

Alcina Chew
Partner



E: alcinachew@tkqp.com.sg
T: +65 6496 9539

Areas of Practice

- Dispute Resolution
- Investigations

Qualification/Education

- Advocate & Solicitor, Singapore, 2013
- Bachelor of Laws (Hons), National University of Singapore, 2012

Appointments/Memberships

- Member, The Law Society of Singapore
- Member, Singapore Academy of Law
- Member, YSIAC

Awards and Accolades

- *Euromoney Legal Media Group Women in Business Law Awards Asia 2020* – Rising Star Lawyer of the Year for Litigation
 - *The Legal 500 Asia Pacific: Next Generation Lawyer* (Dispute Resolution), 2019
 - *Singapore Business Review: Singapore's 20 Most Influential Lawyers Aged 40 and Under*, 2017
-

The “*very thorough, efficient, dedicated, and a star of the future*” (*The Legal 500 Asia Pacific*, 2019) Alcina has assisted in various civil and commercial matters covering a wide spectrum of industry sectors including hospitality, employment, banking and finance, and securities.

Experience

- Representing **Vinmar Group** in a claim before the Singapore International Commercial Court (“**SICC**”) in connection with the collapse of a large petrochemical project in Singapore – one of the first few cases to come before the SICC.
- Advising **Wirecard AG** in relation to fraud investigations and tracing of some €1.9 billion which was discovered to be missing from its balance sheet in June 2020.
- Acting for a **plaintiff** in a complex case where there was a dispute on whether the fire broke out in the plaintiff’s or the defendant’s property, and the cause of the fire was unknown. Following a nine-day trial in which many witnesses including fire experts and personnel from the Singapore Civil Defence Force were cross-examined, the team obtained a favourable judgment for 100% of the quantum claimed by the plaintiff: see *Te Deum Engineering Pte Ltd v Grace Electrical Engineering Pte Ltd* [2016] SGHC 232. The defendant then filed an appeal. The Court of Appeal, after hearing the appeal, accepted our arguments on a novel point of law, and upheld the decision: see *Grace Electrical Engineering Pte Ltd v Te Deum Engineering Pte Ltd* [2017] SGCA 65.
- Acting for an **international group of manufacturing companies** in an action against the group’s former director and CEO in the SICC. The group has claimed for serious breaches of fiduciary duties, bribery and corruption, conspiracy, and diversion of a multi-million business: see *Beyonics Asia Pacific Ltd and another v Goh Chan Peng and another* [2022] 1 SLR 1.
- Acting for **United Overseas Bank Limited** (“**UOB**”) in its claims for fraud and conspiracy against, amongst others, Lippo Marina Collection Pte Ltd (“**Lippo Marina**”), a property development company within the well-known Lippo Group, relating to UOB’s grant of mortgage loans amounting to an aggregate sum of S\$181 million for the purchase of luxury condominium units at The Marina Collection at Sentosa Cove developed by Lippo Marina. This case included an interlocutory application involving a complex area of law pertaining to whether the fraud exception applies to prevent attribution of the knowledge of an employee who had been fraudulent and/or who had committed a breach of duty to the employer. See: *United Overseas Bank Ltd v Lippo Marina Collection Pte Ltd and others* [2016] 2 SLR 597; and *United Overseas Bank Ltd v Lippo Marina Collection Pte Ltd* [2017] SGHC 140.
- Representing **Mdm Kwik Poh Leng**, the matriarch of the Thio family, in a dispute over approximately S\$1 billion of family-owned assets. 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. See: *Thio Syn Kym Wendy and others v Thio Syn Pyn and others* [2017] SGHC 169.

- Acting for the **Court-appointed deputies** of an elderly high-net worth individual in respect of her property and affairs. Subsequent litigation was commenced arising out of the Court of Appeal's finding that the youngest daughter and son-in-law had unduly influenced the octogenarian into setting up a BVI trust. This involved complex issues of law such as whether undue influence can give rise to a cause of action in its own right, *res judicata* and issue estoppel. See: *BLL v BLM and another* [2020] 4 SLR 494.
- Advising and acting for **DBS Vickers Securities** for sums owed by the defendant under a trading account. We successfully resisted the defendant's claims that there were unauthorised and erroneous transactions on the account, and obtained a favourable judgment. See: *DBS Vickers Securities (Singapore) Pte Ltd v Zhou Yaxi* [2019] SGMC 48.
- Advising and acting for a **major international hospitality group** in respect of their S\$135 million claim against their landlord and insurers.
- Advising and acting for a **leading Asia-Pacific hospitality group** in a dispute with the Singapore subsidiary of an international provider of membership programmes.
- Advising and acting for **Malaysian clients** in claims for misrepresentation against a major Swiss bank.
- Advising and acting for an **Indonesian client** in claims for unauthorized trading, failure to advise and misrepresentation against a major US bank.
- Advising and acting for a **former President of a club** in relation to a dispute arising out of the suspension and removal of a committee member of the club.

Publications

- *How to Conduct a Retrenchment Exercise*, Lexology, September 2021.
- *Commercial Litigation in a Multi-Jurisdictional Context – Lessons from Beyonics Asia Pacific Ltd & ors v Goh Chan Peng & anor* [2021] SGCA (I) 2, Lexology, June 2021.
- *No Oral Modification Clauses – Food for Thought*, Lexology, May 2021.
- *COVID-19 and Legal Considerations for the Hospitality Industry*, April 2020.