

TRANSATLANTIC DISPUTES

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COLLYER  BRISTOW

ABOUT US

A TRADITIONALLY MODERN LAW FIRM.

Collyer Bristow is a long-established London law firm with a distinguished heritage dating back to 1760.

Renowned for its expertise in business law, real estate, dispute resolution, and private wealth, the firm delivers high-quality, individually tailored legal advice that reflects its traditionally modern approach - where enduring professional values meet creative, contemporary thinking.

Serving a broad portfolio of international and domestic clients - including successful businesses, ambitious entrepreneurs, and high-net-worth individuals and families - Collyer Bristow stands out for its bespoke service. Clients trust the firm's ability to combine the reliability and integrity of tradition with the agility and innovative thinking needed in today's legal landscape.

- Around 130 people based in the heart of the City of London.
- A firm large enough to offer the expertise and resources you need, but small enough to focus on building personal relationships and to treat our clients as individuals, allowing us to align our work with their specific priorities and preferences.
- A firm that prides itself on, and actively encourages, partner involvement in instructions to ensure the highest quality results, supported by junior colleagues (including paralegals and trainee solicitors) offering real value for money.
- A firm with commercial acumen, and a constant focus on adding value.
- The firm and many of our individuals are ranked in the Legal 500 and Chambers & Partners legal directories.



OUR APPROACH

Our clients tell us that they appreciate our expertise and the value we provide; that we recognise the need for prompt responses to you and third parties, that we keep matters moving to your timing and to your budget; we work with you to understand the points that are important to you, and those which are of lesser importance yet may still have negotiation value, so that we know what to push for and how hard to push. Our regular clients regard us as trusted advisors.

They tell us that our key differentiators are our responsiveness, the quality of our service and the value we bring to contentious matters and also to transactional and advisory assignments.

Importantly, we are a 'conflict-of-interest-free' firm.

TRANSATLANTIC DISPUTES

TALK TO US EARLY

Cross-border disputes can be won or lost on procedural strategy. If your case involves witnesses, evidence, assets or parties located in England early engagement with experienced English counsel can help preserve evidence, avoid jurisdictional pitfalls, secure interim remedies, reduce costs and keep litigation moving efficiently.

England is often a jurisdiction of evidence - key witnesses, documents, banks, professional advisers and corporate records are often located in England even where the substantive litigation is elsewhere.

Please contact us for an initial, no-obligation discussion.

WHY US LAW FIRMS INSTRUCT US

- Experienced English local counsel for US litigation teams.
- Extensive experience of Hague Evidence Convention applications and depositions.
- Partner-led service with direct access to senior lawyers.
- Competitive fee structures, including fixed and capped fees where appropriate.
- Ability to move quickly when urgent English court applications are required.
- Independent London law firm with very rare conflicts of interest constraints in contrast to many other firms.

TRANSATLANTIC DISPUTES [CONTINUED...]

DISPUTES HANDLING

Collyer Bristow's transatlantic disputes team assists US clients, US law firms and international businesses involved in disputes before the courts and arbitral tribunals of England. We act as English local counsel and as co-counsel alongside US law firms and provide English law expertise, strategic guidance and procedural support throughout the life of a dispute.

As a partner-led firm, we place particular emphasis on responsiveness, clear communication, practical legal advice and cost effectiveness. We value our ability to explain English procedural requirements in straightforward terms, identify potential risks at an early stage and work collaboratively as part of a wider international legal team.

SPECIALIST ISSUES IN TRANSATLANTIC DISPUTES

Transatlantic disputes frequently involve issues that do not arise in purely domestic litigation. Questions of jurisdiction, governing law, service of proceedings, evidence gathering by depositions under the Hague Evidence Convention or otherwise, interim remedies, disclosure obligations, enforcement of judgments and the coordination of parallel proceedings can all have a significant impact on the outcome of a case. Even where contractual jurisdiction and governing law clauses are in place, disputes often require careful consideration of how English and US legal systems interact.

DEPOSITIONS IN ENGLAND FOR US LITIGATION

We have acted in numerous applications before the English courts for the taking of evidence under the Hague Evidence Convention and are experienced in assisting US lawyers gathering witness evidence in England. Our team assists US law firms with letters of request, witness examinations and related court applications. We understand the practical demands of US litigation and work closely with US trial counsel to obtain witness testimony and documentary evidence efficiently and cost-effectively. With extensive experience in this specialist area, we help US lawyers navigate English procedural requirements while keeping their cases moving forward.

ASSET TRACING AND RECOVERY

When assets are moved across borders, speed and strategy are critical. We work with US lawyers and their clients to trace, preserve and recover assets connected with fraud, dishonest misconduct, breaches of trust and other commercial disputes.

England offers some of the world's most effective judicial tools for asset recovery. We advise on freezing orders, disclosure applications, tracing remedies, enforcement proceedings and related cross-border recovery strategies. Acting as English local counsel, we work seamlessly with US litigation teams to identify recovery opportunities, protect assets from dissipation and pursue enforcement against assets located in England and other jurisdictions via our lawyer connections in more than 50 countries and the support of corporate intelligence agencies.

Our objective is not merely to obtain judgments, but to help clients achieve meaningful recoveries.

TRANSATLANTIC DISPUTES [CONTINUED...]

APPOINTING US LAWYERS AS CO-COUNSEL FOR UK CLIENTS

In addition to acting for US clients with English disputes, our team assists UK and international clients who become involved in disputes in the United States. We help clients to identify suitable local counsel and then work with them coordinating a strategy across jurisdictions enabling clients to benefit from integrated advice and the expertise of our US counterparts.

COMPETITIVE FEES

We offer competitive fees and, in most instances, do not charge a fee for the initial review of cases and may be able to offer fixed/capped fees or a conditional fees arrangement (although like most UK law firms, we do not provide “no win - no fee” packages).

Crucially we have strong relationships with litigation funders, an important facet of the litigation landscape. This puts us in the position where, once we have helped clients find the right funding, we can move forward in tandem with the funders to achieve the client's aims.

REGULAR BULLETINS

We publish regular transatlantic disputes bulletins for US lawyers dealing with developments in English law, cross-border procedure and issues affecting transatlantic disputes. These updates, published approximately every one or two months, reflect our continuing focus on the area and our commitment to helping US clients and lawyers navigate the challenges of transatlantic dispute resolution.

"Stephen Rosen impresses clients with his wide legal knowledge and well-honed ability to spot the weaknesses in opponents' cases. He always brings an air of calmness to challenging situations."

LEGAL 500

OUR TRANSATLANTIC CASES

SOME EXAMPLES ARE:

- Representing parties and witnesses in numerous applications before the English courts concerning the taking of evidence in England for use in US proceedings under the Hague Evidence Convention.
- Acting for the English subsidiary of a US auction house in asserting a claim for breach of confidential information and damages.
- Working with US lawyers to recover the US assets of a high-profile individual made bankrupt in England (the bankruptcy recognised under Chapter 15 of the US Bankruptcy Code).
- Acting for a US wholesaler of commemorative items alleging breaches of a complex agreement caused by a UK supplier's defective products and delay.
- Working with US co-counsel advising an English company whose US subsidiary was subject to a US claim alleging breach of non-soliciting obligations contained in an agreement with a US client.
- Acting for a US medical devices company in a dispute with an English investor.
- Acting for US parties in arbitrations over contractual and financial disputes.
- Advising the UK minority shareholders of a US company that had been removed from NASDAQ because of filing allegedly fraudulent accounts.
- Acting for a US company resisting claims by an English company over alleged malpractice by overstating internet advertising performance.
- Advising a US claimant with a US judgement seeking a freezing order over a US defendant's UK bank account.
- Acting for a US client in an arbitration with a Saudi manufacturer of aircraft parts over a disputed consultancy agreement to which English law applied.
- Advising a US defence consultancy alleging breaches of a share participation agreement.
- Acting for a financial markets client who operated in the US in a dispute with a former employer over vested shares and cash benefits.
- Acting for an English company with a US sister company alleging defamation by a US company in each jurisdiction.

COMMERCIAL DISPUTES

Our transatlantic disputes services include:

- Arbitration
- Breach of contract
- Company disputes including M&A and warranty claims
- Financial services disputes
- Partnership and Shareholder/Boardroom disputes
- Disputes arising from breach of directors' duties
- Agency disputes
- Professional negligence claims
- Intellectual Property
- Civil fraud
- Trade disputes
- Data protection
- Reputation management
- Product liability disputes

ARBITRATION

Our arbitration team has experience of acting for both corporate clients and high net worth individuals in high value international and domestic arbitration matters, including the enforcement or the setting aside of arbitral awards. We have substantial experience of key sectors in which our clients operate including financial services, aviation, insurance, manufacturing, telecoms and technology. Whether acting for the claimant or the respondent, we aim to gain a thorough understanding of the intricacies of the client's situation and work with the client to develop a tailored arbitration strategy which aims to be cost-effective and align with the characteristics of the client and its business.

We have acted for claimants and respondents in claims under rules of the London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA), International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and other arbitral institutions.

"The Collyer Bristow LLP commercial disputes team has wide experience in complex business disputes, including civil fraud and contentious insolvency matters, as well as complex internal company disputes such as partnership or boardroom matters."

LEGAL 500

BANKING & FINANCIAL DISPUTES

CREATIVE PROBLEM SOLVERS FOR COMPLEX FINANCIAL CLAIMS

Although it occurred over a decade ago, the economic world is still feeling the ripple effects of the 2008 financial crisis today. Whilst the climate has stabilised, the resulting rigorous scrutiny of financial institutions has undoubtedly contributed to a rising number of disputes. We provide the knowledge and expertise to guide clients through the process, providing a commercially focused solution to achieve the best possible outcome.

Our banking and financial disputes team works with entities interacting with banks and other large financial institutions in disputes over investments, structured finance, derivatives, loans, guarantees and other forms of security. Our clients include UK and foreign companies, financial institutions, hedge funds, finance industry professionals and high net worth investors. Distinctively, we are a “conflict of interest free” team and can act against most of the major banks or financial institutions.



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