

Alcina Chew  
Partner



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#### 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
- Panellist, Law Society Neutral Evaluation and Determination Scheme, Financial Industry Disputes Resolution Centre (LSNEDS-FIDReC Scheme)
- Panellist, Law Society Neutral Evaluation and Determination Scheme, Consumers Association of Singapore (LSNEDS-CASE Scheme)
- Mentor, Women in Practice Group Mentoring Programme

#### 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

Described as “*very thorough, efficient, dedicated, and a star of the future*” (*The Legal 500 Asia Pacific*, 2019), Alcina has experience in various commercial and private client disputes covering a wide spectrum of industry sectors including hospitality, employment, and banking.

#### Experience

- 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. See: [United Overseas Bank Ltd v Lippo Marina Collection Pte Ltd and others \[2022\] SGHC\(A\) 38](#).
- Acting for a BVI company and its Malaysian principal in a claim against **Credit Suisse AG** (“CS”) and **Luckin Coffee Inc** (“Luckin”) for losses sustained on investments in and/or based on securities issued by Luckin transacted through the claimants’ accounts with CS. An interlocutory application in this case involved the novel issue of whether the Notice to Produce procedure exists under the new Rules of Court 2021, although it is not expressly provided for: see [Interactive Digital Finance Ltd and another v Credit Suisse AG and another \[2023\] SGHC 198](#).
- 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.
- Acting for an **international group of manufacturing companies** in an action against the group’s former director and CEO in the SICC. The group 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 a **widow and eldest daughter** in a dispute against the deceased’s three other children relating to the beneficial ownership of funds in joint accounts which, until the deceased’s passing, were jointly held by the deceased, his widow and eldest daughter. The matter involved novel issues of law on whether banking terms providing for the beneficial interests of the account holders should be regarded as conclusive.
- 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](#).
- 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](#).
- 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 (one of Singapore's largest REITs) 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.