



## Jack Watson

Call: 2012

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### Clerks Details

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### Qualifications and Appointments

- BA, Emmanuel College Cambridge
- LLM, Emmanuel College Cambridge, graded First
- MPhil, Emmanuel College Cambridge
- BPTC, BPP, graded Outstanding
- Denning Scholarship (Lincoln's Inn)
- Hardwicke Scholarship (Lincoln's Inn)
- Rodwell Prize (Emmanuel College)
- Bachelor Scholarship (Emmanuel College)
- European and World Masters Cup Debating Champion; winner of a record 28 university level debating competitions

## Memberships

- Chancery Bar Association

## Publications

- 'Doubt, mistake and risk-taking in restitutionary claims' [2011] *K.L.J.* 22(2), 220-227
- 'Legitimate expectations and the Lisbon Treaty (Case Comment)' [2010] *C.S.L.R.* (1), 330.
- 'Clarity and Ambiguity: A New Approach to the Test of Legitimacy in the Law of Expectations' [2010] *Legal Studies* Vol 30 No. 4

## Practice Overview

Jack has a busy commercial and chancery practice with significant experience acting in high value and complex disputes often in cases involving an international dimension. In particular Jack's practice includes civil fraud disputes, company and insolvency, trusts, breach of fiduciary duties, professional liability, pensions as well as property-related work. Equally comfortable working on his own or as part of a larger team, he has significant advocacy experience appearing as sole counsel in a wide range of matters in his own right in both the county court, the High Court and appellate Courts and often appears on his own against QCs or senior junior barristers.

Approachable and easy to deal with, Jack specialises in providing clear and structured advice on often complex issues and fighting hard in order to ensure the best outcome for his clients.

### Jack's recent experience includes:

- *AHAB v Saad*: acting as junior counsel (with [Tom Lowe QC](#)) in one of the largest fraud cases ever litigated, involving a claim for around US\$9bn, a trial lasting over a year and the disclosure of over 5 million documents. In addition to complex issues of fact, the case involved issues relating to tracing and asset recovery, trust and partnership law, attribution of knowledge, ex turpi causa, bona fide purchase, conflicts of law and the law of Saudi Arabia, Switzerland and Bahrain.
- *Richards v Bodden*: appearing as sole counsel in the Cayman Islands Court of Appeal in a complex claim for restitution arising out of a failed property purchase.
- *FNTC v BBL*: acting as junior counsel (with [Alan Gourgey QC](#)) in relation to a hard fought claim for dishonest assistance and breach of trust arising out of the purchase of a Spanish Apartment complex.

Jack is a former European Debating Champion and his published written work has been described as 'illuminating' in the Privy Council (*Paponette v A-G of Trinidad and Tobago* [2010] UKPC 32 per Lord Brown) and been cited approvingly by the Court of Appeal for Northern Ireland (*Re Loreto Grammar School* [2012] NICA 1) and again by the Privy Council (*United Policyholders Group v Attorney General of Trinidad and Tobago* [2016] UKPC 17).



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## Pensions

Jack's pensions experience includes:

- Advising the trustees of an Occupational Pension Scheme as to the appropriate principles to be applied to the construction and/or rectification of that scheme.
- Acting for the Pensions Regulator seeking to remove trustees of several occupational pension schemes.
- Acting for the trustees of a SIPP in a claim for breach of contract and restitution in relation to a sale of land in the Cayman Islands.
- Bringing and defending complaints to the Financial Ombudsman Service in relation to the sale of Self-Invested Personal Pensions.
- Acting in a claim brought by the employers of an occupational pension scheme against the former accountants of that scheme for failing to properly calculate necessary increases to members' benefits.
- Acting with [Jonathan Hilliard QC](#) in *The Pensions Regulator v Dalriada, Fellowes et al.* [2013] EWHC 4346 (Ch) resisting an application to discharge a freezing injunction obtained against pensions trustees which had been obtained under the Regulator's Pensions Liberation provisions and who were alleged to have been engaged in multiple breaches of the duties under the relevant pensions legislation and under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000.
- Acting with [Andrew Mold](#) for defendant benefit consultants facing professional negligence claims in the administration of the Bloxwich pension scheme.