



Marcia Shekerdemian QC

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Practice Managers' Details

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Memberships

- Insolvency Lawyers' Association
- Chancery Bar Association
- INSOL International
- IWIRC (the International Women's Insolvency and Restructuring Federation)

"She's calm, very bright, reassuring and forthright – absolutely top drawer."

Chambers and Partners 2022

"One of the most insightful and perceptive barristers at the Bar."

Chambers and Partners 2022

Qualifications and appointments

- Trinity Hall, University of Cambridge, MA
- Deputy Judge of the Insolvency and Companies Court
- Chair of Chancery Bar Association Equality and Diversity Committee (2016–2019)
- Member of the Lexis Nexis PSL Editorial Panel for Insolvency and Restructuring
- IWIRC, London Events Committee Member
- Member, Bar Standards Board, taskforce on achieving racial equality at the Bar
- Member of the Barristers' Complaints Advisory Service (providing pro bono advice and representation to members of the Bar)

Practice Overview

Marcia is a leading practitioner in all aspects of contentious and non-contentious insolvency and restructuring, company and partnership law as well as commercial litigation. Her work encompasses both domestic and international matters, fraud and property related insolvency. Much of her work has cross-border elements and she has appeared in the Grand Court of the Cayman Islands and in the Isle of Man.

Consistently praised for *"her user friendliness and robust advice"*, she is said to be *"brilliant"* and to give *"robust, first-class advice"*. *"A quality professional"*, she is also *"highly rated for her intelligent and committed approach"* and for being a *"punchy advocate"*.

Marcia also sits in the High Court as a Deputy Insolvency and Companies Court Judge.

She is an active provider of talks, webinars and seminars and is well known for her work in equality and diversity.

Marcia is a contributing editor to Kerr & Hunter *"Receivers and Administrators"* (Sweet & Maxwell, 20th and 21st Edition) and is a member of the editorial board of Lexis PSL for insolvency.

Chambers UK, Chambers Global and The Legal 500 have recommended her for many years in insolvency, commercial litigation, and company. Chambers UK also ranks her for commercial chancery work, noting in addition her expertise in property related litigation. She is also ranked in Who's Who Legal for insolvency.

Chambers & Partners 2021:

"She has a wealth of intellectual capital and great expertise." (Commercial Dispute Resolution)

"Fantastic at getting to the heart of the matter and giving clear advice on complex claims." (Company)

"Clever, pragmatic and commercial." "Marcia is a go-to silk. She is very commercial, she has a very sharp intellect, strategically she is very strong and she's a good advocate. An exceptional talent." "She is superb and universally respected by the insolvency profession." (Restructuring and Insolvency)

The Legal 500 2021:

"Very approachable, practical, knowledgeable and great to work with." (Company)



Publications

- Contributing editor, [Kerr & Hunter on Receivers and Administrators](#) (Sweet & Maxwell, 20th and 21st Editions)
- Voices of Women at the Chancery Bar
- [Administrators: Conflicts of Interest and Removal](#) (International Corporate Rescue, Chase Cumbria - 2019)
- Trustees in bankruptcy and privilege—a spanner in the works? (LexisNexis Randi Blog - 2016)

Practice Overview continued

"She blends strategic guile with a razor-sharp mind and is a pleasure to work with. One of the standout silks at the insolvency bar." (Insolvency)

Chambers and Partners and The Legal 500 2017-2020:

"What stands out is that Marcia gets straight to the heart of a matter, and she's very easy to deal with, which is huge." (Chambers and Partners, 2020)

"She is user-friendly, a great team player and an excellent strategist. She is also extremely bright and has intellectual rigour and technical expertise, tempered by a commercial, pragmatic approach and great instincts. Her written and oral advocacy is tip-top."

"Marcia is fantastic to work with – she is approachable and very reliable. Not only does she have the intellectual firepower that you expect from a QC, but she doesn't shy away from having difficult conversations with clients and is brilliant in court." (Chambers and Partners, 2020)

"Her technical knowledge is second to none, and she's user-friendly." "She gets straight to the heart of a matter, is very good at picking out things that really matter, and really works as part of the team." (Chambers and Partners, 2020)

"Ferociously bright while very user friendly and proactive." "A star of the senior insolvency Bar; has an enormous capacity for work and never phased, and always great with the client." (The Legal 500, 2020)

"She is very knowledgeable and is a real fighter in court. She is someone who is very good to have on your side." "She has an excellent depth of knowledge in relation to personal insolvency and provides very commercial, straightforward advice." (Chambers and Partners, 2019)

"Incredibly committed and client-friendly, she has good technical skills and delivers incredible value and insight." (Chambers and Partners, 2019)

"A strong advocate and an absolute delight to instruct and work with." (The Legal 500, 2019)

"She is totally forthright but supremely in control, technically brilliant and very user-friendly." "She's very client-friendly, very bright and there's no ambiguity in her advice." (Chambers & Partners, 2018)

"Marcia's got a real gift for getting to the root of an issue." "She has an excellent command of the law, practice and procedure." (Chambers & Partners, 2018)

"Extremely good with clients and a very good lawyer." "Formidable both in court and in negotiation, she's really impressive in the way that she fights her corner without being aggressive." (Chambers & Partners, 2018)

"She is absolutely first-rate and a go-to silk for complex matters." (The Legal 500, 2017)

"She goes above and beyond to call of duty and gets to the root of the problem very quickly." (The Legal 500, 2017)

"A powerhouse" who "is fair, knowledgeable and very practical in terms of understanding the outcomes rather than being esoteric about the law." "A tenacious adviser who punches well above her weight." (Chambers and Partners, 2017)

Commercial

Marcia also has an established reputation in the fields of commercial dispute resolution and fraud.

Significant cases:

- *Rawbank SARL v Travelex Ltd and Ors* (2020). Marcia appeared for Rawbank, the largest bank in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in freezing order proceedings against Travelex Ltd.
- *In the matter of an LCIA Arbitration* (2019). Marcia represented the Respondent in this dispute over a £10 million liability under an insurance agency agreement between CIS providers.



Commercial continued

- ***White v Seven Capital Plc*** (2019). Marcia acted for the Defendant, a major Midlands property developer. The context was a collective investment into the conversion of a substantial property into a hotel pursuant to a tax efficient ("business property renovation") investment scheme. The claim involved allegations of misrepresentation, breach of collateral warranty and unlawful promotion of the scheme, without FCA authorisation in breach of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2002.
- ***Re Jabac Finance Ltd*** (2018–2021). Marcia represented the company and the majority shareholders in these combined proceedings for breach of statutory duty, breach of fiduciary duty and unfair prejudice under section 994 of the Companies Act 2006.
- ***Zavarco Plc*** (2016). Marcia represented a major shareholder (holder of 360,000,000 shares) in an ongoing dispute over his voting rights in this PLC which controls a Malaysian telecoms network. The issues involve the construction of Section 594 of the Companies Act 2006 within the framework of share swap.
- ***Mortgage Express v Batra and others*** (2016). Marcia represented the claimants in proceedings for the appointment of a receiver by way of equitable execution over 3 trading hotels and 71 individual hotel rooms in central London, with freeholds held by BVI companies.
- ***Re X Ltd*** (2015) (anonymised following a confidential settlement). Marcia represented the Defendants in proceedings for the recovery of £7million following the sale of a group of oil companies and the assignment of mining rights to an oilfield in Tunisia.
- ***NGM Sustainable Developments Ltd V Philip Wallis*** (2014) (led by Lexa Hilliard QC). Representing the claimant in this multi-million pound claim for damages for fraudulent misrepresentation and conspiracy.
- ***Barclays Pharmaceuticals Ltd and ors v Waypharm LP, Antoine Mekni and ors*** (2013). The judgment in this case has become a key authority on the question whether the court's permission is needed before a court appointed receiver can be sued for negligence/breach of duty. Marcia represented the receiver.
- ***Re Ultraclass Ltd, sub nom Michael v Assemakis & Evans*** (2012). Marcia acted for the liquidator in this multi-million pound fraud proceedings arising out of a 'land banking' scam. Obtained freezing injunctions and their continuation without a requirement that the limited cross-undertaking in damages be fortified.
- ***Trade Storage Ltd v Papanicola*** (2011). Marcia acted for the successful defendant. The issue for the Court was whether a defendant with a potential counterclaim could seek security for costs against an impecunious claimant.