



Gerui Lim
Director, Dispute Resolution

B.A. (Hons), Oxford University (UK, 2004)
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ABOUT GERUI

Gerui studied law at Oxford University and graduated in 2004. She returned to Singapore and was called to the Singapore Bar in 2006, when she joined Drew & Napier and has since been practicing as a litigator. In 2016, she was named among Singapore's 70 most influential lawyers under 40 by the Singapore Business Review.

AREAS OF PRACTICE

Gerui practices corporate and commercial litigation and arbitration across a wide range of fields. She has represented high profile clients and high net worth individuals in a variety of matters including complex commercial disputes, investigations/disciplinary proceedings, director/ shareholder fights, trust and inheritance disputes, regulatory actions and banking and finance disputes.

EXPERIENCE

Some of the notable cases Gerui has handled include:

Investor-State disputes / Treaty Arbitration

- Acting for the Government of India in relation to Bilateral Investment Treaty disputes with the Cairn and Vedanta Groups over tax assessment orders issued by the Government on \$3.8 billion capital gains arising from a complex restructuring exercise involving Indian oil and gas assets.
- Acting for the Government of Laos in an application to set aside a Tribunal's jurisdictional ruling in an investor-state arbitration involving claims of more than US\$890 million. The arbitration was brought by a Macanese company which alleged that its casino and gambling-related investments in Laos had been unlawfully expropriated. This high-profile

case raised public international law questions of whether the Bilateral Investment Treaty between Laos and the PRC applied to the Macao SAR and whether disputes over expropriation were arbitrable under the treaty.

- Acting for the Government of Laos to oppose setting aside applications filed against two awards which were issued in related investor-state arbitrations under ICSID (AF) and UNCITRAL rules.
- Acting for an international gas and energy company in a dispute against the Turkish State involving the seizure of its subsidiaries and investments in Turkey based on allegations of suspected criminal activity involving terrorism and money laundering.
- Acting for and advising a Singapore investor in a dispute concerning a foreign government's enactment of legislation which purported to invalidate earlier arbitral awards obtained by the company's foreign subsidiaries.

International Arbitration & Cross-border Litigation

- Acting for Indian parties against a state-owned Korean power generation company in relation to a project for the construction of a 2x300 mega-watt coal based power generation plant in India. The total of parties' claim amounts in the Arbitrations is in excess of US\$600 million.
- Acting for the Government of Laos and two Delaware parties in an SIAC arbitration against Dutch and Macanese parties. The dispute concerned the management and sale of a casino. It involved claims under New York law for breach of fiduciary duties, breach of contract and conversion, and raised issues of res judicata/ collateral estoppel and abuse of process. Subsequent challenge proceedings before

the Singapore International Commercial Court were dismissed and the tribunal's award was successfully enforced.

- Acting for a state-owned Russian company against a Yukos Group entity to resist enforcement of an ICC arbitral award of over \$80 million. The case involved concurrent litigation in Russia, France and Ireland.
- Acting for an international sports marketing, media and event management company in an arbitration with a Singapore-based company over the payment of about US\$80 million in fees in connection with television and mobile broadcast rights to a major cricket tournament in India. The case involved concurrent satellite litigation in India.
- Acting for a Japanese conglomerate in a multi-million dollar arbitration against a Vietnamese entity in relation to the construction and commissioning of a pulp and paper mill in Vietnam. The case involved concurrent satellite litigation in Vietnam and a successful application for an interim injunction to stop a bank guarantee call.
- Acting for a Philippines distributor of confectionary products in an arbitration against US parties over the termination of a distributor agreement governed by Philippines law.
- Acting for a Japanese supplier against an Indian engineering company in relation to a dispute arising from a clean energy project for the largest electricity company in Sri Lanka. The proceedings involved emergency applications for interim injunctions to prevent calls on a bank guarantee. The arbitration was conducted under SIAC rules and involved the application of Indian law.
- Acting for a Canadian listed company against Indonesian parties in respect of a dispute over participation rights to exploiting coal bed methane deposits in Kalimantan. The case involved an international arbitration under ICC Rules.
- Acted for a German partnership and a Cayman Island company in a claim against their ex-agent. It concerned allegations of fraud and misrepresentation

by the latter in procuring a sale of Tang-dynasty artefacts for US\$32 million. The case involved concurrent proceedings in the Singapore and German courts, and resulted in a landmark judgment by the Singapore Court of Appeal in the field of private international law.

- Defending Indonesian and UAE parties against claims brought in Singapore by an Indian company over a failed attempt to exploit coal mining concessions in Indonesia. The Singapore action was successfully stayed on the basis of *forum non conveniens*.

Trust and Inheritance disputes

- Acting in a major trust dispute over the ownership of assets of US\$600 million to US\$800 million. The matter involved complex corporate trust structures based in the British Virgin Islands and Cayman Islands.
- Acting in a dispute involving multiple family-run companies where funds placed into informal trust structures were subject to competing ownership claims.
- Acting in a dispute over the administration of the estate of an ultra-high net worth individual, where the estate assets were located and managed across different jurisdictions under the name and control of nominee companies.
- Acting for and advising a professional trust company administering over US\$36 million of assets under a family trust, where assets were located across different jurisdictions. The case involved a dispute over the distribution of the trust assets due to Venezuelan forced heirship laws, and involved proceedings in Florida and Singapore.

Investigations

- Acting for an international banking group in high-profile investigations by the Commercial Affairs Department and Monetary Authority of Singapore into suspected money-laundering transactions involving a foreign state-owned investment vehicle.
- Acting for international insurance companies in investigations by the Monetary Authority of Singapore over

alleged regulatory and compliance breaches.

- Advising an international bank in relation to reviews/ audits undertaken pursuant to orders issued by the New York Department of Financial Services in connection with violations of US sanction laws.

Internal disciplinary proceedings

- Acting for a state-owned company in highly sensitive and contentious investigations involving allegations of wrongful conduct by a high-ranking C-level employee. The matter involved conducting detailed forensic reviews of electronic data repositories.
- Acting for a company in disciplinary investigations/ proceedings against its CEO in respect of alleged sexual harassment of another employee.
- Advising and assisting tertiary educational institutions on their disciplinary frameworks/ structures for investigating and sanctioning staff and student misconduct, including creating specialised procedures for sexual misconduct cases.
- Advising and assisting corporations, charities, clubs, disciplinary committees/ tribunals in the conduct of internal disciplinary proceedings and the imposition of sanctions, including sexual misconduct cases.
- Representing and advising individuals in their responses / defences to internal disciplinary proceedings commenced by their employers.

Employment

- Acting for a leading Singapore insurer in a high-profile dispute concerning the alleged solicitation of a group of over 250 agents. The matter involved Court proceedings and also gave rise to regulatory investigations.
- Advising and acting for a Singapore company on its recruitment efforts in relation to over 300 individuals from a rival firm.
- Acting for both employers and individuals in disputes arising from employee movements and recruitment drives, including issues relating to alleged

breaches of non-competition / non-solicitation/ confidentiality clauses.

Software / IT Infrastructure

- Acting for the National University of Singapore in a \$30 million lawsuit against a computer software developer in respect of a project for the design, customisation and installation of a university-wide integrated student information system. The case resulted in a landmark judgment by the Singapore High Court on the spoliation of evidence.
- Acting for a Fortune Global 500 digital and technology company in a complex dispute over a \$107 million project for the supply, delivery, installation, setup, testing, implementation and commissioning a nation-wide infrastructure system.
- Acting for an international computer software developer in an arbitration in respect of a project for the delivery, installation and adaptation of a digital insurance solution based on proprietary software.
- Acting for an international IT systems implementor in relation to a dispute with a bank over a project for the implementation of an integrated regulatory compliance and reporting solution suite.
- Acting for an international network infrastructure business in a dispute relating to the termination of an IT implementation project due to non-compliance with tender requirements.

Regulatory/ Public Administrative Actions

- Acting for the Monetary Authority of Singapore in the first two civil penalty actions commenced in the Singapore Courts under the Securities and Futures Act. Both cases resulted in landmark judgments by the Singapore Court of Appeal - one on market manipulation and the other on insider trading.
- Acting for the Monetary Authority of Singapore in judicial review proceedings brought by a fund management company over the withdrawal of its exemption from holding a Capital Markets Services License under the Securities and Futures Act.

- Acting for the National University of Singapore in a high profile case concerning a professor accused of corruptly receiving sexual favours from students. The case involved an administrative law challenge to the University's dismissal of the professor.

Personal Data Protection / Information Management, Use & Disclosure

- Advising an international bank on restrictions and obligations arising under banking secrecy and personal data protection laws.
- Acting for and advising companies on reporting obligations and filing suspicious transaction reports under criminal statutes.

Landlord / Tenant

- Acting for the Singapore arm of the Japanese Takashimaya conglomerate in a dispute over its lease of one of Singapore's most prestigious and iconic shopping centres.

ACCOLADES

Global Arbitration Review 9th edition (2016)

A client praised the "excellent" Gerui Lim in the Global Arbitration Review 9th edition (2016).

India Business Law Journal

In the India Business Law Journal (June 2015 issue), a client that engaged the firm on an international arbitration matter described Gerui as "*very skilled and extremely dedicated to the needs of the client*".

MEMBERSHIPS

- Member, Law Society of Singapore
- Member, Singapore Academy of Law
- YSIAC Committee Member (2019-2022)