

Keith Tnee
Senior 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
- Fellow, Insolvency Practitioners Association of Singapore

Awards and Accolades

- *asialaw*: Notable Practitioner (Restructuring and Insolvency), 2023 - 2024
- *Asian Legal Business*: Singapore Rising Star, 2022
- *The Legal 500, Asia Pacific*: Recommended Lawyer (Restructuring and Insolvency), 2022 and 2024
- *The Legal 500, Asia Pacific*: Recommended Lawyer (Dispute Resolution), 2020
- *Singapore Business Review*: Singapore's 70 Most Influential Lawyers 40 and Under, 2016

Keith is an experienced disputes and insolvency lawyer who has assisted clients in a wide range of civil and commercial matters across various industry sectors. Keith was listed in 2022 as a Rising Star – Singapore by *Asian Legal Business*. In 2020, he was recognised in *The Legal 500, Asia Pacific* as “an emerging talent” and “an outstanding lawyer who is very knowledgeable, analytical and commercial”.

Experience

Dispute Resolution

- Successfully defending a BVI-incorporated investment company, **Open Faith Investments Ltd**, in the Singapore International Commercial Court against a multi-million dollar claim for breach of a subscription agreement.
- 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 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.
- 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 **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.
- Advising and acting for a **Singapore Catalist-listed company** in a boardroom tussle with its controlling shareholder.

- 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.
- Assisting in the preparation of an expert opinion on Singapore agency law and principles for a matter before the English Commercial Court.

Insolvency, Restructuring and Investigations

- Advising and acting for the **interim judicial managers of Hodlnaut Pte. Ltd.**, a Singapore-based cryptocurrency exchange. This landmark matter involving 17,000 creditors spread over multiple jurisdictions is one of the first major crypto-related restructurings in Singapore, and involves many novel legal issues and financial issues.
- Assisting **Drydocks World SEA** in respect of its scheme of arrangement and its **subsidiaries** as regards liabilities of US\$2.2 billion.
- 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 **Koon Holdings Limited** (a publicly listed company) and its subsidiary, **Koon Construction & Transport Co. Pte. Ltd.**, 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.
- Acting for and advising **Warehouse Logistics Net Asia Pte Ltd**, a major cold chain logistics provider, in its successful applications for a Court-ordered moratorium and Court-ordered scheme of arrangement.
- 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.

Data Protection

- Providing data protection advice to various **clients** including those from the medical industry, the energy sector and insurance industry.
- Drafting data protection documents for a **management consultancy company**.

Publications

- *Striking Out Minority Oppression Proceedings in the context of a Buy-out Offer: Leong Quee Ching Karen v Lim Soon Huat* [2022] SGHC 309, January 2023.
- Singapore chapter of *The Legal 500: Restructuring & Insolvency Country Comparative Guide*, Legalease Ltd, 2024.

- *When the Sun sets on a Company – Important Developments in Insolvency Law from Sun Electric Power Pte Limited v RCMA Asia Pte Ltd (formerly known as Tong Teik Pte Ltd) [2021] SGCA 60, Lexology, June 2021.*
- 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*.