

Roberto Moruzzi

PARTNER | LONDON



ROBERTO.MORUZZI@WITHERSWORLDWIDE.COM



+44 20 7597 6120

SECRETARY CHRISTINE WOODROFFE



CHRISTINE.WOODROFFE@WITHERSWORLDWIDE.COM



+44 20 7597 6444



Roberto is a partner in the litigation and arbitration team.

He is experienced in dealing with commercial litigation and arbitration involving international and domestic contractual disputes, fraud and asset tracing, loan recoveries and debt collection. He leads the insolvency team, advising insolvency practitioners and directors of distressed companies, as well as creditors.

Roberto is experienced in High Court pre-action strategy, such as applying for and defending applications for worldwide freezing orders, through to enforcing judgments in the UK and abroad. His clients include Aston Martin Racing, Tamara Ecclestone-Rutland, Novak Djokovic, Troika Media Group, Elite World Group, Diesel, Liu Jo, and Duferco Participations. He also acted for Renault Sport SAS in the High Court litigation brought by HMRC against the Lotus F1 Team Limited, the successful conclusion of which allowed the acquisition of Lotus F1 Team Limited by Renault F1.

In terms of arbitration, Roberto has arbitrated cases both in the UK and abroad for international clients, including pursuant to the rules of the ICC, LCIA, LMAA and UNCITRAL. He also has experience of enforcing arbitral awards in foreign jurisdictions pursuant to the New York Convention.

Roberto also has experience in advising in privacy and defamation matters. His cases include Elite Model Management (New York) & Elite Model Look (Paris) v BBC which at the time was the largest defamation action brought before the High Court in London. He negotiated the successful outcome of this action.

Track record

Business management agents

Acting for Tamara Ecclestone-Rutland and SBD International Limited in litigation against their former business management agents.

Renault Sport SAS

Acting for *Renault Sport SAS* in opposing HMRC's application for an administration order against Lotus F1 Team Limited, the successful defence of which paved the way for Renault Group's acquisition of Lotus F1 Team Limited.

Contractual dispute in F1 sector

Renault Formula 1 v PVAXX / Renault Formula 1 v Jam Session Sri - which both involved a contractual dispute concerning the non-payment of sponsorship money.

Major litigation

Fortress Value Recovery Fund & Ors v Blue Skye & Ors - a case involving the implementation of a scheme to reorganise the structure by which investments in non-performing loans and receivables were held.

Property dispute

Logue & Ors v PGGL & Ors - a case involving a dispute arising out of the acquisition of a property at One Hyde Park.

Global freezing order

The Complete Retreats Liquidating Trust v Logue and others - a case which involved successfully setting aside a worldwide freezing order obtained against the defendants.

Investment scheme

Dominic Adams & Ors v Ford & Ors - a case involving a class action against our client arising out of the Keydata Technology investment scheme.

Fraudulent misrepresentation

Samuel Tak Lee v Florence Tsang - acting in relation to a claim for fraudulent misrepresentation and successfully challenging jurisdiction on behalf of the defendant.

Restrictive covenant

JP Morgan v Edsparr - a case concerning the enforcement of a restrictive covenant.

Queens Park Rangers

Queens Park Rangers v Caliendo - a case brought before the courts of Monaco concerning a football player.

Queens Park Rangers

Dunga v Queens Park Rangers - a case involving a claim brought by a former director for repayment of a loan.

FSA investigations

Fieldglen Ltd & Ford v The Financial Services Authority - a case involving an application restraining the FSA from accessing and downloading data stored on a computer. Also advising generally in relation to the FSA's investigations.

Defence fortifications

Trading Force Limited v Hesco Bastion Limited - a case involving commission in relation to sales of defence fortifications to the US military.

Franchise agreement

Hervia Limited v Vivienne Westwood Limited - a case brought against our client in relation to a franchise agreement.

F1 lending claim

Morgan Grenfell & Deutsche Bank v Arrows Autosports & Walkinshaw & Others - a claim brought by a lender against a Formula 1 motor-racing team and its guarantor.

Worldwide freezing order

Finint UK Limited v Kerrison - a case which involved obtaining a worldwide freezing order against the former Managing Director of a UK subsidiary.

US\$45m claim

Fifth Street Owner Corporation & Ors v Rolin - a case involving a claim for US\$45m of which we successfully negotiated the outcome.

Supporters' trust

Carlisle & Cumbria United Independent Supporters' Society Limited v CUFC Holdings Ltd & Others - a case involving a derivative action brought by a supporters' trust as a minority shareholder on behalf of the holding company of a UK football club.

Insolvency Act claim

Shing Lee Ho Chee & State Family Planning Commission of China v Neville & Krikorian - a case involving an appeal brought under s.7(3) Insolvency Act 1986 seeking to reverse the decision of the supervisor of a company voluntary arrangement.

Breach of contract and negligence

Programma Italia (Fininvest) v Chase Investment Bank Limited - a case brought in relation to a breach of contract and negligence claim relating to the sale of certain investment products.

Owners of steel company

Acting for the owners of a former state owned Macedonian steel company in relation to claims brought against it by two former state owned companies in Macedonia and a counterclaim brought against them for breach of warranty.

Oil trading company

Acting for a Jersey based oil trading company in a claim against an oil producer following on from the non supply to it of oil from an oil terminal in Ingushetia.

BVI company

Acting for a BVI company in relation to a claim for the return of US\$20million due to it from a Turkish company following the non supply of shares in a Swiss company which owned an oil terminal on the Caspian Sea.

Debt recovery from Brazil

Acting for an Italian company in relation to the recovery of a debt owed to it by a Brazilian company following the supply to it of customised speedboats to be used by the Brazilian Police Force.

Polish motorway dispute

Acting for a joint venture partner in relation to dispute arising out of the construction of a motorway in Poland.

Ukraine infrastructure dispute

Acting in relation to a dispute arising out of the awarding of an infrastructure contract in Ukraine.

European steel manufacturer

Acting for a European steel manufacturer and supplier in an arbitration brought against it by a supplier of raw materials.

Talks

- Roberto has lectured in Switzerland and Italy, including at the Court of Appeal in Milan and at the British Council in Istanbul on behalf of The Law Society.
- He has hosted and participated in seminars focusing on various aspects of English civil law and procedure, in particular tax avoidance schemes, forum shopping, enforcement of judgments, insolvency and arbitration.

External publications

He has co-authored a number of articles concerning the impact of the fallout of film partnership schemes on investors, in particular professional footballers and sportsmen. These have featured in a number of legal journals as well as the financial times.

Roberto was the author of 'Model Democracy' an article in 'Legal Week' about the evolution of the law of privacy.

He has also been quoted on various issues ranging from mis-selling and insolvency to defamation in The Times, Telegraph and Financial Times.

Admissions

England and Wales, 1990

Education

University College, Cardiff, Law and Politics, 2:1 BSc Econ

Languages

English
Italian

Memberships

Association of Business Recovery Professionals
London Court of International Arbitration
British Italian Law Association

Key dates

Year joined: 1990

Year became partner: 1999

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