

# Charles Connor

CALL: 2022

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Languages: Spanish (conversational)



## Overview

Charles has a busy practice across all of Chambers' core practice areas, including commercial litigation and arbitration, with a particular interest in civil fraud, jurisdictional, shipping, and sports law matters. He is currently instructed in several high-value commercial disputes.

After pupillage, Charles spent four months on secondment at Peters & Peters Solicitors LLP working on a range of civil fraud matters.

Before joining Chambers, Charles graduated with a first-class degree in History from the University of Cambridge, where he served as President of the Cambridge Union. After receiving a distinction in his MPhil in American History (also at the University of Cambridge), he converted across to law. He completed the GDL (placing second in his year) and the Bar Course at City, University of London. He then received a scholarship to study the BCL at the University of Oxford, which he graduated from with distinction, and taught Contract Law at City, University of London.

Some of Charles' recent instructions include:

- Acting for claimants in a three-week c.\$300m LMAA arbitration concerning the sale of ten oil tankers (led by Paul Lowenstein KC, Caley Wright and Claudia Renton).
- *Charles Claire LLP & Lynx Golf LLP v Kevin Harold Woolgar* [2025] EWHC 1802: acted for the successful claimants (one of the UK's leading golf brands) in their multi-million pound fraud claim against a former trusted representative (led by Sam Goodman).
- Acting in a high-value LCIA arbitration relating to the

## Education

- University of Oxford, St John's College, Bachelor of Civil Laws, Distinction (2022)
- City, University of London, Bar Vocational Studies, Distinction (2021)
- City, University of London, Graduate Diploma in Law, Distinction (second in year) (2020)
- University of Cambridge, King's College, MPhil in American History, Distinction (2019)
- University of Cambridge, King's College, BA in History, Double First (2018)

## Awards

- 2021 - 3 Verulam Buildings Scholarship for the BCL
- 2021 - First Prize in Property Bar Association Essay Competition 2021
- 2020 - 7KBW Prize for Contract Law, City, University of London
- 2020 - Academic Scholarship, City, University of London
- 2020 - Astbury Scholarship, Middle Temple

termination of a partnership agreement in connection with a London-based private equity fund (led by Richard Greenberg).

- *Motorola Mobility LLC v Ericsson* [2025] EWHC 539 (Pat): acted for the successful defendant in a three-day preliminary issue trial (part of the broader FRAND litigation between Lenovo and Ericsson) (led by Josephine Davies KC).
- *Alcatel and Nokia v Amazon* [2024] EWHC 1921 (Pat): acted for the claimants in one of the Lawyer's "Top Twenty Cases of 2025", proceedings brought against Amazon in the Patent Court for patent infringement, involving a FRAND defence and novel jurisdictional issues (led by Josephine Davies KC and Tom Moody-Stuart KC).

- 2018 – Scholar of King's College, University of Cambridge

## Arbitration

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- Acting for claimants in a three-week c.\$300m LMAA arbitration concerning the sale of ten oil tankers (led by Paul Lowenstein KC, Caley Wright and Claudia Renton), involving allegations of conspiracy, duress and misrepresentation.
- Acting for the claimant Ukrainian arms factory, as sole counsel, in a multi-million-pound sale of goods dispute with one of its suppliers (under the Rules of the Arbitration Institute of the Stockholm Chamber of Commerce).
- Acting for the claimant high-net worth individual, as sole counsel, in an LCIA dispute over the validity of a loan agreement entered into with a litigation funder (and in connected disputes).
- Acting for a law firm, as sole counsel, in a dispute with a former consultant, involving allegations of fraudulent misrepresentation.
- Acting for the claimant, a commodities company bringing proceedings against its former CEOs, in a \$450m LCIA arbitration (led by Andrew Ayres KC and Andrew Dinsmore).
- Acting in a high-value LCIA arbitration relating to the termination of a partnership agreement in connection with a London-based private equity fund (led by Richard Greenberg).
- Advised, as sole counsel, on the validity of notices of arbitration, in respect of a multi-million dollar demurrage claim.
- Acting for claimants in a SIAC arbitration, as sole counsel, opposing an application to dismiss the arbitration on jurisdiction grounds.
- Acting for the claimant high-net worth individual, as sole counsel, in a c.\$10m LCIA dispute over the validity of a loan agreement entered into with the defendant (settled before hearing).
- Acting for the successful defendants in a LCIA dispute over the validity of a litigation funding agreement (led by Tony Beswetherick KC).
- Charles is currently instructed in several unled LMAA arbitrations, the details of which are detailed in the "Shipping" section below.

## Civil fraud

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- Acting for claimants in a three-week c.\$300m LMAA arbitration concerning the sale of ten oil tankers (led by Paul Lowenstein KC, Caley Wright and Claudia Renton), involving allegations of conspiracy, duress, and misrepresentation.
- Acting for a law firm, as sole counsel, in a dispute with a former consultant, involving allegations of fraudulent misrepresentation.
- *Charles Claire LLP & Lynx Golf LLP v Kevin Harold Woolgar* [2025] EWHC 1802: acted for the successful claimants (one of the UK's leading golf brands) in their multi-million-pound fraud claim against a former trusted representative (led by Sam Goodman).
- Acting for the claimant, a commodities company bringing proceedings against its former CEOs, in a \$450m LCIA arbitration (led by Andrew Ayres KC and Andrew Dinsmore).
- During his secondment at Peters & Peters Solicitors LLP, Charles assisted in a range of civil fraud matters, involving both companies and high-net-worth individuals.

## Commercial litigation

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- *Motorola Mobility LLC v Ericsson* [2025] EWHC 539 (Pat): acted for the successful defendant in a three-day preliminary issue trial (part of the broader FRAND litigation between Lenovo and Ericsson) (led by Josephine Davies KC).
- *Prochazka v Prochazka* (led by Tony Beswetherick KC): six-day trial concerning the legal status of funds advanced to purchase London real estate, raising complex points of trust law.
- *WE Hewitt & Son Limited v Tillers Turf Company Ltd. & S Hutton Ltd.* (led by Joshua Folkard): dispute arising from the breakdown of a joint venture providing pitches to Premier League and international football clubs/stadia.
- Assisted (as a pupil) with various aspects of the ongoing *Al Sadeq and Quzmar v Dechert and others* litigation. This litigation involves claims arising out of alleged torture carried out in the course of an investigation into a fraud in Ras Al Khaima.
- Assisted (as a pupil) in the drafting of pre-hearing submissions in *Granville Technology Group Ltd (in liquidation) v Innolux Corp* [2022] EWHC 3271 (Comm), a leading case on the criteria for granting compound interest in equity.
- Assisted (as a pupil) with the drafting of pre-hearing submissions in *Normann & Steinborn v XiO (UK) LLP* [2023] EWHC 2862 (Comm), an application for the summary judgment of carried interest claims, worth \$38m, brought against various private equity entities by former employees.

## Commodities and international trade

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- Acting for the successful claimant Ukrainian arms factory, as sole counsel, in a multi-million-pound sale of goods dispute with one of its suppliers (under the Rules of the Arbitration Institute of the Stockholm Chamber of Commerce).
- Acting for defendant carrier, as sole counsel, in a dispute involving the (alleged) deterioration of perishable cargo.
- Acting for defendant seller, as sole counsel, in a dispute involving the (alleged) supply of non-specification cargo.
- Advised carriers as to the merits of a claim, under a bill of lading, against freight forwarders and consignees.
- Drafted (as a pupil) opening submissions in an arbitration involving the alleged termination of a contract for the sale of Covid-19 test kits.
- Prepared (as a pupil) advice on a dispute involving the alleged assignment of a contract for the sale of metals.

## Company law

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- *Charles Claire LLP & Lynx Golf LLP v Kevin Harold Woolgar* [2025] EWHC 1802: acted for the successful claimants (one of the UK's leading golf brands) in their multi-million-pound fraud claim against a former trusted representative (led by Sam Goodman).
- Assisted (led by Tony Beswetherick KC) in the preparation of an urgent injunction application, to restrain the use of assets withdrawn from an insolvent company.
- Assisted (as a pupil) with an application, brought before the Grand Court of the Cayman Islands, by which a potential creditor of an insolvent company sought leave to bring a proprietary claim outside of the liquidation process.
- Assisted (as a pupil) in drafting submissions on a director's lack of actual authority to make certain decisions.

## Insolvency & restructuring

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- Successfully obtained (led by Tony Beswetherick KC) an order allowing a third-party creditor to, *inter alia*, appoint receivers over a property, notwithstanding the fact that the legal owner of that property was subject to a freezing injunction.
- Assisted (led by Tony Beswetherick KC) in the preparation of an urgent injunction application, to restrain the use of assets withdrawn from an insolvent company.
- During his secondment at Peters & Peters, Charles prepared advice as to whether a high-net worth individual should/could submit a proof of debt in connected Isle of Man and English insolvency proceedings.
- Assisted (as a pupil) with an application, brought before the Grand Court of the Cayman Islands, by which a potential creditor of an insolvent company sought leave to bring a proprietary claim outside of the liquidation process.

## Insurance

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- Advised underwriters, as sole counsel, as to various matters arising out of a Terms of Business Agreement entered into with a broker (involving interpretation of the Marine Insurance Act 1906).

## Intellectual property

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- *Motorola Mobility LLC v Ericsson* [2025] EWHC 539 (Pat): acted for the successful defendant in a three-day preliminary issue trial (part of the broader FRAND litigation between Lenovo and Ericsson) (led by Josephine Davies KC).
- *Alcatel and Nokia v Amazon* [2024] EWHC 1921 (Pat): acting for the claimants in proceedings brought against Amazon in the Patent Court for patent infringement, involving a FRAND defence and novel jurisdictional issues.

## Public international law

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- Assisted (as a pupil) in drafting submissions resisting the claimant's application for permission to appeal to the Court of Appeal in *Western Sahara Campaign UK v Secretary of State for International Trade and others* [2022] EWHC 3108 (Admin).

## Jurisdiction, conflicts and enforcement

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- *Alcatel and Nokia v Amazon* [2024] EWHC 1921 (Pat): acted for the claimants in one of the Lawyer's "Top Twenty Cases of 2025", proceedings brought against Amazon in the Patent Court for patent infringement, involving a FRAND defence and novel jurisdictional issues (led by Josephine Davies KC and Tom Moody-Stuart KC).
- Acting for claimants in a SIAC arbitration, as sole counsel, opposing an application to dismiss the arbitration on jurisdiction grounds.
- Advised the respondents in an LMAA arbitration as to how to serve arbitration claim documents outside the jurisdiction (in Liberia).
- During his secondment at Peters & Peters, Charles prepared advice for a high-net worth individual as to whether a Russian judgment against him, for alleged tax evasion, could be enforced in the English courts.
- Prepared advice (as a pupil) on whether an order granting permission to serve a claim form outside of the jurisdiction could be set aside.
- Prepared advice (as a pupil) on whether shipowners could obtain an anti-suit injunction, restraining cargo claimants from continuing proceedings which they had commenced before the Canadian courts.

## Shipping

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- Acting for claimants in a three-week c.\$300m LMAA arbitration concerning the sale of ten oil tankers (led by Paul Lowenstein KC, Caley Wright and Claudia Renton).

Charles is also regularly instructed as sole counsel in relation to charterparty disputes such as those concerning off-hire, laytime/demurrage, and short loading/landing of cargo. Representative instructions include:

- Advised charterers as to the interpretation of a bespoke force majeure clause in a voyage charterparty.
- Advised carriers as to the applicability of the Hague Rules time bar to a series of claims and counterclaims.
- Advised, as sole counsel, on the validity of notices of arbitration, in respect of a multi-million dollar demurrage claim.
- Acted for the claimant charterers in an LMAA dispute involving the cleanliness of holds.
- Acted for the respondent charterers in an LMAA dispute involving a Master's refusal to enter a port, on the basis that the draught in the approach to the port was too shallow for the vessel.
- Acted for the respondent charterers in an LMAA dispute involving the cleanliness of holds.
- Acted for the respondent charterers in an LMAA dispute involving the detention of cargo in China.
- Advised carriers as to the merits of a claim, under a bill of lading, against freight forwarders and consignees.
- Advised the respondents in an LMAA arbitration as to how to serve arbitration claim documents outside the jurisdiction (in Liberia).

## Sports law

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Charles has a particular interest in sports law. Recent cases include:

- *WE Hewitt & Son Limited v Tillers Turf Company Ltd. & S Hutton Ltd.* (led by Joshua Folkard): dispute arising from the breakdown of a joint venture providing pitches to Premier League and international football clubs/stadia.
- *Charles Claire LLP & Lynx Golf LLP v Kevin Harold Woolgar* [2025] EWHC 1802: acted for the successful claimants (one of the UK's leading golf brands) in their multi-million pound fraud claim against a former trusted representative (led by Sam Goodman).