



Adam Maniam
Director, Dispute Resolution
Director, Competition Law Practice (Disputes)

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 regularly handles multi-jurisdictional disputes involving parties located in ASEAN, Asia-Pacific and other countries such as PNG, Australia and the United Kingdom.

Adam has wide experience in both obtaining and resisting injunctions in Court proceedings as well as in obtaining emergency orders for arbitration proceedings.

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 in successful SIAC Emergency Arbitration

- Adam was lead in an SIAC Emergency Arbitration application. He successfully obtained emergency orders preventing the respondent from terminating a highly lucrative licensing agreement for novel technology in the oil and gas industry.

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.

ACCOLADES

The Asia-Pacific Legal 500

Dispute Resolution 2021 – Next Generation Lawyer for 2 consecutive years

Sources say “Adam Maniam is exceptional. His comprehensive knowledge of the case, understanding of legal nuances and timely advice has been invaluable.”



Asialaw Client Service Excellence 2020 edition

Identified as one of the highest rated lawyers to work with for Dispute Resolution in Singapore.

Only lawyers with the highest overall aggregate ratings have been included. Scores are also backed up with detailed feedback based on the quality of service received.

Asialaw Leading Lawyers 2020 edition

Sources say Adam is “a brilliant thinker with a sharp mind and a calm demeanour. His advocacy is first class and he prevails over senior SC in court in an unpresumptuous manner that delivers clarity and persuasion.”

PUBLICATIONS

- Contributed to the Singapore Chapter in *Litigation 2019 Second Edition* – published by Chambers & Partners Global
- *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
- *Pupillage and Practice: The Look before the Leap* – published by the Singapore Academy of Law in *Inter Se*, March to April 2006

APPOINTMENTS/MEMBERSHIPS

- Appointed to the Inquiry Panel of the Law Society of Singapore

- Appointed to the panel of counsel for the Law Society of Singapore
- 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