HARNEYS

Biography



Claire Goldstein

Partner | British Virgin Islands

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Expertise

Litigation & Insolvency, Trusts, Trusts & private client litigation, Distressed funds, International Arbitration, Company Restoration

Claire is co-head of Litigation & Insolvency and Restructuring in the British Virgin Islands. She joined us in 2014 after having spent five years at another leading BVI law firm. She has extensive experience of complex multi-jurisdictional corporate and commercial litigation, trusts, fraud and asset tracing and insolvency and restructuring matters and has worked with a wide variety of clients. Claire also regularly represents clients in the BVI courts on a number of interlocutory applications including urgent applications for injunctions, the appointment of interim receivers and other forms of interim relief.

Claire has worked on some of the leading cases in the jurisdiction including the Fairfield litigation where she represented a number of banks that had invested into Fairfield Sentry Ltd which was a feeder fund into Bernard Madoff Investment Securities Limited. She has also worked on some of the largest and most complex enforcement claims in order to enforce foreign judgments and arbitral awards in the BVI.

Prior to moving offshore Claire worked at Slaughter and May and Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton in London. She was called to the Bar of England and Wales in 2004. Claire was also a lecturer in constitutional and administrative Law at St Hilda's College, University of Oxford.

Claire is recommended by Chambers and Legal 500 as a leading BVI practitioner. She is on the board of the BVI Restructuring and Insolvency Association (*RISA*) and is a member of INSOL and the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation (*IWIRC*). Claire is also on the advisory board for the Trusts and Estates Litigation Forum.

Claire is a regular contributor to the Offshore Litigation Blog.

Recommendations

Claire is recognised for her British Virgin Islands Dispute Resolution expertise.

Recent testimonials include:

- "Claire is an excellent lawyer. She is highly commercial and can think outside of the box. She remains calm in difficult situations." (2024 guide)
- She is "very diligent and attentive." Sources say: "She is astute and provides great client service." "I have only good things to say. Claire is very experienced. I've seen her with clients and it seems they have a great relationship." (2023 guide)
- "She is a pleasure to work with hugely intelligent and a good team player." (2022 guide)
- She is "an excellent lawyer" who provides "efficient and precise advice". Other commentators highlight her as "a very strategic advocate". (2021 guide)
- Chambers & Partners, 2017 2024

Claire is recognised as a Leading Individual for her British Virgin Islands Dispute Resolution expertise.

Recent testimonials include:

- She is noted as "a remarkable litigator with extensive experience in the BVI. She seamlessly combines commercial nuance, analytical thinking and legal expertise and is supported by a great team of dedicated associates." (2024 guide)
- She is "very intelligent, diligent, and a good team player'. (2022 guide)
- She is a "very experienced BVI practitioner who knows and understands the market and workings of the system well." (2021 guide)

Prior to the 2021 guide, she was recognised as a Next Generation Partner.

- Legal 500, 2020 - 2024

Claire is recommended for her British Virgin Islands expertise in the following categories:

- Thought Leader GIR Asset Recovery (2019 2020)
- Thought Leader Private Client (2023)
- Asset Recovery (2019 2023)
- Commercial Litigation (2021 2024)
- Private Client (2021 2023)
- Who's Who Legal, 2019 2024

Bar Admissions

British Virgin Islands 2009

England and Wales (not practising) 2004

Education

University of Oxford (BCL) 2003

European University Institute (LLM) 2002

University of Leeds (LLB) 2001

"Claire is an innovative solution-finder and one who is devoted to finding solutions for her clients. She is very strong in complex international situations.