



Kelvin Tan  
*Director, Dispute Resolution*

LL.B (Hons) National University of Singapore (1994)

Admitted to the Singapore Bar (1995)

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## ABOUT KELVIN

Kelvin read law at the National University in Singapore, and joined Drew & Napier following graduation.

Kelvin has an active practice in litigation and international arbitration. He also co-heads the Employment and Hotels and Leisure Practices.

He has litigated complex commercial disputes in a wide range of areas, including insurance, intellectual property, fraud and breach of fiduciary duties, international arbitration, investment and shareholder disputes, and trusts.

He has represented clients in international arbitrations under various institutional rules such as the SIAC, ICC, LCIA, AIAC and UNCITRAL rules.

## EXPERIENCE

These are a few of the matters that Kelvin has handled:

- **US\$120 million smartphone dispute** – Represented a listed electronics manufacturer in an SIAC arbitration against a European principal in disputes arising from development and manufacturing agreements for a new smartphone, involving cross-claims relating to the design and manufacture of smartphone handsets and software applications.
- **Represented a leading insurer in termination of a bancassurance agreement** – Obtained an award for an international insurer against a bank denying a claim in excess of \$10 million, which followed the termination of a long-term bancassurance distribution agreement.
- **US\$80 million joint venture dispute** – Successfully represented a leading European business software house in an SIAC arbitration against its South Asian joint venture partner, arising out of a failed joint venture.
- **Online game publishing dispute** – Represented a North Asian developer of a massively multiplayer online game in an arbitration constituted under the ICC Rules against its publisher in a claim for unlawful termination of a software publishing contract.
- **US\$60 million OEM contract dispute** – Acted for a component manufacturer in an LCIA arbitration against a European principal in respect of disputes over an OEM contract for telecommunications transmission products.
- **Automotive joint venture arbitration** – Represented a national automotive manufacturer and obtained an award against its former North Asian joint venture partner for breaches of their agreement for the manufacturing and transfer of technology.
- **Semiconductor patent dispute** – Acted for a world-leading semiconductor test and inspection company against its European competitor in the High Court in respect of cross-claims for infringement and invalidation in respect of patents for semiconductor inspection modules.
- **Cross-jurisdictional trade mark dispute** – Represented the owner of a popular hospitality business against an invalidation claim against its registered trade mark brought on the basis that it was a well-known mark, and that the registration was held on trust.
- **Exception to specific performance of land** – Represented a security holder at trial and before the Court of Appeal to resist specific performance of the sale of a good class bungalow property valued at \$40 million.

## ACCOLADES

### Chambers Asia-Pacific

Employment:  
Domestic - Singapore  
2024 – Band 3 for 4  
consecutive years



Employment:  
Domestic –  
Singapore 2020 –  
Recognised practitioner for 3 consecutive  
years

Dispute Resolution: Litigation - Singapore  
2020 – Recognised practitioner for 4  
consecutive years

*"Kelvin Tan offers practical and helpful  
insights into complex questions, for which  
there are no clear or easy answers."*

*"He is an experienced partner, who is highly  
responsive and understands clients' needs."*

*"Kelvin understands the client's needs and  
priorities. He is able to break down issues and  
address risks with a practical and client-  
friendly approach."*

One client praises Kelvin for his *"knowledge of  
employment legislation, referencing case laws  
around the world and applying it to our  
matters."*

Another client describes Kelvin as *"cool, calm  
and decisive."*

### Best Lawyers International: Singapore

Arbitration and Mediation 2023 – Endorsed  
individual for 4 consecutive years

### The Legal 500 Asia Pacific

Employment 2023 –  
Recommended lawyer for  
8 consecutive years

Dispute Resolution 2023 –  
Recommended lawyer

International Arbitration  
2022 – Recommended lawyer



*"Kelvin Tan is a valuable resource for  
contentious matters."*

*"[Kelvin Tan] is always attuned to clients'  
needs and available to discuss their  
concerns."*

### Asialaw Leading Lawyers

Labour and Employment 2023/24 –  
Distinguished Practitioner for 5 consecutive  
years

*"Kelvin takes responsibility for his lawyers and  
their work. He is pleasant and effective in  
court trials as a senior litigation lawyer, and he  
and his team are not only legally competent,  
but practical and helpful in meeting our needs  
in their advice and solutions offered."*

Kelvin is praised for being *"client-focused,  
knowledgeable with practical solutions,  
accessible and responsive, understands the  
client's needs and expectations"*.

*"Kelvin has the qualities that in-house legal  
teams look for in external counsel: technical  
proficiency, thoroughness and a keen  
appreciation of commercial sensitivities. He  
delivers sound and carefully considered  
advice, which demonstrates a deft balance of  
legal technicalities and commercial strategy."*

### Benchmark Litigation Asia-Pacific

Labour and Employment 2023 – Litigation  
Star for 2 consecutive years

### Who's Who Legal

Global Guide: Labour & Employment 2023 –  
Leading Lawyer for 2 consecutive years

Global Guide: Hospitality 2022 – Leading  
Lawyer

National Guide: Southeast Asia - Labour,  
Employment & Benefits 2023 – Leading  
Lawyer for 2 consecutive years

National Guide: Southeast Asia - Commercial  
Litigation 2023 – Leading Lawyer

*"Kelvin Tan is highly esteemed for his  
outstanding track-record resolving complex  
employment disputes in both arbitration and  
litigation proceedings."*

*"Kelvin Tan earns plaudits for his impressive  
experience advising and representing  
hospitality clients across the spectrum of  
domestic and international matters."*

## APPOINTMENTS/MEMBERSHIPS

- Assessor, Panel of Assessors for COVID-19  
Temporary Relief, Ministry of Law
- Member, Admissions Committee of the Law  
Society
- Member, Law Society Inquiry Panel

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