

David Butler

Partner

I am a fraud lawyer and commercial litigator who represents clients in fraud and asset tracing claims, partnership and joint venture disputes, and shareholder and other corporate disputes.



David is a fraud and corporate disputes lawyer and head of the civil fraud group at Fox Williams. He has extensive experience in litigating fraud claims for claimants and defendants and has represented clients in fraud claims touching all parts of the world, including the offshore jurisdictions where he practised for six years. His experience of litigating fraud claims extends to all manner of businesses and industries, from automotive parts manufacture to zinc mining, and includes obtaining and discharging court orders freezing assets and orders to obtain information from banks and other relevant third parties.

David's corporate disputes practices takes in LLP and partnership claims, shareholder and joint venture disputes and claims for breach of confidence and misuse of private information. David has acted on unfair prejudice petitions and derivative actions, and frequently advises corporates on issues arising under the Companies and Insolvency Acts. Together with members of Fox Williams's employment team, David also represents clients in High Court claims to enforce post-termination restrictive covenants.

Legal Expertise

- Civil fraud
- International disputes
- Partnership disputes
- Corporate governance, breach of directors' duties, shareholder disputes
- Business disputes: litigation and arbitration
- Breach of contract, breach of warranty and corporate transactional claims

Experience

- KMG International NV v Chen and Chipper Management Limited. Defending a £50 million claim in respect of allegations of fraudulent dissipation and ultimate sale of shares in a German entity and intentional wrongful

conduct under Dutch law. The claimant obtained a £60 million freezing order at the start of the proceedings.

- Represented a defendant in a £50m fraud claim brought under Dutch law concerning the misappropriation of a German car parts manufacturer.
- Acted for the CEO of a metals and mining conglomerate in a double derivative action concerning the fraudulent misappropriation of a business and valuable intellectual property said to be worth \$1 billion.
- Represented the Chairman of a Saudi-based group of companies in a claim in which he was accused of committing a \$9 billion fraud against his former partners and over 100 international banks.
- Acted for a clearing and settlement agent in relation to a “pump and dump” fraud committed using an AIM listed company.
- Represented an international bank in proceedings alleging fraud against the CEO of a Chinese fine art business.
- Acted for defendant to unfair prejudice proceedings relating to a company providing curated leisure experiences to high net worth individuals.
- Represented members of an UHNW family in a dispute over the proper administration of their family trusts.
- Acted for an LLP in connection with its expulsion of a senior member for serious misconduct.
- Represented the founder of an electric car charging business in a dispute concerning the exercise of share options.
- Acted for a business owner defrauded of half the proceeds of the sale of his insurance business by the directors of the acquiring company.
- Represented a shareholder and co-founder of a media and publishing business in a dispute where the founders disagreed about the direction of the business.

Memberships

- London Solicitors Litigation Association
- Commercial Fraud Lawyers Association

- Higher Rights of Audience (Civil)