



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 2024 –
Recommended lawyer for
9 consecutive years

Dispute Resolution 2024 –
Recommended lawyer for
2 consecutive years

International Arbitration 2022 –
Recommended lawyer



*"Kelvin Tan has deep expertise and is very
responsive and professional and this can be
seen in his team as well. He provides practical
guidance and recognises that the ideal legal
position or taking a conservative position is*

*not always feasible from the client's
perspective."*

*"Kelvin Tan's team is client-centric. They know
what the client needs, and deliver top-notch
advice each time."*

*"Kelvin Tan offers practical and helpful
strategic advice, which enables businesses to
navigate murky waters with confidence."*

*"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