in a wide range of commercial disputes, including those relating to telecoms, utilities and infrastructure, banking, insurance, pharmaceuticals, IT, aviation, energy, media and sport, rare and antiquarian books and manuscripts, consultancy agreements, share-sale agreements and private placements, sale-of-goods agreements, JVAs, jurisdictional disputes and the enforcement of foreign judgments.

Cases include:

representing Airbus in a \$50 million dispute with an Indian freight airline over a sale and purchase agreement for aircraft; obtained an anti-suit injunction to restrain proceedings in India (with Sonia Tolaney QC – settled on the eve of a four-week Commercial Court trial in October 2017)

acting for BNP Paribas in a dispute with an Italian municipality over an interest rate swap, including a jurisdictional challenge under the Recast Brussels Regulation (with Adrian Beltrami QC)

representing the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre in its claim against insurers under the Third Parties (Rights Against Insurers) Act 1930; claim based on a Dubai arbitration award against an insolvent assured relating to the provision of negligent architectural services for a major construction project; issues of UAE law and the jurisdiction of a DIAC tribunal (led by Andrew Neish QC)

acting for a Boots in a high-value dispute with a Severn Trent Water relating to its charging regime and infrastructure (led by Jonathan Davies-Jones QC)

acting for a Dubai-based hedge fund in its claim against its prime broker (Bank of America/Merrill Lynch) relating to dividend-arbitrage equity trading in Singapore (with John Odgers QC – listed for a two-week Commercial Court trial in June 2018)

defending Handelsbanken against a claim by property investment companies over alleged economic duress and LIBOR manipulation (with Sonia Tolaney QC – listed for a five-week Commercial Court trial in 2018)

acting for RBS in a high-value dispute relating to a securitisation of Dutch residential-mortgage-backed securities (with Jonathan-Davies Jones QC)

defending an arranger against a claim by an investor relating to the alleged negligent provision of information about a private placement

representing a leading dealer in rare and antiquarian books and manuscripts in a claim to recover advance payments lost as part of an international fraud; successfully resisted an application to challenge jurisdiction under the Recast Brussels Regulation

defending a well-known football club against a claim relating to the termination of a catering agreement at its stadium

representing a property company in its claim under a management agreement; obtained an order for an account in the Chancery Division

advised a charterer on its right to terminate a charterparty as the result of an insolvency event; complex issues of cross-border insolvency law; obtained an anti-suit injunction to restrain threatened proceedings in South Korea (with Ewan McQuater QC and Nicholas Craig)

acted for Minardi Investments in a high-value, multi-party dispute arising out of an alleged oral agreement to share the profits of a valuable hotel development and related tracing of funds: *Orb arl v Ruhan* [2016] EWHC 850 (Comm) (with David Head QC – now settled ahead of a four-month Commercial Court trial listed for 2017)

defended Credit Suisse against a \$34 million claim brought by a Greek ship-owner over the alleged fraudulent mis-selling of structured products (with Adrian Beltrami QC – settled on the eve of a three-week Commercial Court trial)

represented a forex services provider in a claim for breach of warranty under a share sale agreement (with Jonathan Davies-Jones QC)

defended an asset manager against a claim by an investor in German and UK property funds (with Sonia Tolaney QC)

acted for NML Capital in its enforcement claims in relation to Argentine sovereign debt (with Ewan McQuater QC and Peter Ratcliffe)

acted for the Financial Times in a dispute with a media contractor (with John Odgers QC and Laura John)

obtained summary judgment in the Mercantile Court for £2.8 million on a claim on a promissory note

successfully resisted a summary judgment application in the Chancery Division on a claim arising out of the termination of a share-sale agreement

Insolvency & Restructuring

Christopher's experience of insolvency work ranges from acting as part of a large team on complex and high-value matters arising out of major corporate collapses, to acting as sole counsel in individual bankruptcy and insolvency hearings in the High Court, to appearing in a leading case in the Court of Appeal.

Cases include:

acting for Standard Chartered Bank in a claim in the Bahamas relating to a mortgage of shares and the collapse of Madoff feeder-funds; successfully resisted an application for leave to petition the Privy Council; listed for a one-week trial in September 2018 (with Richard Salter QC)

representing the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre in its claim against insurers under the Third Parties (Rights Against Insurers) Act 1930; claim based on a Dubai arbitration award against an insolvent assured relating to the provision of negligent architectural services for a major construction project; issues of UAE law and the jurisdiction of a DIAC tribunal (led by Andrew Neish QC)

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represented a company director in a claim relating to the fraudulent diversion of funds from an insolvent telecoms company

acted for the joint liquidators in proceedings against an insolvency practitioner under s.4 of the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986 (led by Ewan McQuater QC)

acted for a minority shareholder in the quantum-phase of an unfair prejudice petition (CA 2006 s.994)

Professional Negligence

Christopher is recommended as a leading junior in this area by the Legal 500, which describes him as “**excellent**” (2016) and “**impressive**” (2017). He regularly acts for major financial institutions on a range of mis-selling claims, as well as for lenders, IFAs arrangers and individual investors.

Cases include:

acting for BNP Paribas in a dispute with an Italian municipality over an interest rate swap, including a jurisdictional challenge under the Recast Brussels Regulation (with Adrian Beltrami QC)

defending RBS/NatWest and Barclays against claims relating to the alleged mis-selling of interest-rate hedging products (swaps) (variously with Adrian Beltrami QC, John Odgers QC, Guy Philipps QC and Sonia Tolaney QC); including *Cameron Developments (UK) Ltd v (1) National Westminster Bank plc (2) Royal Bank of Scotland plc* [2017] EWHC 1884 (QB), in which the bank struck out the claims in respect of the FSA/FCA Review on the basis that they had been compromised by the claimant’s acceptance of an offer of preliminary redress and that the bank owed no contractual duty to the claimant

representing the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre in its claim against insurers under the Third Parties (Rights Against Insurers) Act 1930; claim based on a Dubai arbitration award against an insolvent assured relating to the provision of negligent architectural services for a major construction project; issues of UAE law and the jurisdiction of a DIAC tribunal (led by Andrew Neish QC)

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defending a well-known football club against a claim relating to the termination of a catering agreement at its stadium

representing a property company in its claim under a management agreement; obtained an order for an account in the Chancery Division

defended Credit Suisse against a \$34 million claim brought by a Greek ship-owner over the alleged fraudulent mis-selling of structured products (with Adrian Beltrami QC – settled on the eve of a three-week Commercial Court trial)

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defended Merrill Lynch International Bank against a £20 million claim for alleged misrepresentation and breach of warranty brought by investors in a securitisation of sub-prime mortgages (with Ewan McQuater QC and Peter Ratcliffe)

represented Co-Op Bank in the trial of its claim against a firm of solicitors for failing to register a charge (with Andrew Fletcher QC - settled after a two-week trial in the Chancery Division)

defended an IFA against a claim for alleged mis-selling of property investments

represented a lender in its successful appeal to strike-out a claim by borrowers in relation to its instruction of an allegedly negligent surveyor

acted for the defendant investor in a claim by an investment bank relating to a failed takeover-bid on the Singaporean stock-market (with John Jarvis QC)

Academic Qualifications & Awards

BA (Hons) in Classics and English, Jesus College, University of Oxford (2000) (Open Scholar)

MPhil, PhD in Renaissance Studies and English Literature, Yale University (2006) (Graduate Research Fellow)

CPE/GDL (Distinction), City University Law School, London (2007)

Other Professional Information

Appointments

Assistant Editor, Yale Journal of Law and Humanities (2001-2003)

Teaching Fellow (English Literature), Yale University (2003-2005)

Teaching Fellow (Equity and Trusts), City University Law School (2007-2008)

Professional Memberships

Inner Temple (member of the Executive and Bar Liaison Committees; Junior Bar Auditor)

COMBAR (Chambers representative)

Languages

Reasonable French, basic German and Italian

Publications & Seminars

Publications

"The effect of foreign illegality on English law contracts" JIBFL October 2010 (with Gregory Mitchell QC)

"All in it together: the Supreme Court's verdict on the Lehman Brothers 'client money' case" JIBFL May 2012

Contributor to Key Authorities in Banking Law 2011-2012 (on commercial lending)

Contributor to Paget's Law of Banking (14th edn) (on secured lending)

Contributor to The Modern Law of Guarantees (forthcoming) (on the essentials of the contract of guarantee)

Seminars

"Freezing Injunctions and Fraud: Case Law Update"

"Good Faith and Reasonableness in Commercial Contracts"

"Recent Developments in Tracing and Unjust Enrichment"