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Douglas Paine

Barrister
Call 2009

Scope of Practice

• Agency • Arbitration & Expert Determination • Banking and Financial Services • Civil Fraud and Investigations • Commercial Litigation • Company and Insolvency • Economic Torts • Energy and Natural Resources • Injunctions and Urgent Relief • Professional Liability • Injunctions • Jurisdiction and Conflict of Laws

Overview

Douglas is a leading junior with extensive experience of complex and high-value commercial litigation and international arbitration. His practice covers a broad range of commercial disputes, with a particular focus on banking and finance, civil fraud, and energy.

Douglas is instructed in some of the largest-scale and highest-profile international commercial disputes, both in litigation and arbitration (including ICC, LCIA, SCC, SIAC and UNCITRAL).

Recent work includes: ***PIFSS v. Al Rajaan & Ors***, defending claims based on alleged payment of secret commissions as part of US$900 million consolidated Commercial Court proceedings (one of The Lawyer's top 20 cases for 2025); ***FWA v. VietJet***, appealing the liability judgment in a long-running aircraft leasing dispute; ***Microsoft v. CMA***, intervening in an application for review of the CMA's decision to block Microsoft's acquisition of Activision Blizzard; ***Various Claimants v. Glencore & Ors***, multi-action shareholder claims brought under s90 FSMA; and the ***NOx emissions litigation***, defending manufacturers of diesel vehicles in claims concerning alleged breaches of emissions requirements.

Examples of Recent Cases

Banking and Financial Services

Douglas is recommended as a leading junior in Banking and Finance (including consumer credit) by Legal 500. He has significant experience of disputes in the banking and financial services sectors. He has been involved in a number of cases involving allegations of fraud/conspiracy; aircraft financing; shareholder claims under FSMA; and disputes concerning derivatives, including CDO structures and ISDA / GMRA transactions. He also has experience in dealing with accountancy issues in a banking context, including accounting under IAS, completion accounts, tax issues, and the operation of "MAC" clauses. He also has recent experience of urgent injunction applications in a banking/insolvency context.

Recent and notable cases include:

- **The Public Institution for Social Security v. Al Rajaan & Ors**
  For a Swiss private bank (with Tom Adam KC and Rob Harris) defending claims based on alleged payment of secret commissions, as part of consolidated Commercial Court proceedings in which a total of c. US$900m was sought against 40+ defendants. One of The Lawyer's 'Top 20' cases of 2020 and again in 2025, the 12 month-long trial began in March 2025. Douglas' clients reached a settlement in the third week of the Claimant's oral openings.

- **FW Aviation (Holdings) 1 Ltd v. VietJet Aviation Joint Stock Company**
  For VietJet (with Lord Wolfson KC, Steven Thompson KC, Erin Hitchens and Giles Robertson) in an appeal against Picken J's judgment on liability in a long-running dispute concerning aircraft leased to VietJet under a JOLCO structure. The grounds for appeal included issues relating to the correct interpretation of complex security documents (such as the meaning of 'financial institution'), the application of the UK/Japan Double Tax Treaty, and attribution for the purposes of corporate misconduct.

- **Confidential**
  Advising (with Lord Wolfson KC) in relation to a high-value dispute involving a private equity firm and a telecoms/media group

- **Various Claimants v. Glencore & Ors**
  For claimants (with Sonia Tolaney KC, Peter de Verneuil Smith KC, Emma Jones and Joe Johnson) in multi-action shareholder claims brought under s90 FSMA.

- **Credit Suisse Asset Management (Schweiz AG) v. (1) Dr Michael C. Frege (2) Greensill Bank AG**
  For investment funds (with Sonia Tolaney KC and Daniel Benedyk) in relation to an urgent injunction application and related proceedings brought in connection with the collapse of the Greensill group.

- **Confidential**
  For a bank (with Sonia Tolaney KC) in relation to a potential injunction against a credit rating agency.

- **Confidential**
  For a commercial property company (with Lord Wolfson KC) in a dispute concerning rent rebate repayments following a refinancing.

- **Confidential**
  For a bank (with Sonia Tolaney KC) in relation to a potential remediation involving refunds to residential mortgage customers.

- **Confidential**
  For a Dutch provider of agricultural services in a dispute concerning bond financing.

- **Macquarie Capital (Europe) Ltd v. Nordsee Offshore MEG I GmbH**
  For Claimant (with Daniel Toledano KC) in a €19 million claim for payment of completion and debt advisory fees in respect of an offshore windfarm project in the North Sea, based on an engagement agreement with an alternative claim in unjust enrichment.

- **Confidential**
  For an investment company accused of involvement in a substantial conspiracy relating to the issue of loan notes to banking customers.

- **Taurus Funds Management Pty v. Hummingbird Resources Ltd**
  For Claimants in a claim for substantial damages arising from alleged breaches of an exclusive mandate arrangement for the financing of a gold mine in Mali, Africa.

- **ESO Capital Luxembourg Holdings II Sarl v. GSA Invest Management SA & Ors [2017] EWHC 1351 (Ch)**

For Defendants (with Camilla Bingham KC) in relation to alleged breaches of a settlement agreement and conspiracy, concerning the financing and recapitalisation of a Swiss hotel company. Judgment was handed down in June 2017 but the quantification of damages was challenged in July 2017.

- Pacific Capital S.À.R.L v. Windhorst
  For Pacific Capital (with Daniel Toledano KC) in a EUR 25m claim for breach of contract in relation to the re-purchase of bonds in certain Dutch Mining companies. Default judgment was obtained after application in September 2016.

- Nomura International Plc v. Banca Monte Dei Paschi di Siena Spa
  For BMPS (with Jonathan Nash KC) in a multi-billion euro dispute concerning the restructuring of a CDO-based investment and complex asset swap and repo transactions, which are also the subject of high profile civil and criminal proceedings in Italy. The 9-week Commercial Court trial scheduled for March 2016 settled in Q4 2015. Previously appeared with Jonathan Nash KC in an application for a stay of the English proceedings under Art. 28 of the Brussels Regulation ([2013] EWHC 3187 (Comm)).

- Tullow Oil Plc v. Eni UK Ltd & Ors
  For Defendant companies (with Daniel Toledano KC) in claims arising from a hive-out and share purchase transaction relating to a gas field in the North Sea, which included disputes concerning the costs of an aborted carbon capture storage project, refunds received in light of decommissioning of a nearby field, and refunded corporation tax and petroleum revenue tax received after completion under the sale and purchase agreement.

- Barclays Bank Plc v. Svizera Holdings BV & Anr [2014] EWHC 1020 (Comm)
  For Barclays (with Daniel Toledano KC) in an application for a post-judgment worldwide freezing order.

- Grupo Hotelero Urvasco SA v. Carey Value Added SL [2012] EWHC 888 (Comm); [2013] EWHC 1039 (Comm); [2013] EWHC 1732 (Comm)
  For Carey (with Lord Grabiner KC, Manus McMullan KC and Andrew de Mestre), in a 9-week Commercial Court trial in relation to the financing of a hotel and residential apartment complex in the Aldwych, London. Expert issues involved Spanish law, forensic accountancy, construction programming and hotel valuation. Permission to appeal was refused by the Court of Appeal at an oral hearing.

- HSBC & Ors v. AHAB
  For HSBC (with Tim Lord KC and Alex Polley), in a claim against a Middle Eastern corporate group under various loan facilities, in the context of alleged fraud and forgery of the loan documents. The case was one of The Lawyer's "Top 20 cases of 2011", but settled on day 4 of the 7-week trial. Also involved in subsequent enforcement proceedings ([2011] EWHC 2444 (Comm); [2011] 2 CLC 736).

- UBS AG (London Branch) & Anr v. Kommunale Wasserwerke Leipzig GmbH
  Assisted Tim Lord KC, Simon Salzedo KC and Stephen Midwinter in a $150 million claim relating to credit default swaps, synthetic CDOs and portfolio management agreements.

- Expert Determination
  For a major multinational in a dispute concerning price adjustments based on post-closing completion statements, following the sale of downstream assets in Africa.

- Other advisory work
  Advice (with Lord Wolfson KC) in relation to a proposed debt restructuring and issues arising under senior and mezzanine facility agreements.
  Advice (with Alain Choo Choy KC and Orlando Gledhill) to the bankruptcy trustees of a Lehman entity in relation to a Euro medium term note programme.
  Advice on potential redress in respect of interest rate hedging products and the scope of an FCA review.

Commercial Litigation

Douglas is recommended as leading junior for commercial litigation by both Chambers and Partners and Legal 500. He has a particular interest in civil fraud, notably in a banking context, and his experience includes claims (and defences) based on bribery, forgery, illegality and lack of authority. He has extensive experience of group litigation,

including shareholder actions under s90 of FSMA, and acting for defendant manufacturers in the NOx emissions litigation. He recently acted in an appeal in a complex aircraft leasing dispute (*FWA v. VietJet*) and in a high-profile application for review before the CAT (*Microsoft v. CMA*).

- **The Public Institution for Social Security v. Al Rajaan & Ors**
  For a Swiss private bank (with Tom Adam KC and Rob Harris) defending claims based on alleged payment of secret commissions, as part of consolidated Commercial Court proceedings in which a total of c. US$900m was sought against 40+ defendants. One of The Lawyer's 'Top 20' cases of 2020 and again in 2025, the 12 month-long trial began in March 2025. Douglas' clients reached a settlement in the third week of the Claimant's oral openings.

- **FW Aviation (Holdings) 1 Ltd v. VietJet Aviation Joint Stock Company [2025] EWCA Civ 783**
  For VietJet (with Lord Wolfson KC, Steven Thompson KC, Erin Hitchens and Giles Robertson) in an appeal against Picken J's judgment on liability in a long-running dispute concerning aircraft leased to VietJet under a JOLCO structure. The grounds for appeal included issues relating to the correct interpretation of complex security documents (such as the meaning of 'financial institution'), the application of the UK/Japan Double Tax Treaty, and attribution for the purposes of corporate misconduct.

- **Inspired Education Online Ltd v. Tom Crombie [2025] EWHC 1236 (Ch)**
  For Inspired (with Lord Wolfson KC) advising on consequential matters following judgment on a claim for breach of warranty, breach of contract and fraudulent misrepresentation in respect of the sale of an online schooling business.

- **Confidential**
  Advising (with Lord Wolfson KC) in relation to a high-value dispute involving a private equity firm and a telecoms/media group.

- **Microsoft v. CMA**
  For Activision (with Lord Grabiner KC, Lord Pannick KC, Sonia Tolaney KC, Brian Kennelly KC and Jason Pobjoy) in its intervention in Microsoft's application for review of the CMA's decision to block Microsoft's acquisition of Activision.

- **Various Claimants v. Glencore & Ors**
  For claimants (with Sonia Tolaney KC, Peter de Verneuil Smith KC, Emma Jones and Joe Johnson) in multi-action shareholder claims brought under s90 FSMA.

- **NOx Emissions Litigation**
  For defendant manufacturers (with Sonia Tolaney KC, Peter de Verneuil Smith KC and Josh Crow) in claims concerning alleged breaches of NOx emissions requirements in diesel vehicles.

- **Credit Suisse Asset Management (Schweiz AG) v. (1) Dr Michael C. Frege (2) Greensill Bank AG**
  For investment funds (with Sonia Tolaney KC and Daniel Benedyk) in relation to an urgent injunction application and related proceedings brought in connection with the collapse of the Greensill group.

- **(1) Cephalon, Inc (2) Teva Pharmaceuticals USA, Inc v. (1) CP Pharmaceuticals Ltd (2) Wockhardt UK Holdings Ltd (3) Wockhardt Ltd**
  For Defendants (with Ken MacLean KC) in a 5 week Commercial Court trial of claims of economic duress, intimidation and conspiracy relating to the manufacture of a leukaemia drug, involving multiple factual witnesses and highly technical expert evidence. Ultimately settled prior to judgment being handed down.

- **Confidential**
  For an investment company accused of involvement in a substantial conspiracy, and one of the respondents to a worldwide freezing order.

- **Skye Holdings Ltd & Ors v. Gama Aviation (Engineering) Ltd & Ors**
  For Gama Parties (with Sa'ad Hossain KC) in a collection of disputes relating to an aviation engineering business, which settled after the first week of trial.

- Jitendra v. Salgaocar
  For a family estate (with Ken MacLean KC and Timothy Collingwood KC) in relation to multiple BVI proceedings brought against the estate and related companies raising issues of fraud and breach of trust/breach of duty, and jurisdiction issues arising from parallel proceedings in Singapore.

- Taurus Funds Management Pty v. Hummingbird Resources Ltd
  For Claimant (with Camilla Bingham KC) in relation to a dispute concerning alleged breaches of an exclusive mandate arrangement for the financing of a gold mine in Mali, Africa.

- ESO Capital Luxembourg Holdings II Sarl v. GSA Invest Management SA & Ors [2017] EWHC 1351 (Ch)
  For Defendants (with Camilla Bingham KC) in relation to alleged breaches of a settlement agreement and conspiracy, concerning the financing and recapitalisation of a Swiss hotel company.

- Nomura International Plc v. Banca Monte Dei Paschi di Siena Spa
  For BMPS (with Jonathan Nash KC) in a multi-billion euro dispute concerning the restructuring of a CDO-based investment and complex asset swap and repo transactions, which were also the subject of high profile civil and criminal proceedings in Italy. Previously appeared with Jonathan Nash KC in an application for a stay of the English proceedings under Art. 28 of the Judgments Regulation ([2013] EWHC 3187 (Comm)).

- Grupo Hotelero Urvasco SA v. Carey Value Added SL [2012] EWHC 888 (Comm); [2013] EWHC 1039 (Comm); [2013] EWHC 1732 (Comm)
  For Carey (with Lord Grabiner KC, Manus McMullan KC and Andrew de Mestre), in a 9-week Commercial Court trial in relation to the financing of a hotel and residential apartment complex in the Aldwych, London.

- Centrica Plc v. Medway Power Limited
  For Claimant (with Daniel Toledano KC and Sebastian Isaac) in relation to a claim under a long term gas supply agreement before the Commercial Court, which involved alleged force majeure and complex expert evidence on the operation of CCGT plants. The claim settled shortly prior to its 8-week trial.

- HSBC & Ors v. AHAB
  For HSBC (with Tim Lord KC and Alex Polley), in a claim against a Middle Eastern corporate group under various loan facilities, in the context of alleged fraud and forgery of the loan documents. The case was one of The Lawyer's "Top 20 cases of 2011", but settled on day 4 of the 7-week trial. Also involved in subsequent enforcement proceedings ([2011] EWHC 2444 (Comm); [2011] 2 CLC 736).

- Cambria Africa Plc v. Lonrho Ltd
  For Lonrho (with Daniel Toledano KC) in a claim in relation to an airline business and other investments in Zimbabwe, based on alleged unauthorised payments, breach of contract, breach of trust, fraudulent misrepresentation/deceit and a claim for rescission and damages in connection with a settlement agreement.

- UBS AG (London Branch) & Anr v. Kommunale Wasserwerke Leipzig GmbH
  Assisted Tim Lord KC, Simon Salzedo KC and Stephen Midwinter in a $150 million claim relating to credit default swaps, synthetic CDOs and portfolio management agreements.

- Barclays Bank Plc v. Svizera Holdings BV & Anr [2014] EWHC 1020 (Comm)
  For Barclays (with Daniel Toledano KC) in an application for a post-judgment worldwide freezing order.

- Angelmist Properties Ltd (in compulsory liquidation) v. Leonard & Ors
  For Defendants (with Michael Fealy KC) in relation to a claim for breach of directors' duties arising from the sale of company property at an undervalue and liability for unpaid tax.

- Bikam OOD and Central Investment Group SA v. Adria Cable
  For Defendants (with Daniel Toledano KC and Adam Rushworth) in a dispute under a sale purchase agreement relating to an Eastern European satellite TV company.

- Homeserve Membership Ltd v. Voice Marketing Ltd
  For Defendant marketing company (with Thomas Sharpe KC) in relation to alleged breaches of Ofcom calling regulations.

- Advisory and Other work
  Advised (with Sa'ad Hossain KC) on the scope of an indemnity in relation to a potential claim arising from alleged unlawful death proceedings in Texas.
  Advised (with Sonia Tolaney KC) on issues arising from the collapse of Greensill Capital.
  Advised (with Zoe O'Sullivan KC) a supplier of navigational information to vessels on a claim relating to the prices charged for its services.
  Advised (with Lord Grabiner KC) in relation to agreements governing the international production and licensing of certain TV formats.
  Acted for a Russian company in relation to a claim for unpaid fees in respect of expert evidence provided in arbitration proceedings.
  Various applications for and against judgment creditors, for charging orders, third party debt orders, winding up petitions, etc.

Energy and Natural Resources

Douglas is recommended as a leading junior for Energy by Legal 500. His practice covers both the onshore and offshore energy sectors, in litigation, arbitration and expert determination. He has significant experience in cases involving heavy expert evidence, in areas such as force majeure, the operation of CCGT plants, reservoir design, metocean criteria and vessel mooring. He also regularly advises major multinationals on matters such as the construction of Long Term Supply Agreements and Transportation/Processing Agreements, issues arising from asset sales or joint ventures, and disputes following the collapse of energy suppliers.

Recent and notable cases include:

- Confidential
  Advising in relation to potential claims relating to gas and electricity supply contracts alleged to have been entered into without authority.
- LCIA arbitration (London seat)
  For Respondent company (with Sa'ad Hossain KC) in proceedings concerning the scope of a 'knock for knock' indemnity in a contract for drilling services.
- Various Claimants v. Glencore & Ors
  For claimants (with Sonia Tolaney KC, Peter de Verneuil Smith KC, Emma Jones and Joe Johnson) in multi-action shareholder claims against Glencore brought under s90 FSMA.
- British Gas Trading Ltd v. (1) Shell UK Ltd (2) Esso Exploration and Production UK Ltd [2020] EWCA Civ 2349
  For Esso (with Lord Wolfson KC, previously Laurence Rabinowitz KC) in a £38 million claim in the Commercial Court for damages in respect of alleged breaches of delivery capacity obligations and the setting of the TRDQ under a long term gas sales agreement.
- Macquarie Capital (Europe) Ltd v. Nordsee Offshore MEG I GmbH
  For Claimant (with Daniel Toledano KC) in a €19 million claim for payment of completion and debt advisory fees in respect of an offshore windfarm project in the North Sea.
- UNCITRAL proceedings
  For Respondent company (with Lord Grabiner KC) in a high value dispute concerning the exploration and development of an oil field in the Gulf of Thailand.
- Apache Beryl I Limited v. Marathon Oil UK LLC & Ors
  For the (non-party) purchaser (with Jeffery Onions KC) of midstream assets in the North Sea, in relation to expedited Commercial Court proceedings to resolve joint venture partner disputes prior to a long stop date in the purchaser's put and call option agreement. Prior to settlement there were contested interim hearings concerning amendments ([2017] EWHC 2462 (Comm)) and the admission of evidence shortly before trial ([2017] EWHC 2504 (Comm)).
- Tullow Oil Plc v. Eni UK Ltd & Ors
  For Defendant companies (with Daniel Toledano KC) in claims arising from a hive-out and share purchase transaction relating to a gas field in the North Sea, which included disputes concerning the costs of an aborted carbon capture storage project, refunds received in light of decommissioning of a nearby field, and refunded

corporation tax and petroleum revenue tax received after completion under the sale and purchase agreement.

- LCIA Proceedings
  For Claimant company (with Jeffery Onions KC) in high value arbitration proceedings arising from the failure of an FPSO mooring system in the North Sea, involving extensive technical evidence and an 11-day hearing before settlement. Douglas cross-examined one of the factual witnesses.
- UNCITRAL Proceedings
  For Respondent company (with Richard Southern KC) in a claim arising from the hire of a drill-ship off the coast of Venezuela. Several interim hearings (including preliminary issues of Venezuelan law and applications for security) and complex expert evidence regarding the operation and maintenance of offshore drilling rigs.
- First Oil Expro Ltd (in administration) v. Engie E & P UK Ltd
  For Claimant (with Daniel Toledano KC) in a dispute concerning payment of a rebate under a treatment and processing agreement and the provision of security for decommissioning.
- TOTSA Total Oil Trading SA v. Mamidoil-Jetoil Hellenic Oil Products SA & Ors
  For Claimant in a claim for in excess of USD25m payable under a Debt Restructuring Deed relating to the storage of petroleum products in Greece.
- Centrica Plc v. Medway Power Limited
  For Claimant (with Daniel Toledano KC and Sebastian Isaac) in relation to a claim under a long term gas supply agreement, which involved alleged force majeure and complex expert evidence on the operation of CCGT plants.
- Expert Determination
  For a major multinational in a dispute concerning price adjustments based on post-closing completion statements, following the sale of downstream assets in Africa.
- Advisory work
  Advised a major multinational on issues arising from the divestment of its downstream fuels lubricant business in multiple African countries.
  Advised a major multinational on a threatened claim arising from the collapse of an energy supplier.
  Advised (with Daniel Toledano KC) on possible SIAC proceedings in relation to compensation payable following the termination of a contract for the supply and installation of subsea infrastructure for the redevelopment of an oil and gas field.
  Advised (with Lord Grabiner KC) on possible proceedings for breach of contract in relation to an industrial complex in the Ukraine.
  Advised (with Daniel Toledano KC and Sa'ad Hossain KC) in relation to fees payable for the reservation of capacity and transportation of gas through a major pipeline system.

Civil Fraud and Investigations

Douglas is recommended as a leading junior for civil fraud by Legal 500. He has a particular interest in disputes arising in a banking/financial services context, and his experience includes claims (and defences) based on bribery, forgery, illegality and lack of authority. He also has experience of shareholder claims under s90 of FSMA.

Recent and notable cases include:

- The Public Institution for Social Security v. Al Rajaan & Ors
  For a Swiss private bank (with Tom Adam KC and Rob Harris) defending claims based on alleged payment of secret commissions, as part of consolidated Commercial Court proceedings in which a total of c. US$900m was sought against 40+ defendants. One of The Lawyer's 'Top 20' cases of 2020 and again in 2025, the 12 month-long trial began in March 2025. Douglas' clients reached a settlement in the third week of the Claimant's oral openings.
- Various Claimants v. Glencore & Ors
  For claimants (with Sonia Tolaney KC, Peter de Verneuil Smith KC, Emma Jones and Joe Johnson) in multi-action shareholder claims brought under s90 FSMA.
- NOx Emissions Litigation
  For manufacturers of diesel vehicles (with Sonia Tolaney KC, Peter de Verneuil Smith KC and Josh Crow) in respect of threatened group litigation concerning alleged breaches of NOx emissions requirements.
- Jitendra v. Salgaocar
  For a family estate (with Ken MacLean KC) in relation to multiple BVI proceedings brought against the estate

and related companies raising issues of fraud and breach of trust/breach of duty, and jurisdiction issues arising from parallel proceedings in Singapore.

- (1) Cephalon, Inc (2) Teva Pharmaceuticals USA, Inc v. (1) CP Pharmaceuticals Ltd (2) Wockhardt UK Holdings Ltd (3) Wockhardt Ltd
  For Defendants (with Ken MacLean KC) in a 5 week Commercial Court trial of a claim for economic duress, intimidation and conspiracy relating to the manufacture of a leukaemia drug, involving multiple witnesses and highly technical expert evidence.
- Confidential
  Acting for a company accused of involvement in a substantial conspiracy, and one of the respondents to a worldwide freezing order.
- ESO Capital Luxembourg Holdings II Sarl v. GSA Invest Management SA & Ors [2017] EWHC 1351 (Ch)
  For Defendants (with Camilla Bingham KC) in relation to alleged breaches of a settlement agreement and conspiracy, concerning the financing and recapitalisation of a Swiss hotel company.
- Cambria Africa Plc v. Lonrho Ltd
  For Lonrho (with Daniel Toledano KC) in a claim in relation to an airline business and other investments in Zimbabwe, based on alleged unauthorised payments, breach of contract, breach of trust, fraudulent misrepresentation/deceit and a claim for rescission and damages in connection with a settlement agreement.
- Nomura International Plc v. Banca Monte Dei Paschi di Siena Spa
  For BMPS (with Jonathan Nash KC) in a multi-billion euro dispute concerning the restructuring of a CDO-based investment and complex asset swap and repo transactions, which were also the subject of high profile civil and criminal proceedings in Italy. The defence was based on allegations of illegality and lack of authority. Previously appeared with Jonathan Nash KC in an application for a stay of the English proceedings under Art. 28 of the Judgments Regulation ([2013] EWHC 3187 (Comm)).
- HSBC & Ors v. AHAB
  For HSBC (with Tim Lord KC and Alex Polley), in a claim against a Middle Eastern corporate group under various loan facilities, in the context of alleged fraud and forgery of the loan documents. The case was one of The Lawyer's "Top 20 cases of 2011", but settled on day 4 of the 7-week trial. Also involved in subsequent enforcement proceedings ([2011] EWHC 2444 (Comm); [2011] 2 CLC 736).
- Barclays Bank Plc v. Svizera Holdings BV & Anr
  For Barclays (with Daniel Toledano KC) in an application for a post-judgment worldwide freezing order.
- Glitnir Banki HF v. Johannesson
  Assisted Richard Gillis KC and Orlando Gledhill in an application for a worldwide freezing order in support of proceedings in Iceland under s 25 CJJA 1982.

Aviation

- FW Aviation (Holdings) 1 Ltd v. VietJet Aviation Joint Stock Company [2025] EWCA Civ 783
  For VietJet (with Lord Wolfson KC, Steven Thompson KC, Erin Hitchens and Giles Robertson) in an appeal against Picken J's judgment on liability in a long-running dispute concerning aircraft leased to VietJet under a JOLCO structure. The grounds for appeal included issues relating to the correct interpretation of complex security documents (such as the meaning of 'financial institution'), the application of the UK/Japan Double Tax Treaty, and attribution for the purposes of corporate misconduct.
- Skye Holdings Ltd & Ors v. Gama Aviation (Engineering) Ltd & Ors
  For Gama Parties (with Sa'ad Hossain KC) in a collection of disputes relating to an aviation engineering business, which settled after the first week of trial.
- Cambria Africa Plc v. Lonrho Ltd
  For Lonrho (with Daniel Toledano KC) in a claim in relation to an airline business and other investments in Zimbabwe, based on alleged unauthorised payments, breach of contract, breach of trust, fraudulent misrepresentation/deceit and a claim for rescission and damages in connection with a settlement agreement.

Arbitration & Expert Determination

- LCIA arbitration (London seat)
  For Respondent company (with Sa'ad Hossain KC) in proceedings concerning the scope of a 'knock for knock' indemnity in a contract for drilling services.
- ICC arbitration (London seat)
  For Claimant company (with Alex Gunning KC, Seb Isaac KC, Eleanor Campbell and Veena Srirangam) in a 6

week two-phase arbitration over claims relating to a joint venture for the construction of a large onshore infrastructure project. Douglas cross-examined one of the foreign law experts.

- UNCITRAL proceedings
  For Respondent company (with Lord Grabiner KC) in a high value dispute concerning the exploration and development of an oil field in the Gulf of Thailand.
- SIAC Proceedings
  For Claimant company in major proceedings relating to a failed joint venture for the development of land in the Philippines.
- LCIA Proceedings
  For Claimant company (with Jeffery Onions KC) in a high value dispute arising from the failure of an FPSO mooring system in the North Sea, involving extensive technical evidence and an 11-day hearing before settlement. Douglas cross-examined one of the factual witnesses.
- UNCITRAL Proceedings
  For Respondent company (with Richard Southern KC) in a claim arising from the hire of a drill-ship off the coast of Venezuela. Several interim hearings (including preliminary issues of Venezuelan law and applications for security) and complex expert evidence regarding the operation and maintenance of offshore drilling rigs.
- Expert Determination
  For oil and gas major in a dispute concerning price adjustments based on post-closing completion statements, following the sale of downstream assets in Africa.
- SIAC Proceedings
  Advised (with Daniel Toledano KC) on possible proceedings in relation to compensation payable following the termination of a contract for the supply and installation of subsea infrastructure for the redevelopment of an oil and gas field.
- SCC Proceedings
  For Respondent company (with Nicholas Strauss KC, Michelle Menashy and Mehdi Baiou) in a major dispute concerning allegations of pensions mis-selling and the PIA/FSA Pensions Review of opt-outs, non-joiners and transfers from occupational pensions schemes.
- UNCITRAL Proceedings
  For a Romanian company in proposed proceedings for recovery of loans made under a shareholders' agreement.
- ICC Proceedings
  Assisted Nick Sloboda in a claim in relation to the construction and design of a power plant in Lithuania.
- UNCITRAL Proceedings
  Assisted in drafting an award in a dispute arising out of a bulk supply agreement for electricity in Africa.

Company

- Inspired Education Online Ltd v. Tom Crombie [2025] EWHC 1236 (Ch)
  For Inspired (with Lord Wolfson KC) advising on consequential matters following judgment on a claim for breach of warranty, breach of contract and fraudulent misrepresentation in respect of the sale of an online schooling business.
- Confidential
  Advising (with Lord Wolfson KC) in relation to a high-value dispute involving a private equity firm and a telecoms/media group.
- Angelmist Properties Ltd (in compulsory liquidation) v. Leonard & Ors
  For Defendants (with Michael Fealy KC) in relation to a claim for breach of directors' duties arising from the sale of company property at an undervalue and liability for unpaid tax.
- Confidential
  Advised (with Laurie Rabinowitz KC) on a dispute relating to the locus standi requirements for petitions under s 994 Companies Act 2006.
- Confidential
  Assisted Lord Grabiner KC in advising a company chairman in relation to the purchase of company debt in the context of a financial restructuring.
- ESO Capital Luxembourg Holdings II Sarl v. GSA Invest Management SA & Ors

For Defendants (with Camilla Bingham KC) in relation to alleged breaches of a settlement agreement and conspiracy, concerning the financing and recapitalisation of a Swiss hotel company.

- **Bikam OOD and Central Investment Group SA v. Adria Cable**
  For Defendants (with Daniel Toledano KC and Adam Rushworth) in a dispute under a sale purchase agreement relating to an Eastern European satellite TV company.
- **UNCITRAL Proceedings**
  Acted for a Romanian company in proposed UNCITRAL proceedings for recovery of loans made under a shareholders' agreement.
- **Various Enforcement Proceedings**
  Instructed in a range of enforcement matters, including applications for and against judgment creditors, charging orders, third party debt orders, winding-up petitions, etc.

Insolvency

- **Credit Suisse Asset Management (Schweiz AG) v. (1) Dr Michael C. Frege (2) Greensill Bank AG**
  For investment funds (with Sonia Tolaney KC and Daniel Benedyk) in relation to an urgent injunction application and related proceedings in connection with the collapse of the Greensill group.
- **HSBC & Ors v. AHAB**
  For HSBC (with Tim Lord KC and Alex Polley) in a claim against a Middle Eastern corporate group under various loan facilities, in the context of alleged fraud and forgery of loan documents. The case was one of *The Lawyer*'s 'Top 20 cases of 2011', but settled on day 4 of the 7-week trial. Also involved in subsequent enforcement proceedings: [2011] EWHC 2444 (Comm); [2011] 2 CLC 736.
- **First Oil Expro Ltd (in administration) v. Engie E&P UK Ltd**
  For Claimant (with Daniel Toledano KC) in a dispute concerning payment of a rebate under a treatment and processing agreement and the provision of security for decommissioning.
- **Confidential**
  Advised (with Alain Choo Choy KC and Orlando Gledhill) the bankruptcy trustees of a Lehman entity in relation to a Euro Medium Term Note programme.
- **Various Enforcement Proceedings**
  Instructed in a range of matters for and against judgment creditors, including charging orders, third party debt orders, winding-up petitions, etc.

What the Directories Say

"Douglas is a brilliant senior junior who always makes himself available and really gets into the detail of the case." "Douglas writes beautifully and clearly knows what he is doing." (Commercial Dispute Resolution, Chambers & Partners 2027)

"He is now one of the top choices for large banking and financial disputes. He has lots of experience running sophisticated litigation." (Banking & Finance, Chambers & Partners 2027)

"Douglas is brilliant. He's always available and willing to roll up his sleeves and get into the detail of documents. He is really good on his feet and a real pleasure to work with. He is extremely bright, and working with him makes my life easier. He is really good at thinking outside the box, with an amazing ability to manage technical areas of law and still turn them into clear, distinct and persuasive arguments." "He is an absolutely incredible barrister." "He is very clever, very organised and a very good advocate." (Group Litigation, Chambers & Partners 2027)

"Douglas Paine is extremely bright and dedicated to his clients. He is a joy to work with and consistently delivers high-quality work product." "Douglas is really good at thinking outside the box and has an amazing ability to manage technical areas of law and distil them into clear, distinct and persuasive arguments." (Fraud: Civil, Chambers & Partners 2027)

"Douglas is incredibly bright and full of creative ideas to solve complex problems. He always makes himself available and is responsive, no matter what time of day, and is an extremely hard worker. He gets into the detail of the case and is always an invaluable member of the legal team. Douglas is composed on his feet, forming strong relationships with judges and is able to deliver his oral arguments with clarity and force. Our clients always enjoy working with Douglas, and he is always a pleasure to work with." (Group Litigation, Legal 500 2027)

"He is very easy to work with, and is a good listener, a good questioner, and has an open mind. He is an incisive and imaginative legal thinker." (Energy, Legal 500 2027)

"Great advocacy, easy to work with, and very well respected." (Commercial Litigation, Legal 500 2027)

"Douglas is absolutely excellent, phenomenally bright and really thorough." (Banking & Finance and Commercial Dispute Resolution, Chambers & Partners 2026)

"He is truly excellent, supremely intelligent, hard-working and a great strategic thinker." (Fraud: Civil, Chambers & Partners 2026)

"Douglas is an excellent strategic thinker and a pleasure to work with. He is technically very good, and he provides measured and pragmatic advice." (Energy, Legal 500 2026)

"Excellent junior. Really on top of detail and lightning quick." (Commercial Litigation, Legal 500 2026)

"Douglas is a very deep thinker and a real team player." "Douglas is affable, user-friendly, great to work with and someone who digests and absorbs information very quickly." (Commercial Litigation, Chambers & Partners 2025)

"Very clever, hard-working, user-friendly, adaptable, and a great team player." (Commercial Litigation, Legal 500 2025)

"Douglas is technically sound and commercially astute." (Energy, Legal 500 2025)

"An accomplished advocate." (Fraud: Civil, Legal 500 2025)

"Douglas Paine is very commercial and able to navigate an area of law that is only just developing. He picks through issues in a really collaborative way." (Chambers & Partners 2024)

"Douglas is a fantastic senior junior and a supportive team player. His attention to detail is second to none." (Chambers & Partners 2024)

"Douglas is brilliant, erudite and approachable." (Chambers & Partners 2024)

"Douglas is extremely diligent and bright, and he is able to turn things around really quickly." (Legal 500 2024)

"Douglas fits seamlessly into a large team, his written advocacy is strong, and his cross-examination belies his seniority." (Legal 500 2023)

"A fantastic team player, he is technically good on the law and is personable and easy to work with." (Legal 500 2021)

"An uber-reliable and hardworking junior with real brainpower and a willingness to be a team player." (Legal 500 2020)

"A real expert in the energy sector – always on top of the detail and the industry context." (Legal 500 2019)

In 2014 Douglas was named as one of Legal Week's 'Stars at the Bar' (profiling ten of the most promising barristers of 10 years' call and under). The article noted that Douglas is *"charming and hard-working"*; intellectually strong, but in an understated way; and *"both really clever and very good with clients"*. According to one magic circle partner: *"Douglas is incredibly thorough, very sensible and a really nice guy to work with. He is someone you can rely on"*.

Academic Achievements

Lord Mansfield, Lord Haldane and Megarry Scholarships, Lincoln's Inn
Buchanan Prize, Lincoln's Inn
Master's and Doctoral awards, Arts and Humanities Research Council
Maule Memorial Prize, Cambridge University
Senior Scholarship and Research Scholarship, Trinity College, Cambridge

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Other Achievements

Winner, Maitland Chambers Advocacy Prize
Finalist, Lexis Nexis Green Book National BVC Mooting Competition
Organ Scholarship, Trinity College, Cambridge

Education

BPP (Holborn): BVC (Outstanding) [2008 - 2009]
City University: CPE/GDL (Distinction, 1st in year) [2007 - 2008]
Trinity College, Cambridge: PhD English [2004 - 2007]
Trinity College, Cambridge: MPhil Renaissance English (Distinction, 1st in year) [2003 - 2004]
Trinity College, Cambridge: BA (Hons) English (Double first) [2000 - 2003]

Awards

2027 Chambers Ranked in UK Bar
Douglas Paine

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