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Stephen is a partner in the litigation and arbitration team and leads the global fraud team.

His practice focusses on international asset freezing and recovery cases, heavyweight commercial litigation and regulatory disputes and Stephen is particularly adept at drawing on the firm's tax expertise in such cases to obtain a strategic advantage. More recently, his practice has also developed to encompass tackling fraud involving digital finance, digital assets and cryptocurrency.

Stephen also often acts for family offices, successful families, entrepreneurs and their businesses on a broad range of commercial disputes and heads up our family office first group, which is an innovative approach to finding positive solutions for family conflicts.

Stephen regularly speaks at national and international conferences on a wide range of fraud and litigation topics. Stephen is described by Chambers and Partners 2021 as 'absolutely fantastic - he exudes calm no matter what the situation, taking everything in his stride and turning it to his client's advantage.'

Track record

Family business dispute involving fraud and professional negligence

We successfully represented a UK company over a complex and highly litigious dispute arising out of a family business. Spanning over many years, there were findings of professional negligence against our client's former solicitors and findings of forgery against one of the respondents. Various teams across our firm worked on this case including corporate, trusts and litigation to fully service our clients needs under one roof.

Professional negligence and conspiracy

Barrowfen Properties Limited v (1) Girish Patel; (2) Stevens & Bolton LLP; (3) Barrowfen Properties II Limited [2020] EWHC 1145 (Ch) . Acting in a successful claim involving allegations of professional negligence and conspiracy.

Removal of confidential information and conspiracy

Marathon Asset Management LLP v Seddon and others - Successfully defending a three year £30m claim concerning the removal of confidential information and conspiracy. After a long battle, our client was ordered to pay only £1 in nominal damages and negotiated the recovery of his legal costs.

Saudi Alghosaibi Group fraud claim

Acting for the Saudi Alghosaibi Group in relation to a US\$9.2 billion fraud claim.

£100 million fraud claim

Defending a £100 million claim for fraud brought by a hedge fund against a former employee.

Family shareholder dispute

Acting on a multimillion pound family shareholder dispute in Barbados on appeal to the Privy Council.

Employee fraud

Advising an internet gaming company on employee fraud and coordinating the arrest of the culprit and seizure of his computers within 24 hours.

Saudi Family Office

Helping a Saudi Family Office recover the proceeds of a large fraud.

Bank mandate fraud

Assisting a renowned gallery on freezing and recovering the proceeds of a bank mandate fraud.

Admissions

England and Wales, 2001

Education

London School of Economics, B.A. (Hons) Philosophy

Languages

English

Memberships

Commercial Fraud Lawyers Association

Key dates

Year joined: 1999

Year became partner: 2015

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