



CHRISTOPHER CHUAH

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QUALIFICATIONS

London School of Economics (LL.B., Hons.)
College of Estate Management, Reading (Diploma in Surveying, Distinction)
Lincoln's Inn (Barrister-at-Law)

ADMISSIONS

Singapore Bar
English Bar

PROFILE

Christopher CHUAH heads the Infrastructure, Construction & Engineering Practice and is a Partner in the International Arbitration, China and Myanmar Practices. In January 2018, Christopher was amongst the inaugural batch of select practitioners to be appointed Senior Accredited Specialist in Building and Construction Law by the Singapore Academy of Law.

His main areas of practice encompass both front-end drafting/advice and construction disputes, in litigation, arbitration and statutory adjudication. He is a leading light in the field of building and construction law and has authored various books on this subject. He is one of the General Editors of the Singapore Construction Adjudication Review.

Christopher is a legal advisor to the Singapore Contractors Association Limited ("SCAL"), Singapore Institute of Architects ("SIA") as well as a member of the Committee for International Construction and Building Contracts. He is a Fellow of the Singapore Institute of Arbitrators and Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, as well as the Chartered Institute of Building. He has also been appointed to the Singapore International Arbitration Centre's Main Panel of Arbitrators and is also on the Panel of Arbitrators of the Asian International Arbitration Centre ("AIAC"). Christopher is an accredited adjudicator under the Building & Construction Industry Security of Payment Act (Cap 30B), who is part of the first group of such appointments. He is a member of the Construction Adjudicator Accreditation Committee which was formed by the Singapore Mediation Centre ("SMC") to assist with the training and accreditation of adjudicators. He is also a member and a Senior Adjudicator of the SMC Professional Conduct Panel. Christopher has also been appointed as the Chairman of the sub-committee of SMC's Construction Adjudicator Accreditation Committee to provide guidance to SMC on issues relating to the replacement of adjudicators and conflicts of interest that may arise in the course of administration of cases under the Building and Construction Industry Security of Payment Act.

Christopher is an Adjunct Associate Professor in construction law at the Law Faculty of the National University of Singapore.

Christopher also has extensive experience in overseas and international projects. He had recently sat as Chairman of a Dispute Adjudication Board to hear disputes in excess of MYR 1 billion arising out of a power plant project in Malaysia and acted for an international contractor in challenging the enforceability of a DAB decision arising out of a geothermal project in the Philippines.

Christopher graduated from the London School of Economics. He is admitted to the English Bar and to the Singapore Bar. Apart from a law degree, Christopher has a Diploma in Surveying (Distinction) from the College of Estate Management, Reading, UK.

Relevant experience:

Matters of significance in which Christopher has been involved in include acting for the following:

- Far East Square Pte Ltd in a landmark Court of Appeal decision where the Court set aside an adjudication determination on the grounds that the payment claim was invalid and outside the purview of the Building and Construction Industry Security of Payment Act.
- Mer Vue Developments Pte. Ltd., the developers of The Seaview Condominium, in a landmark High Court decision that clarifies the extent and scope of the liability of the developer, main contractor and architect in a claim for building defects. Christopher successfully defended tortious claims made by the Management Corporation Strata Title Plan No. 3322 for alleged defects in the development amounting to approximately S\$32 million.
- Asplenium Land Pte. Ltd., a developer in respect of a residential project, in a landmark Court of Appeal decision on the enforceability of a contractual clause limiting an employer's right to restrain a call on a performance bond against a main contractor who was terminated. This landmark decision by the Court of Appeal would mean that it is now possible for employers to exclude or limit the grounds for an injunction to fraud only in the case of unconditional bonds.
- Kimly Construction Pte. Ltd. in a successful claim against the sub-contractor arising from the collapse of a tower crane at the National University of Singapore.
- A Singapore-listed construction company involved in a payment dispute with the owner of Park Regis Singapore and in proceedings involving an application for injunction to restrain payment of a performance bond.
- A PRC Contractor in disputes arising out of the termination of an EPC Contract in Indonesia.

Related Practices

- China
- Infrastructure, Construction & Engineering
- International Arbitration
- Myanmar

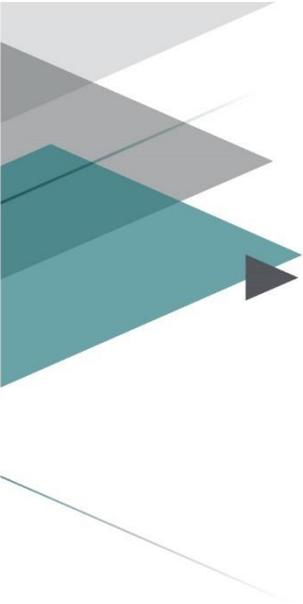
Publications & Legal Updates:

- Chambers Global Practice Guides - Public Procurement and Government Contracts 2020
- Contract Administration Guide to the REDAS Design and Build Conditions of Contract
- Annotated Guide to the Building and Construction Industry Security of Payment Act 2004
- Annotated Guide to the Building Maintenance and Strata Management Act 2004
- Contractor's Working Manual on Public Sector Standard Conditions of Contract for Construction Works
- Public Sector Standard Conditions of Contract for Design and Build – A Commentary and Standard Form of Sub-Contracts – An Annotation
- Conditions of Appointment for Consultants in Design and Build Projects

Awards & Accolades:

Recognised as a Global Leader and a National Leader in Southeast Asia for Construction in the recent edition of *Who's Who Legal 2021*, Christopher is highly regarded for his areas of expertise.

He is a Top Ranked Lawyer for Construction in *Chambers Asia-Pacific 2021* and recognised as a Highly Regarded Lawyer in *IFLR1000: Financial & Corporate 2022*. He is a Leading Individual in Construction and Recommended Lawyer in Dispute Resolution and International Arbitration in *The Legal 500: Asia Pacific 2021*. He is also recognised as one of the Litigation Stars in *Benchmark Litigation 2021* and was featured in Arbitration and Mediation, as well as Construction Law in *Best Lawyers 2022*.



Named an External Counsel of the Year in Singapore, as part of *Asian-mena Counsel's annual Representing Corporate Asia and Middle East Survey 2013*, Christopher was singled out for his "expertise in construction disputes". Known as a "pre-eminent practitioner" with "deep knowledge of the field", he was also distinguished as a leading Arbitration practitioner in the Chinese market and was commended for being "very, very strong" in international arbitrations concerning construction disputes in *Chambers Asia-Pacific 2015* and *Chambers Global 2015*.