



Adam Maniam
Director, Dispute Resolution

LL.B (Hons) National University of Singapore (2008)
Advocate & Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Singapore (2009)
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ABOUT ADAM

Adam has a very active practice handling complex litigation and arbitration matters. He handles matters relating to commercial contracts, corporate disputes, banking and finance, infrastructure projects, large-scale commercial leases, trusts, bankruptcy proceedings, sale of iron ore and heavy melting scrap and tortious claims. Adam also regularly handles criminal matters, several of which have been reported in the media. These criminal matters include several notable cases under the Workplace Safety & Health Act.

He has acted for high-profile clients at all levels of the Singapore Courts as well as in both international and domestic arbitrations. He has also successfully handled cases as lead counsel before the Singapore International Commercial Court.

Adam also advises on regulatory issues and has been engaged to advise on and investigate fraud, anti-money laundering and competition law issues which have arisen in both private and listed companies. He regularly handles matters involving the Competition & Consumer Commission of Singapore and the Commercial Affairs Department, including handling raids and investigations conducted by these authorities.

Adam graduated on the overall Dean's List from the National University of Singapore (NUS), having been a consistent feature on the Dean's List during his time there. He represented NUS in the 2008 Asia Pacific Regional Rounds of the Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition where he achieved the rare distinction of being the best oralist in the general rounds as well as the best oralist in the finals. Since 2011, he has been teaching trial advocacy at NUS and has also coached NUS moot teams.

Adam is on the panel of counsel for the Law Society of Singapore and has also been appointed by the Honourable the Chief Justice to the Inquiry Panel.

EXPERIENCE

Some of the matters in which Adam has acted include the following:

Successfully acted in trust dispute involving assets estimated to be worth US\$600 – US\$800 million

- Adam successfully acted for members of the De La Sala family in a trust dispute involving assets estimated to be worth US\$600 – US\$800 million. Adam acted for three directors of the companies involved in the dispute and successfully defended claims against them for breach of fiduciary duties and conspiracy.

Lead counsel for a dispute before the Singapore International Commercial Court

- Adam is lead counsel for a property dispute involving high-profile, high net worth individuals which is being heard by the SICC.
- The case is ongoing and Adam has successfully argued several applications before the SICC.

Charge under the Workplace Safety & Health Act

- Adam was lead counsel for a company which had been charged under the WSHA and which was facing a possible fine of \$250,000. After representations were made by Adam, the charge against the company was successfully compounded with a composition sum of only \$5,000 being paid.

Dispute involving alleged damage to more than 300 Chinese ink paintings

- Adam was lead counsel for one of two defendants in an assessment of damages proceeding and subsequent appeal involving claims of more than S\$2 million for alleged damage to more than 300 Chinese ink paintings. Under cross-examination by Adam, the plaintiff's expert made several key admissions that the Court relied on in

reducing the amount of damages claimed by the plaintiff by more than 70%.

S\$80 million infrastructure arbitration

- Co-counsel in an SIAC international arbitration involving a Singapore government-linked company and an Australian listed company. The dispute arose out of a major infrastructure project relating to the construction an electrical services tunnel, and involved significant legal and technical engineering issues. The quantum of the claim exceeded S\$80 million.

S\$18 million Private Banking Dispute

- Successfully represented UBS AG in a S\$18 million dispute where two customers sued the bank for negligent advice and various other allegations surrounding the losses suffered by a US\$60 million investment portfolio in the aftermath of the global financial crisis in 2008.

Representing Takashimaya subsidiary in a S\$33 million dispute with a REIT

- Successfully represented a subsidiary of the Japanese Takashimaya conglomerate in a dispute over its contract with its REIT landlord. The dispute concerned issues of commercial propriety in contract law and involved one of the most iconic shopping.

Claims relating to aircraft engine servicing

- Acted for a well-known aircraft engine manufacturer in claims relating to breaches of engine service agreements by international airlines.

Claims for breach of contract for sale of iron ore and heavy melting scrap

- Acted for several companies in relation to various claims for breach of contract for the sale of iron ore and heavy melting scrap.

PUBLICATIONS

- *Pupillage and Practice: The Look before the Leap* – published by the Singapore Academy of Law in *Inter Se*, March to April 2006
- *Justice and the Ailing Offender – A Closer Look at Judicial Mercy in Singapore* - published by the Singapore Academy of Law in *Inter Se*, January to June 2009

APPOINTMENTS / MEMBERSHIPS

- Member, Singapore Academy of Law
- Member, Law Society of Singapore
- Member, Law Society's Criminal Legal Aid Scheme
- Adjunct tutor in advocacy courses at the National University of Singapore
- Appointed to the panel of counsel for the Law Society of Singapore
- Appointed to the Inquiry Panel of the Law Society of Singapore