



Allister Tan
Director, Dispute Resolution

LL.B. (Hons), The University of Nottingham (2006)
Barrister-at-Law, Lincolns Inn (2007)
Admitted to the Malaysian Bar (2008)
Admitted to the Singapore Bar (2015)
T: +65 6531 2446 E: allister.tan@drewnapier.com

ABOUT ALLISTER

Allister specialises in complex corporate, commercial and insurance related disputes.

He frequently acts as lead counsel for corporations and individuals in contractual, fraud, as well as employment related disputes. In addition, Allister has extensive experience in trade credit and other insurance related disputes (financial lines).

Allister also maintains an active arbitration practice and acts in a wide range of institutional as well as ad hoc arbitrations, as well as in arbitration related applications before the Singapore courts.

In addition to being admitted to the Singapore Bar, he is also admitted to the Malaysian Bar and the English Bar.

EXPERIENCE

Arbitration

- Acting for an investment fund in 3 related SIAC arbitrations involving an Indonesian restaurant chain. The dispute is in excess of US\$50 million and involves issues Singapore law and Indonesian law, and the legality of various transactional documents.
- Acting for a global technology and e-commerce platform in a SIAC arbitration involving a multinational electronics supplier. The dispute is in excess of US\$25 million and pertains to amounts due for goods marketed and supplied on the e-commerce platform.
- Acting for one of South East Asia's largest fabric manufacturers in a SIAC arbitration involving a multinational yarn supplier. The dispute pertains to commissions payable on account of fabrics supplied to an international sporting brand.
- Acting for a Russian coal supplier in an application to the High Court to set aside an arbitral award. The dispute arose from the wrongful termination of a supply agreement by a Korean energy solutions company.
- Acted for a subsidiary of a public listed Indonesian coal mining conglomerate in a SIAC arbitration. The dispute relates to breaches of a supply agreement involving a sum in excess of US\$17 million and involved a successful application to challenge the jurisdiction of the Tribunal to hear the matter for non-compliance with a multi-tiered arbitration clause.
- Acted in 2 related SIAC arbitrations in relation to breaches of a sale and purchase agreement and a deed of undertaking involving an amount of approximately US\$57 million. The dispute was in relation to the sale and purchase of several palm oil plantations in Indonesia and inter alia involved expert evidence on Indonesian laws and procedures.
- Acted for an Indian Steel Conglomerate against a Nigerian company in a SIAC arbitration involving an amount in excess of US\$20 million for breach of a memorandum of understanding in relation to the supply of raw materials / consulting services.
- Acted for a public listed company in 4 DIAC arbitrations involving an amount in excess of S\$100 million for breaches of several construction related contracts governed by UAE Law.
- Acted for an investment holding company in an ICC arbitration involving an amount in excess of €18 million for breach of a share purchase agreement governed by Singapore Law.
- Acted for a foreign investment fund in a SIAC arbitration involving breaches of a service agreement governed by Mauritian

Law, which also involved a successful application to the High Court to remove an arbitrator.

Commercial and Civil Disputes

- Acting for a Russian oligarch in a dispute spanning over multiple jurisdictions (i.e. Cyprus, BVI, Russia, Singapore and Belize) involving a major Russian based bank. The dispute involves a sum in excess of Euro 120 million as well as *mareva* injunctions in multiple jurisdictions, and the appointment of receivers and managers over assets.
- Acting for a Malaysian based financial institution in relation to the recovery of sums due under a loan facility. The dispute involves issues of Singapore and Malaysian law, and the legality of the underlying loan documents.
- Acting for a specialist architectural firm in a dispute relating to the design and construction of a zoo in Singapore.
- Acting for an airport operator in a dispute relating to the duty-free liquor and tobacco concession issued to a global luxury travel retailer.
- Acting for a fund management company in a dispute relating to the purchase of a shopping mall in Malaysia by a syndication of investors.
- Acted for and advised a Malaysian oil and gas refining company in a dispute relating to the transport and supply of cargo by a multinational oil and gas distributor, and the imposition of fines and penalties by the Royal Malaysian Customs Department.
- Acted for Receivers appointed over charged assets in several legal proceedings involving *inter alia* the enforceability of security documents and the setting aside of assets sold by the Receivers.
- Acted for a multinational IT consulting firm in a dispute with an international bank involving allegations of misappropriation of confidential information.
- Acted for the Football Association of Singapore in a claim for defamation against a sports journalist.
- Acted for an ultra-high net worth individual in a suit against a major financial institution involving breaches of contractual

obligations in relation to the force-sale of certain shares listed on the Singapore Stock Exchange. The dispute involved issues of Singapore law and English law.

- Acted for a financial institution in relation to the recovery and restructuring of a loan facility amounting approximately US\$350 million.
- Acted for a syndication of lenders in a heavily contested scheme of arrangements, which also involved the determination of an issue involving the priority of debts between different lenders.

Employment

- Acting for a former senior executive in a multinational logistics company in a dispute for wrongful termination following the issuance of a whistle blowing report relating to unfair practices of the company. The dispute involves issues of Singapore law and Guinea-Bissau law.
- Acting for a multinational shipping company in an employment law related dispute against five of its former senior executives for fraud, breach of fiduciary duties and breach of contract.
- Acted for a large international travel logistics and travel solutions company in an employment law related dispute which involved the company suing seven of its former directors and senior management team for breach of fiduciary duties and breach of contract.
- Acted for the former MD of a multinational shipping firm in an employment related SIAC Arbitration involving alleged breaches of non-compete / non-solicitation obligations. The matter also involved an application for interim relief before an emergency arbitrator.
- Acted for a major shipping container leasing company in a dispute against a former employee for *inter alia* breach of a non-compete clause.

Insurance

- Acting for an insurer an insurance claim in excess of S\$50 million for business interruption losses suffered by the insured's group of companies as a result of the

restrictions imposed by the government following the COVID 19 pandemic.

- Acting for a global invoice finance platform in relation to claims under trade credit insurance policies, and the recovery debts in excess of US\$15 million. The matter also involved issues of fraud.
- Acting for a major trade credit insurer in relation to claims against and arising from the collapse of a multinational commodity trader, which is alleged to have carried out fraudulent trading activities.
- Advising a major trade credit insurer in relation to insurance regulatory related matters in Singapore.
- Acted for an insurer in 2 SIAC arbitrations involving a major Singapore based bank. The dispute arises from claims for indemnities under trade credit insurance policies involving a sum in excess of US\$60 million.
- Acted for an insurer in a dispute before the Singapore High Court involving a Japanese multinational company. The dispute arises from claim for indemnities under trade credit insurance and involves issues of fraud.
- Acted for an insurer in a dispute before the Singapore High Court involving a multinational paper supplier. The dispute arises from claims for indemnities under trade credit insurance and involves the construction of policy terms.
- Acted for an insurer in a subrogated recovery proceeding involving a major construction company. The dispute arises from property damaged as a result of drainage works carried out
- Acted for an insurer in a dispute involving a multinational construction company in relation to obligations under a contractors' all risk insurance policy for the construction of an integrated sports, entertainment and lifestyle hub.
- Acted for a reinsurer in a dispute involving a Japanese investment bank and a multinational oil and gas conglomerate in relation to amounts due under a loan facility.

Regulatory

- Acting for a non-independent director in a Singapore public listed company in relation to a show cause notice issued by the Singapore Exchange in relation to alleged breaches of the Listing Manual.
- Acted for a public listed construction company for offences under the Electricity Act and successfully made representations to the Energy Market Authority of Singapore which led to the discharge of the charges.

ACCOLADE

Benchmark Litigation Asia-Pacific Awards

Impact Case 2024 – Winners
QBE Insurance and another v Relax Beach

Singapore Business Review

Identified as one of Singapore's most influential lawyers under 40 for 2023

Asian Legal Business

Singapore Rising Stars 2022 & 2024 – Recognised lawyer

"His acumen in navigating complex legal landscapes has enabled him to build and grow the firm's insurance disputes practice, which now has the reputation of being one of the top choices for policyholders in such disputes."

Allister and his team *"have acted for multinationals, government owned entities and various other high-profile clients, reflecting his expertise and strategic acumen in resolving complex disputes"*.

Clients commended Allister for his *"brilliant legal mind"* and for being *"an extremely persuasive advocate"*. He is also described as *"not only an excellent legal advisor but also a savvy negotiator with a good understanding of both commercial as well as insurance requirements"*.

asiaLaw Leading Lawyers

"Allister is a technical expert in the sparse world of insurance disputes, and a trusted adviser who balances commercial needs with the legal position."

"Very responsive, practical and hands-on."

“Allister is able to explain legal technicalities so that you can understand. He is able to provide solutions to help us with our issues.”

“Allister knows our business and what we want to achieve. He understands our commercial approach and also provides a realistic and commercial assessment as well as the pure legal view.”

PUBLICATIONS

- Contributed to the Singapore Chapter in *Insurance Disputes 2024*– published by The Legal 500

APPOINTMENTS/MEMBERSHIPS

- Assessor for Ministry of Law Panel of Assessors for COVID-19 Temporary Relief
- Board Member of Dementia Singapore
- Honourary Secretary, Management Committee Member, and Audit Subcommittee Member of the Alzheimer’s Disease Association
- Member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (MCI Arb)
- Member of the Civil Practice Committee of the Law Society of Singapore
- Member of the IT Committee of the Law Society of Singapore