

Keith Tnee

Partner



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Areas of practice

- Dispute resolution
- Restructuring and insolvency
- Investigations
- Data protection

Qualification/Education

- Advocate & Solicitor, Singapore, 2011
- Bachelor of Laws (Hons), National University of Singapore, 2010

Memberships

- Member, The Law Society of Singapore
- Member, Singapore Academy of Law
- Member, INSOL International
- Associate, Insolvency Practitioners Association of Singapore

Awards and accolades

- *The Legal 500, Asia Pacific*: Recommended Lawyer (Dispute Resolution), 2020
 - *Singapore Business Review*: Singapore's 70 Most Influential Lawyers 40 and Under, 2016
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Keith has assisted clients in civil and commercial litigation matters covering a wide spectrum of industry sectors. He also handles investigations, insolvency and restructuring matters.

Experience

Disputes

- Acting for a **multi-national health and electronics technology company** in a dispute involving claims relating to the construction of its flagship building in Singapore.
- Acting for **Mdm Kwik Poh Leng**, the matriarch of the Thio family, in a minority oppression action in the High Court of Singapore. The Thio family owns one of the largest dairy products businesses in South-East Asia through their company, Malaysia Dairy Industries Pte Ltd, which produces well-known brands such as Vitagen, Marigold, HL Milk, Peel Fresh, Cowbell, Lady General, King of Kings and Double Happiness.
- Represented **Mdm Ng Giok Oh** in various appeals and cross-appeals before the Court of Appeal of Singapore in a S\$200 million dispute over Afro-Asia Shipping Pte Ltd's shares and assets. This case dealt with important and novel concepts of law, including the duties owed by a resulting trustee to the beneficiaries. The Court of Appeal judgment in this matter is now the leading case in Singapore on the issue of resulting trusts.
- Acting for **Airtrust (Singapore) Pte Ltd** in proceedings in the High Court of Singapore against various parties for conspiracy and breaches of fiduciary duties.
- Acting for **PSL Holdings Limited**, a company listed on the Singapore stock exchange, in proceedings in the High Court of Singapore in respect of an investment in an Indonesian shipping company.
- Acting in a multi-million dollar arbitration claim brought by an Indonesian businessman against a major American investment bank over the sale of speculative financial derivatives.
- Acting for a **regional educational company** in an arbitration dispute involving its private equity investor in respect of investments in Southeast Asia and the Middle-East.
- Acting for **Freddie Koh** in both the High Court and the Court of Appeal in another highly publicised case involving a claim on an indemnity resolution passed by the management committee of the Singapore Swimming Club. See *Freddie Koh Sin Chong v Singapore Swimming Club* [2014] SGHC 276 and *Singapore Swimming Club v Koh Sin Chong Freddie* [2016] SGCA 28.
- Acting for and advising the **developer** of a major part-commercial, part-medical development project in central Singapore in a dispute with its main contractor.
- Acting for the **Singapore subsidiary of a multi-national concrete supplier** in its claim against the main contractor of a major medical development project.

Insolvency, Restructuring and Investigations

- Assisting **Drydocks World SEA** in respect of its scheme of arrangement and its **subsidiaries** as regards liabilities of US\$2.2 billion.
- Acting for the **judicial managers** of **Punj Lloyd Pte Ltd** ("PLPL") and **Sembawang Engineers & Constructors** in the high-profile judicial management of these two companies.
- Acting for the **liquidators of PLPL** in the liquidation of the company.
- Acting for and advising the **judicial manager**, and subsequently the **liquidator of Opus Offshore Pte Ltd**, the Singapore subsidiary in a larger group that provides marine and drilling services; as well as acting for the **joint provisional liquidators of Opus Offshore Ltd** (the parent company of Opus Offshore Pte Ltd) in proceedings in the High Court of Singapore, including an application for pre-action discovery which was successfully defended.
- Advising well-known local hardware company, **Home-Fix D.I.Y. Pte Ltd** on its widely publicised judicial management, and subsequently, acting for the **liquidator** of Home-Fix D.I.Y. Pte Ltd.
- Acting for and advising a publicly listed company, **Koon Holdings Limited**, and its subsidiary, **Koon Construction & Transport Co. Pte. Ltd.**, an established company in the Singapore civil engineering sector, in successful applications for a Court-ordered moratorium, as well as in the successful restructuring of both companies by way of a Court-ordered scheme of arrangement. The restructuring was keenly watched by market players.
- Acting for and advising **Warehouse Logistics Net Asia Pte Ltd**, a major cold chain logistics and essential service provider, in successfully obtaining a Court-ordered moratorium, as well as in its ongoing restructuring.
- Advising in the restructuring of a **company** involved in the distribution of electronic components internationally.
- Acting for and advising the **liquidators of Marinteknik Shipbuilders (S) Pte Ltd** in the winding up and sale of the company, which ultimately resulted in a successful application to set aside the winding up order and "resuscitate" the company.
- Acting for the **liquidators of Dovechem Holdings Pte Ltd** (in compulsory liquidation) in the winding up of the company and in one of the most heavily-contested applications for the taxation of the liquidators' fees.
- Assisting in the preparation of an expert opinion on Singapore agency law and principles for a matter before the English Commercial Court.

Data Protection

- Providing data protection advice to various **clients** including those from the medical industry, the energy sector and insurance industry.

Publications

- Contributor to the Singapore chapter of *The Asset Tracing and Recovery Review* published by *Law Business Research Ltd*, 2015-2017.

- Author of chapter on *Affidavits* in *Singapore Civil Procedure 2019 – Volume I* published by *Sweet & Maxwell*.
- Author of chapter on *Affidavits* in *Singapore Civil Procedure 2018 – Volume I* published by *Sweet & Maxwell*.
- Author of chapter on *Summary Judgment, Striking Out and Preliminary Determination* in *Law and Practice of Commercial Litigation in Singapore* published by *Sweet & Maxwell*.