



Daniel Cai
Director, Dispute Resolution

LL.B (Hons) National University of Singapore (2009)
Advocate & Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Singapore (2010)
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ABOUT DANIEL

Daniel practices civil litigation and international arbitration.

He handles a wide range of matters including complex disputes in construction, banking and finance, infrastructure projects, corporate and commercial disputes. He has also acted for clients in relation to investigations by various regulatory authorities in Singapore.

Daniel has represented multinational corporations, governments, financial institutions and individuals at all levels of the Singapore Courts and in international arbitrations.

Daniel has been appointed by the Honourable the Chief Justice as a member of the Inquiry Panel under the Legal Profession Act. He is also an author of *Singapore Civil Procedure*, Sweet & Maxwell.

EXPERIENCE

Some of the matters in which Daniel has acted include:

Construction

- Successfully acted for a homeowner in a claim commenced in the Singapore High Court against a property developer for serious defects in a bungalow located in Sentosa Cove. The High Court held that the developer was in breach of contract due to the defects in the property, and held that the homeowner is entitled to recover damages for those defects. This decision is reported at [2019] SGHC 175.
- Successfully acted for the homeowner before the Court of Appeal, in a decision concerning the nature and effect of defects liability clauses. This decision is reported at [2020] SGCA 86.
- Successfully acted as lead counsel during the assessment of damages phase of the proceedings relating to the above matters.

- Successfully acted for an earthworks sub-contractor in a series of adjudications under the Building and Construction Industry Security of Payment Act (Cap 30B) (2006 Rev Ed).
- Acted for one of the parties in an S\$80 million infrastructure arbitration involving a power generation company relating to a major infrastructure project. The arbitration involved significant legal and technical issues and the Tribunal was comprised of prominent arbitrators including an American chairman, an Australian arbitrator and a Singaporean arbitrator.

International arbitration / arbitration

- Acted in an international arbitration under the UNCITRAL Rules concerning a multi-jurisdiction distribution agreement with one of the world's largest brand-name apparel companies. The arbitration involved complex issues relating to breach of contract, lawful and unlawful means conspiracy, and trademark infringements, amongst others.
- Successfully acted for the Claimant in an international arbitration seated in Singapore relating to a claim by a minority shareholder against the majority shareholder of a company providing iron-ore related logistics in Africa.
- Successfully represented the Government of Laos in a challenge to an international arbitral tribunal's ruling that a Macau-based investor may bring expropriation claims of approximately US\$900 million against the Government of Laos pursuant to a Bilateral Investment Treaty between Laos and the People's Republic of China. The case raises a complex interaction between points of international law, treaties and custom, issues of PRC law and Singapore's domestic laws and policies towards jurisdictional rulings in investment treaty arbitrations.

- Acting in a SIAC international arbitration concerning valuable mining concessions in Indonesia. The value of the dispute is estimated at US\$500m to US\$600m, and it involves counsel and arbitrators from the United States, Singapore, Indonesia and Australia.
- Acting as lead counsel for a fast-moving consumer goods company in a Singapore seated arbitration concerning a dispute over the construction of a multi-storey warehouse.

Multi-billion infrastructure arbitration

- Daniel was part of the team acting in a complex international arbitration involving a multi-billion dollar mining project in Australia. There were also parallel proceedings before the Australian and Korean national Courts. The arbitral tribunal consists of eminent and distinguished individuals, chaired by a retired English High Court Judge.

Companies, minority oppression

- Acted as lead counsel in successfully defending the former editor of The Straits Times in a S\$1.6 billion claim in the Singapore High Court concerning breach of contract, oppression, conspiracy and breach of directors' duties. The Judgment can be found at [2022] SGHC 238, and the matter was reported in the media.
- Successfully defended the majority shareholders of a Singapore-based chemical company in a High Court action brought by a minority shareholder who alleged that the majority shareholders had acted in a manner oppressive to him. The decision of the High Court is reported in [2011] SGHC 116.

Wrongful dismissal claim against bank

- Acted for a bank in a lawsuit in the Singapore High Court brought by a former senior employee against the bank for unfair dismissal. This suit arose on the back of global investigations by authorities worldwide into the alleged fixing and manipulation of global benchmark reference rates.

Regulatory investigations / Criminal

- Advised clients on investigations and requests for information made by various regulatory authorities in Singapore, including the Monetary Authority of Singapore, the Competition Commission of Singapore and the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore
- Representing the founder of a Singapore-listed technology company in respect of charges brought under the Penal Code and the Securities and Futures Act.

ACCOLADE

Asian Legal Business Asia Super 50 Disputes Lawyers 2021



Recognised as being amongst the top 50 disputes lawyers in the region

A client commended Daniel as *"an excellent lawyer with methodical and insightful approach to litigation."*

Benchmark Litigation

Commercial & Transactions 2024 – Future Star

APPOINTMENTS / MEMBERSHIPS

- Member, Singapore Academy of Law
- Member, Law Society of Singapore