



# Justina Stewart

**Year of Call:** 2010

**Direct Access:** Yes

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Justina Stewart's practice encompasses the full range of **commercial litigation**, with a particular emphasis on **banking and financial services**, **civil fraud**, **fintech and digital assets**, **insolvency** and **international arbitration**.

She is ranked in the key legal directories as a Leading Junior in several areas:

- **Commercial Litigation/Commercial Dispute Resolution**
- **Banking and Finance**
- **Fintech and digital assets**
- **Financial Services Regulation**; and
- **Insolvency**.

Justina is ranked as a Leading Junior in Chambers UK Bar, Chambers Global, Legal 500 and Legal 500 Middle East.

Comments in legal directories have included:

- *'phenomenally bright'*
- *'really and truly excellent in all respects, oral advice, service ethos, written and oral advocacy. Surely destined for silk within the next year or two'*
- *'an absolute delight to work with'*
- *'a formidable advocate, whose oral and written advocacy are top notch'*
- *'a hard-hitting litigator. She is able to parachute into a dispute and turn it 180 degrees in favour of her clients'*
- *'brilliant for banking litigation'*
- *a 'leading crypto barrister in the UK'*
- *'[s]he is all at once charming with a no-nonsense, to-the-point laser focus on the issues at the heart of the matter'*
- *'an excellent eye for detail [who] always thinks outside the box'*
- *'no matter how stressful the situation, Justina has a way of calming matters so that the focus is always on the issues at hand'*
- *'super-bright and on top of every fact and detail'*
- *'strong, dynamic and commercial'*
- *'one of the leading juniors in this area [cryptoassets]. She is fantastic on all things crypto'*
- *'great to use on difficult insolvency claims'*
- *'a highly intelligent and tenacious litigator, she is also far more financially literate than most barristers'*

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- *'incredibly impressive and a force to be reckoned with'*
- *'a fantastic communicator'*
- *'a phenomenal addition to any team when you have claims against banks'*
- *'outstanding legal acumen'*
- *'proactive in moving difficult issues forward'*
- *'extremely bright, responsive and a punchy advocate. She is excellent at forming a view on complex cases and is great at framing her arguments so they can be grasped by clients and the court alike. A real team player and a pleasure to work with'*
- *'[a] go to on technical points of regulation on banking disputes. Will methodically work through reams of difficult legislation to arrive at clearly presented practical advice. She has good tactical nous'*
- *'she spots problems but also has the solution on hand'*
- *'well liked by big lender clients'*
- *'clarity of thought and ability to grasp and present complex matters in a judge-friendly manner'*
- *'an impressive practice in the cryptoasset space. She has significant expertise in cryptocurrency fraud matters and is well versed in cross border disputes'*

Justina was awarded Junior of the Year 2025 (English Bar in the Middle East: Commercial (Legal 500)).

She was also shortlisted as Data, Technology and Crypto Junior of the Year (Legal 500) in both 2023 and 2024.

Before coming to the Bar, Justina was an international investment banker, working with top-ranked corporate finance teams on complex transactions. This, together with her economics degrees, gives her a level of financial acumen and familiarity with financial products that is rare at the Bar.

She was appointed to the Attorney General's Panel of Junior Counsel to the Crown for many years, and is registered with both the DIFC (Part II registration) and ADGM Courts.

Examples of cases in which Justina has been involved are provided below.

## Areas of Expertise

### Banking & Finance

Justina is ranked as a Leading Junior in **banking and finance** and **financial services** regulation.

Justina's background as an international investment banker and economist means that she can understand the more technical and mathematical aspects of financial products – a skill that is often invaluable in banking and financial services cases. She has been involved in a range of high-profile and innovative banking and financial services cases.

Examples of instructions:

- 2022 to date – **Huobi OTC DMCC v Tabarak Investment Capital Ltd & anr** – a claim relating to a crypto-fraud and concerning the obligations owed by an investment bank to a seller of bitcoin. The Chief Justice of the DIFC

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Courts refers to this as “one of the first cryptocurrency litigation disputes in the region and one of the few reported cases anywhere in the world which addresses issues such as the safe transfer of cryptocurrency ... and the obligations owed by a custodian of cryptocurrency ...”. Following 3-day appeal (led by Andrew Spink KC), succeeded in securing a re-trial.

- 2023 to date – **Hedge Fund v Various** – instructed by a hedge fund to advise on the realisation of security over assets concerning a suite of security documentation and assets located in numerous jurisdictions.
- 2023 to date – **Major corporate v Several major investment banks** – complex regulatory and fraud matter involving the sale of exotic FX derivatives to a major Spanish entity.
- 2021 to 2024 – **DIFC Authority** – instructed by the **DIFC Authority** to advise on and draft new laws of secured transactions and digital assets and consequential amendments to numerous other laws, which resulted in the enactments of the DIFC’s **Digital Assets Law and (new) Law of Security**. This involved consideration of myriad issues, from the law on relatively well-known financing methods to more exotic issues concerning financial collateral and digital assets. These ground-breaking projects required analysis of approaches, not just in England & Wales but numerous jurisdictions.
- 2024 to date – **Re: Undisclosed mortgage commission claims** – advising firm on launch of claims on high-volume basis. Involves tort of bribery, accessory liability claims, claims against lender assignees, potential orders under s.140B CCA 1974.
- 2023 to date – **Various v Liquidators** – instructed by liquidator in connection with the enforceability of a litigation funding agreement, its interpretation in relation to tax liability, potential liability for breach of duty in connection with entry into the agreement and distribution of proceeds of settlement.
- 2022 to date – **A v B, A v C (arbitrations)** – multi-mln USD claims by company specializing in sports wagering, using proprietary trading models. LCIA Arbitration Rules.
- 2023 to 2024 – **Ministry of [Confidential]** – advising on the wholesale restructuring of state’s banking sector. Led by David Russell KC.
- 2023 – **NMC Healthcare Ltd (in administration) & ors v Dubai Islamic Bank PJSC & ors** – claims concerning receivables due from insurance companies in the context of parallel ADGM and onshore UAE proceedings.
- 2019 to 2023 – **Taylor & ors v Shoosmiths LLP & ors** – claim by beneficiaries and PRs of deceased’s estate against a solicitor (appointed attorney under EPA Act 1985) and firms of solicitors, for c.£4 mln in relation to an investment of £9 mln in single premium life insurance offshore bonds. Settled.
- 2022 – **Client v Several major law firms** – c. £60 mln claim arising out of the allegedly negligent drafting of standard form documents – from guarantees to security over cash, securities and real estate. Led by Nick Stallworthy KC.
- 2020 to 2021 – **Major Spanish corporate v Major investment bank** – a claim concerning the alleged default of €9m under an ISDA Master Agreement in the context of complex FX derivatives and complaints to the FCA and Spanish regulator. Settled.
- 2021 – **Re: SO FX Ltd** – parallel civil and criminal proceedings against directors of a company providing FX trading “educational” courses, FX “signals”, copy trading and referrals to brokers.
- 2020 – **Punjab National Bank (International) Ltd v MBL Highway Development Co Ltd** – application for summary judgment in a claim for over USD17mln. Complex security documentation, questions regarding the court’s entitlement to enter judgment under Art 15 Hague Convention, the test for alternative (retrospective) service under CPR r.6.15, inconsistent dispute resolution clauses in the context of an Indian corporate insolvency resolution process. Successful.
- 2019 – **ECU Group Plc v HSBC Bank Plc & ors** – advising ATE insurer on merits. Allegations of “front-running” and misreporting of execution prices concerning foreign exchange “stop-loss” orders of ECU, a provider of multi-currency debt management services. Claims for damages and/or an account of profits.

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- 2015 to 2017 – **Barnett Waddington Trustees (1980) Ltd v RBS** litigation concerning embedded swaps and abuse of process ([2015] EWHC 2435 (Ch) and [2017] EWHC 834 (Ch)). Led by Mark Warwick KC. Successful.
- 2013 to 2014 – **FCA v Micalizzi** – Instructed by the FCA in relation to a massive hedge-fund fraud, resulting in the largest FCA penalty of its kind at the time.

## Fintech and Digital Assets

Justina is ranked in Tier 1 (**Crypto and Blockchain Assets**) by Legal 500 and in Band 1 (Cryptoassets) by Chambers & Partners (Cryptoassets), and is known as one of the UK's leading barristers specialising in digital assets.

She was shortlisted by Legal 500 as the Technology, Data and Crypto Junior of the Year in both 2023 and 2024.

Justina's expertise ranges from digital assets to smart contracts and electronic trade documents. She is well known for her work in the crypto-fraud and regulatory spaces. Her work in the tech space is also a natural adjunct to her banking, financial services and company law practices.

Examples of instructions:

- 2022 to date – **Huobi OTC DMCC v Tabarak Investment Capital Ltd & anr** – a claim relating to a crypto-fraud and concerning the obligations owed by an investment bank to a seller of bitcoin. The Chief Justice of the DIFC Courts refers to this as "one of the first cryptocurrency litigation disputes in the region and one of the few reported cases anywhere in the world which addresses issues such as the safe transfer of cryptocurrency ... and the obligations owed by a custodian of cryptocurrency ...". Following 3-day appeal (led by Andrew Spink KC), succeeded in securing a re-trial.
- 2021 to 2024 – **DIFC Authority** – instructed to advise on and draft new laws of secured transactions and digital assets and consequential amendments to numerous other laws, which resulted in the enactments of the DIFC's **Digital Assets Law and (new) Law of Security**. These laws are ground-breaking in the digital assets and smart contracts context.
- 2023 to 2024 – **Ministry of [Confidential]** – advising on the wholesale restructuring of state's banking sector, including in relation to stablecoins. Led by David Russell KC.
- 2023 – **Re: Aubit International** – advising on the merits of claims by prospective liquidators in relation to the alleged fraud concerning Freeway (the crypto trading platform) and associated investments in Freeway's "Supercharger" program (described as stablecoin crypto equivalents).
- 2021 to 2023 – **DIFC Authority** – wide-ranging advice on open finance/banking related issues, including regulatory and industry structure issues.
- 2022 – **Chechetkin v Payward Ltd (aka Kraken)** – advised litigation funder on merits of claims against Kraken under FSMA 2000, and Kraken's jurisdiction challenge and challenge of the enforceability of a Californian arbitration award in favour of Payward on the ground of public policy.
- 2021 – **Blockchain company** – shareholder dispute concerning alleged misappropriation of significant funds.
- From 2022 – **Numerous cross-border, multi-jurisdictional claims**, including some of the most high-profile crypto-fraud cases, e.g.:
  - **Claims against Binance and Kraken arising from hacking of wallet leading to loss of c.1,400 bitcoin.** Multi-jurisdiction proceedings – Singapore, Hong Kong, US (Circuit Court of State of Florida).
  - **Claims against Nexo** – for allegedly invalid margin calls, leading to liquidation of collateral assets.
  - **Claims concerning the Terra ecosystem** – advising on potential claims and viability of tracing

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methodology.

## Civil Fraud and Asset Recovery

Justina's practice spans all aspects of **civil fraud claims**, including:

- applications for freezing and disclosure orders as well as ancillary orders such as committal applications;
- acting in trials involving allegations of fraud and dishonesty;
- asset recovery and tracing claims;
- recognition and enforcement of judgments.

The leading legal directories note her significant expertise in cryptocurrency fraud matters and that she is well versed in crypto cross-border disputes.

Her background in finance gives her a particular advantage when it comes to unravelling complex frauds.

Examples of instructions:

- 2022 to date – **Huobi OTC DMCC v Tabarak Investment Capital Ltd & anr** – a claim relating to a crypto-fraud and concerning the obligations owed by an investment bank to a seller of bitcoin. The Chief Justice of the DIFC Courts refers to this as “one of the first cryptocurrency litigation disputes in the region and one of the few reported cases anywhere in the world which addresses issues such as the safe transfer of cryptocurrency ... and the obligations owed by a custodian of cryptocurrency ...”. Following 3-day appeal (led by Andrew Spink KC), succeeded in securing a re-trial.
- 2024 to date – **Client confidential** – significant claim (up to USD 1 bln) against, among others, a major Latin American banking entity. Claims in fraud, conspiracy (among others). Led by Andrew Spink KC.
- 2023 to date – **Hedge Fund v Various** – instructed by a hedge fund to advise on the realisation of security over assets concerning a suite of security documentation and assets located in numerous jurisdictions, in the context of the borrower having been the subject of highly publicised findings of fraud and the consequences of these on title of assets, including artwork.
- 2022 to date – **Holmes v Downing & ors** – context is widely publicised alleged fraud involving Christopher Downing, Home Reit and various charities, with allegations of widespread bribery. This was first trial concerning issues relevant to the broader alleged fraud. Following 6 day trial, successful on behalf of claimant, a property agent, in relation to unpaid fees. Numerous interim applications, on which largely successful.
- 2023 to date – **NMC Health Plc (in administration) & ors v [confidential]** – claims against a former director of NMC Plc for recovery of payments to X, in the context of the well-known fraud. Involves novel issues of the application of knowing receipt in the context of ADGM law and payments involving both onshore UAE banks and banks in common law jurisdictions.
- 2023 to 2024 – **Re: Ketteringham** – advised personal representatives of deceased's estate on options to recover significant sums that allegedly had been misappropriated by co-shareholder and director. Wide ranging advice provided on equitable winding up petition, s.994 petition, derivative action, exercising powers under Articles, etc. Settled.
- 2021 to 2024 – **DIFC Authority** – advised on bona fide purchase rules for a range of asset classes.
- From 2022 – **numerous cross-border, multi-jurisdictional claims**, including some of the most high-profile crypto-fraud cases, e.g.:

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- **Claims against Binance and Kraken arising from hacking of wallet leading to loss of c.1,400 bitcoin.** Multi-jurisdiction proceedings – Singapore, Hong Kong, US (Circuit Court of State of Florida).
- **Claims against Nexo** – for allegedly invalid margin calls, leading to liquidation of collateral assets.
- **Claims concerning the Terra ecosystem** – advising on potential claims and viability of tracing methodology.
- 2021 to 2023 – **Re: London Capital & Finance plc and London Oil & Gas Ltd** – high-profile claim involving allegations against former directors of fraudulent trading, breach of duties owed as directors, knowing receipt and dishonest assistance.
- 2021 – **Goldman Sachs International v J Garcia Carrion SA** – counterclaim alleging fraud in the context of the sale by Goldman Sachs of exotic FX derivatives.
- 2021 – **Cesfin Ventures LLC and anr v Ghaith Hamel Khadem Al Ghaith Al Qubaisi** – application for a worldwide freezing order arising from attempts to enforce a final arbitration award in a New York seated ICC arbitration and a parallel claim in New York. Allegations of contempt.
- 2021 – **Guangdong Shirong Zhaoye Co Ltd & anr v Leong** – application for freezing orders, in the context of proceedings in the Superior Court of the State of California alleging that the defendants were part of a conspiracy to misappropriate substantial funds and transfer these from China, by way of payments under sham contracts.
- 2021 to 2022 – **X v Y (arbitration)** – acted for Y (respondent). X alleged wide-ranging fraudulent misrepresentation by Y and breach of an introducer agreement. Concerned establishment of a family office for a prominent UAE family. Following receipt of a detailed Response to Request for Arbitration drafted by JS, X abandoned the arbitration.
- 2018 to 2019 – **Re Drinks Enterprises Ltd (in CVL)** – applications in relation to alleged £23 million MTIC fraud.
- 2018 to 2019 – **Instasol LLC v EM Digital & ors** – claim relating to Indian defence procurement contract of hundreds of millions of USD. Involved network of international companies, question of existence of joint venture and allegation of misrepresentation.
- 2018 to 2019 – **AGT Ltd v La Fenice & another** – claim relating to construction project in Abu Dhabi, allegations of bribery and illegality.
- 2017 – **Re LME metals trading** – claim in excess of £20m by fund of funds against investment manager and broker in relation to LME metals trading. Included allegations of conspiracy and dishonest assistance.
- 2013 to 2014 – **FCA v Micalizzi** – instructed by the FCA in relation to a massive hedge-fund fraud, resulting in the largest FCA penalty of its kind at the time.
- **Re: Natural Wealth Consultants Ltd, Proctor Capital Limited, Land Security Management Ltd** – public interest petition, allegations of land banking in context of complicated network of companies.
- See further Justina's cases in the category "**Insolvency & Restructuring**".

## Insolvency & Restructuring

Justina is ranked as a Leading Junior in insolvency and has been described in legal directories as "great to use on difficult insolvency claims".

Justina's insolvency/restructuring practice spans all areas of corporate and personal insolvency. She is instructed by creditors, debtors, companies and office-holders, and is particularly experienced in antecedent transactions.

Her appointment to the Attorney General's Panel of Junior Counsel to the Crown involved frequent instruction by HMRC, the Secretary of State and the Insolvency Service on insolvency-related matters.

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Examples of **Insolvency and Restructuring** cases include:

- 2023 to date – **Hedge Fund v Various** – instructed by a hedge fund to advise on the realisation of security over assets concerning a suite of security documentation and assets located in numerous jurisdictions, in the context of the borrower having been the subject of highly publicised findings of fraud and the consequences of these on title of assets, including artwork and the borrower's bankruptcy.
- 2023 to date – **Various v Liquidators** – instructed by joint liquidators in connection with the enforceability of a litigation funding agreement, its interpretation in relation to tax liability, potential liability for breach of duty in connection with entry into the agreement and distribution of proceeds of settlement.
- 2024 – **Trustee in bankruptcy client** – claims against trustee in negligence relating to the sale of property allegedly for multi mln £ less than it ought to have been (application under s.304 of the Insolvency Act 1986).
- 2023 – **Re: Aubit International** – advising on the merits of claims by prospective liquidators in relation to the alleged fraud concerning Freeway (the crypto trading platform) and associated investments in Freeway's "Supercharger" program (described as stablecoin crypto equivalents).
- 2021 to 2024 – **DIFC Authority** – advising on legislative reform in relation to insolvency laws in the digital assets context. Included advising on conditions under which a digital asset could be "money" or "currency" and the treatment of digital assets held on trust on an unallocated commingled basis.
- 2021 to 2023 – **Re: London Capital & Finance plc and London Oil & Gas Ltd** – high-profile claim by administrators involving allegations against former directors of fraudulent trading, breach of duties owed as directors, knowing receipt and dishonest assistance.
- 2021 – **Re Axell Wireless** – claims by joint administrators for c.£20m for breach of directors' duties and under s.238 Insolvency Act 1986, arising from an alleged waiver given by a company in relation to significant obligations owed under a loan agreement.
- 2021 to 2022 – **Re Cartwright Holdings Ltd** – claims by joint liquidators and administrators for c.£30mln, for wrongful and fraudulent trading and breach of directors' duties.
- 2019 to 2021 – **Clark v Finneran** – a claim by a trustee in bankruptcy pursuant to ss.284, 339, 340 and 423 Insolvency Act 1986, and further involving offshore family trust and allegations of sham declarations of trusts.
- 2021 – **Blockchain company** – advising a shareholder and director of a blockchain company in relation to an alleged sham loan agreement and inflated company valuation facilitating an unlawful distribution and rendering the company insolvent.
- 2019 – **Lender client** – advising on whether a lender was entitled to rely on subrogation in order to appoint LPA receiver and if so, how the proceeds of sale should be distributed.
- 2018 to 2019 – **Re Drinks Enterprises Ltd (in CVL)** – applications in relation to alleged £23 million MTIC fraud.
- 2018 to 2019 – **Re: Railbookers** – claim by liquidators against director for c.£8m, for alleged wrongful trading, breaches of directors' duties, preferential payments (s.212, 214, 239 Insolvency Act 1986).
- 2017 to 2019 – **Liquidator client** – claim against former director and shareholder pursuant to s.216-7 Insolvency Act 1986 (prohibited names/phoenix companies), in context of potential criminal liability under s.393 and s.414 CA 2006.
- 2017 – **Re Grabal Alok (UK) Ltd t/a Store Twenty One (in liquidation)** – acted for the liquidators following the high profile demise of a retail chain.
- 2015 – **Centenary 6 Ltd v (1) Caven (2) Mawer (Joint Liquidators of Centenary Holdings III Ltd (in liquidation)** – application for payment of over £22m by liquidators.
- 2013 – **Bilta UK Ltd (in liquidation) & ors v (1) RBS plc (2) Mercuria Energy Europe Trading Ltd** – an offshoot of the important Bilta v Jetivia litigation.

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## Company, Joint Venture & Partnership

Justina has extensive experience in:

- shareholder disputes (unfair prejudice petitions, just and equitable winding up petitions, derivative actions);
- boardroom disputes;
- directors' rights and duties;
- partnerships and LLPs
- directors' disqualifications;
- non-contentious work (e.g. reductions of share capital, cross border mergers, schemes of arrangement, share transactions and takeovers, and share schemes).

Examples of instructions:

- 2024 – **Various investors** – significant derivative action under Bermudan law.
- 2021 to 2023 – **Re: London Capital & Finance plc and London Oil & Gas Ltd** – high-profile claim by administrators involving allegations against former directors of fraudulent trading, breach of duties owed as directors, knowing receipt and dishonest assistance.
- 2021 – **Re Axell Wireless** – claims by joint administrators for c.£20m for breach of directors' duties and under s.238 Insolvency Act 1986, arising from an alleged waiver given by a company in relation to significant obligations owed under a loan agreement.
- 2021 to 2022 – **Re Cartwright Holdings Ltd** – claims by joint liquidators and administrators for c.£30mln, for wrongful and fraudulent trading and breach of directors' duties.
- 2021 to 2022 – **Re: UHNI individuals & a company** – Claim for over £700m involving allegations of breach of duties owed as de facto/shadow director and fiduciary duties owed pursuant to a partnership agreement.
- 2021 to 2022 – **Arbitration** – claim for over US\$60mln arising from alleged breaches of a partnership agreement relating to the establishment of a family office.
- 2021 – **Blockchain company** – advising a shareholder and director of a blockchain company in relation to an alleged sham loan agreement and inflated company valuation facilitating an unlawful distribution, contrary to Companies Act 2006.
- **Michel v Michel** – a significant shareholder dispute resulting in the award of indemnity costs for Justina's clients.
- **Numerous directors' disqualification cases – instructed by the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy;**
- 2019 – **Project X** – advising a private equity investor on a potential purchase of shares in a holding company and specifically on whether steps taken in relation to a complex reorganisation of the group were effective, whether dividends were lawful and what steps should be taken to protect the client's position in event of purchase.
- 2016 to 2017 – **T v V (arbitration)** – instructed by former partner of accountancy partnership. Allegations of unlawful expulsion from partnership, breach of equitable duties, misrepresentation and non est factum. LCIA Arbitration Rules.
- 2018 to 2019 – **Re: Railbookers** – claim by liquidators against director for ca.£8m, for alleged wrongful trading, breaches of directors' duties, preferential payments (s.212, 214, 239 Insolvency Act 1986).
- 2017 to 2019 – **Liquidator client** – claim against former director and shareholder pursuant to s.216-7 Insolvency Act 1986 (prohibited names/phoenix companies), in context of potential criminal liability under s.393 and s.414 CA 2006.
- 2018 to 2019 – **Re: Railbookers** – claim by liquidators against director for c.£8m, for alleged wrongful trading,

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breaches of directors' duties, preferential payments (s.212, 214, 239 Insolvency Act 1986).

- **X v Y** (arbitration) – instructed by X, a solicitor, to recover sums due under a partnership agreement upon X's exit from the partnership. LCIA Arbitration Rules.

## Professional Negligence

Justina has wide experience in **Professional Negligence** cases, including in relation to solicitors, accountants, financial services advisers and managers, insolvency practitioners, and valuers.

Examples of instructions:

- 2023 to date – **Various v Liquidators** – instructed by liquidator in connection with the enforceability of a litigation funding agreement, its interpretation in relation to tax liability, potential liability for breach of duty in connection with entry into the agreement and distribution of proceeds of settlement.
- 2024 – **Trustee in bankruptcy client** – claims against trustee of negligence relating to the sale of property allegedly for multi mln £ less than it ought to have been (s.304 IA application).
- 2018 to 2024 – **Tax mitigation schemes** – various cases involving allegations of negligence against accountants and solicitors concerning tax mitigation schemes (e.g. GSOPs, EFRBSs).
- 2019 to 2023 – **Taylor & ors v Shoosmiths LLP & ors** – claim by beneficiaries and PRs of deceased's estate against a solicitor (appointed attorney under EPA Act 1985) and firms of solicitors, for ca.£4 mln in relation to an investment of £9ln m in single premium life insurance offshore bonds. Settled.
- 2022 – **Client v Several major law firms** – c.£60 mln claim arising out of the allegedly negligent drafting of standard form documents – from guarantees to security over cash, securities and real estate. Led by Nick Stallworthy KC.
- 2018 to 2019 – **Flanagan v Lincoln-Lewis & anr** – claim against executor of an estate. Settled.
- 2017 – **Shepherd v Byrne & Partners LLP** – claim against a firm of solicitors for tax advice on disclosure to HMRC of undeclared offshore income. Successful (led by Hugh Jackson).
- **Lucas v Notable Services LLP** – claim in excess of £3.5m against solicitors for alleged losses arising from alleged breaches of the Money Laundering Regulations 2007, Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 and the SRA Account Rules 2011 and breach of duty owed to in making statements relating to the same.

## Interim Injunctions and Freezing Orders

In line with the nature of her practice areas, Justina is regularly instructed in relation to applications for interim injunctions, freezing orders and disclosure orders, as well as ancillary orders such as committal applications for non-compliance.

## Commercial Litigation

Justina is ranked as a Leading Junior in **Commercial Dispute Resolution** (Chambers & Partners, UK Bar & Global), and Commercial Litigation (Legal 500, UK Bar & Middle East).

Examples of her instructions can be found on her CV, categorised within the following specialisms:

- Banking & Financial Services;
- Fintech & Digital Assets;

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- Civil Fraud & Asset Recovery;
- Insolvency & Restructuring;
- Company, Joint Venture & Partnership;
- Professional Negligence.

## Arbitration

Justina can act under a variety of institutional **arbitration** rules and in a variety of seats and is also experienced in arbitration-related court applications and hearings.

Examples:

- **Operafund Eco-Invest SICAV plc and (2) Schwab Holding AG v The Kingdom of Spain** – following application, at which Operafund and Schwab were represented by Lucian Ilie, Justina represented the applicants at a complex consequential hearing. Issues were particularly complex due to the (then) forthcoming Court of Appeal decision in *Infrastructure Services SÀRL & Anor v Kingdom of Spain*, which Fraser J considered would involve issues overlapping with the *Operafund* matter.
- **A v B, A v C** – multi-mln USD claims by company specialising in sports wagering, using proprietary trading models. LCIA Arbitration Rules.
- **X v Y** – acted for Y. X alleged wide-ranging fraudulent misrepresentation by Y and breach of an introducer agreement. Concerned establishment of a family office for a prominent UAE family. Following receipt of a detailed Response to Request for Arbitration drafted by Justina, X abandoned the arbitrate(on). LCIA Arbitration Rules.
- **X v Y** – instructed by X, a solicitor, to recover sums due under a partnership agreement upon X's exit from the partnership. LCIA Arbitration Rules.
- **T v V** – instructed by former partner of accountancy partnership. Allegations of unlawful expulsion from partnership, breach of equitable duties, misrepresentation and non est LCIA Arbitration Rules. Included application to remove arbitrator pursuant to s.24 Arbitration Act 1996. Popplewell J commented on Justina's "very able submissions".

## Memberships

- Lincoln's Inn
- **COMBAR**
- **Chancery Bar Association**
- **Commercial Lawyers Fraud Association**
- **Financial Services Lawyers Association**
- CFAAR
- **R3**
- **Professional Negligence Bar Association**

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## Languages

- French (Fair)
- Polish (Fair)

## Publications

- *Laws of the DIFC* (Lexis Nexis) – Chapter on DIFC Digital Assets Law (sole author) (forthcoming)
- *Lissack & Horlick on Bribery and Corruption*, co-author on chapters on digital assets (forthcoming)
- *Credit Suisse, AT1 bonds and taking the BIT between the teeth* (Justina Stewart, Lucian Ilie, Anson Cheung, Hanif Virji) (2023) 5 JIBFL 293
- *LIBOR transition: ISDA Protocol first mover disadvantage and other international perspectives* (Justina Stewart, Chloë Bell, Hanif Virji) (2021) 1 JIBFL 5
- *The UK's announcement of plans for synthetic LIBOR: panacea or pandora's box?* (John McKendrick KC, Justina Stewart, Chloë Bell) (2020) 8 JIBFL 517
- *A deep dive into the moratorium – a lender's perspective* (OTC publication)

## Awards

- BVC (Outstanding, first in year group)
- GDL (Distinction)
- LLB (First Class)
- Phil (Economics) (Oxford)
- Econ (LSE)
- Cassel Scholarship (Lincoln's Inn)
- Sunley Scholarship (Lincoln's Inn)
- Buchanan Prize (Lincoln's Inn)

## Recommendations

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