

Alexander Riddiford

Called to the Bar 2011

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Alex specialises in all aspects of domestic and cross-border insolvency/restructuring law and commercial litigation (both domestic and offshore).

Alex has a strong insolvency litigation practice. He has acted as junior counsel for the Joint Administrators of Lehman Brothers International (Europe) in various parts of the Waterfall II litigation ([2016] Bus LR 17; [2015] B.P.I.R. 1162; [2017] B.C.C. 1); the Waterfall I litigation ([2016] Ch 50); and the Waterfall III litigation ([2017] All ER (D) 45 (Aug)). He has also acted (led by William Trower QC) for the joint administrators of various Nortel Group companies on their successful application for the Court's sanction of the Nortel Group global settlement which concerned the proper allocation of a US\$7.3 billion fund across the Nortel Group's entities worldwide (*Re Nortel Networks UK Ltd* [2017] Bus. L.R. 590); and again on their successful application for directions in relation to potential administration expense claims (*Re Nortel Networks UK Ltd* [2017] B.C.C. 325).

He also enjoys a strong commercial practice and was recently instructed to act for the claimants in an action by Class X noteholders under a commercial mortgage backed securitisation (*Hayfin Opal Luxco 3 SARL v Windermere VII CMBS Plc* [2016] All ER (D) 66 (Apr)). In addition, Alex has a thriving offshore practice, having acted as junior counsel for the defendants in the leading Jersey dishonest assistance case (*Joan Nolan & Ors v Minerva Trust Company Ltd & Ors* [2014] JRC 078A).

Alex also regularly appears unled in the High Court, the bankruptcy and companies court in London, as well as in county courts, on a variety of matters including directions applications by insolvency officeholders, validation order applications, bankruptcy petitions and other matters.

Before joining South Square Alex gained a double first and a doctorate in Classics from Oxford University. Alex was also Inner Temple's top BPTC scholar in 2010/2011 (the Peter Taylor Scholarship), and was one of four recipients of Inner Temple's top GDL scholarship in 2009/2010 (the Princess Royal Scholarship).

Insolvency and Restructuring

- Acting in the Waterfall II litigation in the High Court ([2016] Bus LR 17; [2015] B.P.I.R. 1162; [2017] B.C.C. 1)
- Acting in the Waterfall I litigation in the Court of Appeal ([2016] Ch 50)
- Acting in the Waterfall III litigation on an application for directions in relation to a proposed settlement ([2017] All ER (D) 45 (Aug))
- Acting for the joint administrators of various Nortel Group companies on their successful application for the Court's sanction of the Nortel Group global settlement which concerned the proper allocation of a US\$7.3 billion fund across the Nortel Group's entities worldwide (*Re Nortel Networks UK Ltd* [2017] Bus. L.R. 590) and again on their successful application for directions in relation to potential administration expense claims (*Re Nortel Networks UK*

Ltd [2017] B.C.C. 325)

- Winding-up petitions
 - Administration appointment and extension applications
 - Bankruptcy petitions
 - Applications to set aside statutory demands
 - Advising and acting for officeholders in professional negligence actions
 - Directions applications by insolvency officeholders
 - Applications for validation orders
 - Applications for the appointment of provisional liquidators
 - Preference/transaction at an undervalue applications
 - Advising in relation to domestic and cross-border insolvency/restructuring issues
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Banking and Finance

- Acting for the claimants in an action by Class X noteholders under a commercial mortgage backed securitisation (*Hayfin Opal Luxco 3 SARL v Windermere VII CMBS Plc* [2016] EWHC 782 (Ch))
 - Instructed in relation to the preparation of expert evidence on English law in the New York proceedings *Libertyview Leverage Plus Fund v Barclays Bank*
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Commercial Litigation and Arbitration

- Acting for the claimants in an action by Class X noteholders under a commercial mortgage backed securitisation (*Hayfin Opal Luxco 3 SARL v Windermere VII CMBS Plc* [2016] EWHC 782 (Ch))
 - Advising and drafting proceedings on behalf of a major multinational company seeking declaratory relief against a bank to prevent it paying out under calls on various Portuguese law governed guarantees
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Offshore

- Junior counsel for the defendants in *Joan Nolan & Ors v Minerva Trust Company Ltd & Ors* [2014] JRC 078A, the leading Jersey dishonest assistance action
 - Regularly advising Jersey advocates on various commercial, insolvency and trust matters
 - Assisted with preparation for major Cayman litigation
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Career

2011 Called to the Bar of England and Wales

2006-2009 Tutor and Lecturer in Greek literature at Magdalen College, Oxford University

Memberships

Commercial Bar Association
Chancery Bar Association

Publications

Regular Contributor to *International Corporate Rescue*
Contributor to *Corporate Rescue and Insolvency*

Education and Qualifications

2011 BPP, BPTC

2010 City University, GDL

2009 Magdalen College, Oxford University, DPhil Classics (thesis published by Oxford University Press)

2006 Magdalen College, Oxford University, MSt Classics, Distinction

2005 Magdalen College, Oxford University, BA (Hons) Classics with Sanskrit, Double First

Prizes and Scholarships

Peter Taylor Scholar (Inner Temple) [sole recipient of Inner Temple's top BPTC scholarship 2010/2011]

Princess Royal Scholar (Inner Temple) [one of four recipients of Inner Temple's top GDL scholarship 2009/2010]

Serle Court Prize for Equity and Trusts (City University, 2010)

MSt and DPhil studentships (AHRC, 2005-2009)

Scholar (Magdalen College, Oxford University, 2003-2005)

Interests

Sanskrit and Bengali literature