

## HONG KONG SAR, CHINA

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Our Hong Kong SAR office forms an integral part in supporting our clients' inbound and outbound investment strategies across key sectors such as real estate, infrastructure, energy & natural resources (with a focus on renewable & sustainable energy), financial services, sports & entertainment and food & agribusiness.

The team is focused on providing international, regional and local legal services. A significant proportion of the team is fluent in English, Mandarin and Cantonese. The majority of lawyers are Hong Kong SAR qualified, with many also qualified in other jurisdictions such as England and Wales, New York and PRC. The team has extensive knowledge of the cultural and legal systems that affect business and investments in Asia and getting "deals done" and matters settled.

Supported by over 700+ top real estate lawyers globally, our award-winning team offers Asian investors considering high-value acquisitions or developments leading insights in asset classes such as data centers, logistics, mixed-use developments, hospitality & leisure and office & retail, whether into local markets or internationally across the US, UK, Europe and Middle East.

Whether you are an international organization looking to expand your global footprint throughout Asia or a local business buying, selling, investing or developing a major capital asset in Greater China, we provide strong services across the entire life cycle incorporating advice on corporate, commercial, finance and disputes.

### INTRODUCING OUR KEY PRACTICE AREAS

#### **CORPORATE & FINANCE TRANSACTIONS**

We combine the breadth of our Asian practice and resources with a keen understanding of the global transactional environment. We provide corporate and legal services for Asian matters in areas including joint ventures, mergers & acquisitions and complex cross-border transactions.

Complementing our corporate legal services, our firm offers comprehensive advice on employment, competition, data privacy & security and general corporate matters and commercial contracts. Our clients include local and international companies doing business in Greater China, as well as Asian companies doing business throughout the US, UK, Europe and Middle East.

On the finance side, we represent all types of entities including lenders and borrowers, funds and a variety of other non-bank financial institutions in finance, refinance and special situations. Our team possesses a formidable depth of sector-specific experience, enabling us to provide strategically sound and commercially meaningful advice on the most complex transactions.

## **LITIGATION & INVESTIGATIONS**

Our team includes a broad mix of litigators experienced in handling disputes across a wide variety of industry sectors, able to offer clear and concise advice on a full range of issues. Our team has advised plaintiffs and defendants in numerous cases in Hong Kong, and has detailed experience of all aspects of court procedure, having acted on some of the largest and most complex matters throughout Hong Kong.

We also regularly advise our clients on all aspects of the arbitration process, from the drafting and negotiation of an arbitration agreement to the ultimate enforcement of an award locally or internationally. Our experience covers both domestic and international arbitration as well as other forms of alternative dispute resolution. We pride ourselves on our ability to use our knowledge and experience to help our clients achieve a successful resolution of disputes.

We also regularly act for clients in matters related to competition and anti-trust, data protection and privacy law as well as employment law.

## **REAL ESTATE**

Our award-winning real estate team has experience in dealing with all aspects of development from conception through funding, construction, leasing and occupation. Our track record in complex and challenging international markets enables us to assist our clients in making a success of their development opportunities.

We are committed to staying broad and deep across the real estate sector globally and therefore adopt a sector strategy, which means we have teams focused on all other core areas including real estate funds, finance, private equity and disputes.

## **ENERGY AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

Our multidisciplinary team brings together highly experienced locally based practitioners with deep understanding in Asian urban development, social and economic infrastructure, and public procurement.

We advise sponsors, lenders, developers and procuring authorities on all aspects of energy developments and investment with a particular focus on offshore and onshore wind, solar and energy from waste projects. We support clients through every step of their project pipeline, from consenting and competition issues, through to financing, structuring and eventual delivery and exit.

## MEET THE TEAM



### Andrew MacGeoch

Partner and Head of Asia Real Estate & Infrastructure Group and Global Co-Head of Hospitality & Leisure Group, Singapore / Hong Kong SAR

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## RELATED INSIGHTS

Insights

Apr 29, 2025

### **"Battle of the Forms" in the Hong Kong Construction Industry**

Insights

Apr 29, 2025

### **Does "back to back" mean "pay when paid" in construction contracts?**

In *Sze Fung Engineering Limited v Trevi Construction Company Limited* [2025] HKCA 278[1], the Hong Kong Court of Appeal ("CA") ruled that the "back to back" wording in that case was not a "pay when paid" clause, but governed only the timing of payment.

Insights

Apr 28, 2025

## **Does Without Prejudice Privilege apply to reports prepared by third parties?**

The without prejudice (“WP”) rule generally prevents statements made in a genuine attempt to settle an existing dispute from being put before the court as evidence. Usually, these statements are made in communications between the opposing parties to a dispute. Can WP privilege attach to documents produced by third parties who are not parties to the dispute? This was a question before a deputy judge of the English High Court (“Court”) in *BNP Paribas Depositary Services Ltd v Briggs & Forrester Engineering Services Ltd* [2024] EWHC 2575 (TCC)[1].

Insights

Apr 28, 2025

## **Hong Kong Court makes security for costs order against Mainland parties with no assets in Hong Kong**

In *Y and Another v GI and Another* [2025] HKCFI 1317[1], the Hong Kong Court of First Instance (“Court”) allowed the defendant’s application for security for costs against the plaintiffs in respect of the plaintiffs’ application to set aside an arbitral award. In doing so, the Court found that the plaintiffs were resident outside Hong Kong, had no assets available in Hong Kong and the setting aside application had little prospect of success.

News

Apr 16, 2025

## **BCLP recognized in Global Arbitration Review 100 2025**

Insights

Apr 03, 2025

## **AI in IA**

Ask a trained lawyer what an “LLM” is, and what first will come to mind may be a “Master of Laws”; ask a tech-savvy teenager what an “LLM” is, and they most probably will answer “large language model”. The former may not be a prerequisite to becoming a qualified lawyer, but knowledge of the latter likely will be crucial for legal practitioners in the coming years. LLMs / Generative AI are on the rise. OpenAI ChatGPT. Microsoft Copilot. Anthropic Claude. Meta AI Llama. Perplexity. Google Gemini. xAI Grok. Quora Poe. DeepSeek. And bespoke legal AI tools, of course, also are on the rise. Harvey. Thomson Reuters CoCounsel. LexisNexis Lexis+ AI. Just to name a few. It is timely that the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (Ciarb) has launched the Ciarb Guideline on the Use of AI in Arbitration (2025) (the “Ciarb AI Guideline”). Issued by the leading arbitration certification organisation in the world, the Ciarb AI Guideline provi...

Insights

Mar 19, 2025

## **HK Court relies on deemed service clause to dismiss a setting-aside application to enforce an arbitral award**

Insights

Mar 18, 2025

## **HK court rules that gig delivery driver was not an employee**

Insights

Mar 07, 2025

## **“Dividing Line” in Public Policy – Insolvency and Arbitration**

A creditor commences winding-up proceedings against a debtor company on the basis that the company is insolvent. The petition debt relates to a dispute within the ambit of the arbitration agreement between the creditor and the debtor. Should the Court either:- Uphold the parties' agreement to arbitrate (and stay / dismiss the winding-up); or Allow the creditor to continue to pursue the debt in winding-up proceedings? In our previous article on the topic in August 2020, we discussed Lasmos approach and the inter-relationship between arbitration and insolvency proceedings through the cases of: (1) the HKCFI case Lasmos (Lasmos Limited v Southwest Pacific Bauxite (HK) Limited [2018] HKCFI 426), (2) the English CA case Salford Estates(Salford Estates (No 2) Ltd v Altormart Ltd (No 2) [2015] Ch 589), (3) the two HK CA cases But Ka Chon (But Ka Chon v Interactive Brokers LLC [2019] HKCA 873) and Sit Kwong Lam (...)