



Jason Goh *Associate Director, Dispute Resolution*

LL.B. (Hons), National University of Singapore (2011)

Admitted to the Singapore Bar (2012)

T: +65 6531 2257 F: +65 6535 4906 E: jason.goh@drewnapier.com

ABOUT JASON

Jason's practice involves acting and advising in a wide range of complex contentious matters, which include matters relating to commercial contracts, joint venture agreements, trade and trade finance disputes, shareholder disputes, moneylending transactions, construction disputes, and employment-related matters. He also advises on contentious property matters, such as tenancy disputes, collective sale (*en bloc*) matters, and strata property (MCST) disputes.

Jason regularly acts for clients in both domestic and international arbitrations. In addition, he often appears as counsel in the State Courts and the Supreme Court of Singapore, in construction adjudications lodged pursuant to the Building and Construction Industry Security and Payment Act, and in strata property disputes lodged with the Strata Titles Boards.

EXPERIENCE

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

Trade and Trade Finance

- Represented a forefront Middle Eastern bank in obtaining worldwide freezing orders in the Singapore courts against a former customer and its owners and associates who had, through the incorporation of sham companies and the forgery of documents, caused the bank to extend over US\$100 million of credit on false premises.
- Acted for a global petrochemical trading group in resisting a claim for conversion brought by a New Zealand entity in respect of fuel oil that was loaded on board two vessels in Papua New Guinea.
- Represented an India-based cotton trader in defending various claims brought against it by a financial institution arising

out of an allegedly fraudulent transaction which the lender had financed.

- Advised financial institutions on how their involvement in certain transactions may affect their potential exposure to anti-money laundering (AML) or combating the financing of terrorism (CFT) regulations, for e.g. MAS Notice 626).

Arbitration

- Successfully assisted a commodities trader in obtaining a stay of proceedings brought against it in the Singapore courts, notwithstanding the "bare" nature of the arbitration clauses involved in the sales contracts (*KVC Rice Intertrade Co Ltd v Asian Mineral Resources Pte Ltd and another suit* [2017] 4 SLR 182). This case involved the novel issue of whether the Singapore courts would uphold an arbitration clause which was so bare that it did not expressly state the place of arbitration, the means of appointing arbitrators, the language, roles, and the governing law applicable to the arbitration.
- Represented a commodities trader in successfully defending a claim brought by a leading financial institution for a debt due under a factoring agreement which had allegedly been assigned to the trader. This was an ad hoc arbitration conducted under a modified version of the SIAC Rules 2016.
- Acted for a Vietnamese state-linked manufacturer in resisting a claim in an SIAC arbitration brought by a Spanish supplier of electrical equipment for alleged breaches of various shareholder and co-operation agreements.
- Advised and represented commodities traders in various arbitration claims brought under the SCMA Rules, such as misdelivery claims.

Property and Construction

- Represented a state-owned Chinese construction and engineering firm in contesting various applications lodged pursuant to the Building and Construction Industry Security of Payment Act. The value of the underlying contract, which was commissioned by the Land Transport Authority to extend one of the MRT lines in Singapore, was in excess of S\$500 million.
- Represented several minority subsidiary proprietors of a condominium development in successfully opposing what would have been the largest collective (*en bloc*) sale in Singapore (at the time) of over S\$550 million. The High Court agreed with the position taken by the opposing subsidiary proprietors and refused to approve the collective sale on the ground that the transaction was not in good faith.
- Represented both subsidiary proprietors and Management Corporations (MCSTs) in bringing and defending a variety of actions involving strata developments, such as breach of by-laws, unauthorized alterations of lots, and allegations of preferential or unfair treatment.

Employment

- Represented various corporate entities (including a well-known conglomerate in the Singapore F&B sector) in their investigations and subsequent action against their existing/former employees who had acted in conflict with their employers' interests.
- Represented a prominent fashion company in defending claims of wrongful dismissal and harassment brought by a former senior employee.
- Advised and represented both corporations and senior/junior employees on the effect of various confidentiality and restraint of trade clauses in their employment contracts.

Commercial

- Acted for several minority shareholders in an oppression action involving a family-held company worth over S\$100 million. The dispute was successfully resolved amicably and out of court.

- Represented a financial institution in its recovery efforts against its debtor-mortgagor, which was one of the largest energy enterprises based in the People's Republic of China, and which had sought a moratorium from the Singapore courts in aid of its ongoing restructuring efforts.
- Acted for a majority owner of a holding and subsidiary company in Hong Kong in its attempt to regain control over both companies from an errant Board of Directors who were acting in accordance with the instructions of a minority shareholder.
- Represented the former Chief Executive Officer of a public listed company in defending claims brought by a lender who had charged allegedly extortionate interest on the loan in breach of the Moneylenders Act.
- Represented a minority shareholder of a waste disposal company in a claim brought by the majority shareholder in the name of the company. The claims centered over the ownership of certain intellectual property rights in the technology developed by the minority shareholder.
- Represented an investor in a privately-owned animation company in a matter involving a potential dispute over the exercise of pre-emption rights, drag-along rights, and/or tag-along rights in the parties' shareholders agreement.

MEMBERSHIPS

- Member, Law Society of Singapore
- Member, Singapore Academy of Law
- Member, Criminal Legal Aid Scheme