

Setting up a Business in Hong Kong

August 2023

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Howse Williams is an independent Hong Kong law firm which combines the in-depth experience of its lawyers with a creative, forward-thinking approach.

About Us

Our key practice areas are corporate/commercial and corporate finance; commercial and maritime dispute resolution; clinical negligence and healthcare; insurance, personal injury and professional indemnity insurance; employment; family and matrimonial; trusts and wealth preservation; wills, probate and estate administration; property and building management; banking; fraud; distressed debt; financial services/corporate regulatory and compliance.

As an independent law firm we are able to minimise legal and commercial conflicts of interest and act for clients in every industry sector. The partners have spent the majority of their careers in Hong Kong and have a detailed understanding of international business and business in Asia.

The Howse Williams (HW) partners and their teams have an excellent reputation for delivering high quality legal advice with a practical and commercial approach to solving legal issues in line with clients' commercial objectives.

Setting up a Business in Hong Kong



Overview

The most common types of business vehicle in Hong Kong are as follows:

- A company incorporated in Hong Kong
- A branch office of a parent company
- A representative office

Business Registration

The Business Registration Ordinance requires that every business in Hong Kong register with the Business Registration Office of the Inland Revenue Department in respect of each location from which the business is conducted within one month of starting business. The registration certificate must be displayed at the place of business and is usually valid for one year. Particulars registered with the Business Registration office are available to the public and any change in particulars must be notified to the Business Registration Office within one month. Business registration serves to notify the Inland Revenue Department that a business has been established that may be subject to payment of profits tax.

Licenses and Consents

Certain businesses require specific licenses or consents from regulatory authorities, including but not limited to businesses involved in telecommunications, insurance, banking and other financial services.

Companies Incorporated in Hong Kong

Companies incorporated in Hong Kong can be public or private and can be limited by shares or by guarantee. Usually companies limited by guarantee are set up by non-profit organisations. Most public companies are listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange and are subject to additional regulations such as the Listing Rules and the Hong Kong Code on Takeovers and Mergers.

Private Limited Companies

A private limited company is a company which restricts the right to transfer its shares; limits the number of shareholders to 50 (excluding employees and former employees) and prohibits any invitation to the public to subscribe for any shares or debentures in the company. The liability of each shareholder is limited to the amount (if any) unpaid on the shares held by that shareholder.

Incorporation

A private limited company may be incorporated in Hong Kong by submitting the following to the Hong Kong Companies Registry:

- a certified signed copy of the Articles of Association
- an incorporation form
- the prescribed fee

A company name must not be the same as an existing company. The Registrar of Companies keeps a list which may be viewed online at the Companies Registry's Cyber Search Centre. A company may be incorporated with an English or a Chinese name or a name incorporating both English and Chinese. It is not possible to reserve a name in advance.

The Companies Registry will issue a Certificate of Incorporation certifying the name and date of incorporation of the company.

Shareholders, Directors, Company Secretary and Auditors

A private limited company in Hong Kong must have at least one shareholder, one director who is a natural person and a company secretary. A secretary, director and shareholder of a company can be the same person except that the sole director of a company cannot also be the secretary of the company. There is no prescribed minimum share capital. The company secretary must be either an individual resident in Hong Kong or another Hong Kong limited company. The company's auditors must be a Hong Kong firm of accountants. Shareholders and directors can be of any nationality or residence.

Registered Office

The registered office address of the company to which all formal and legal correspondence will be addressed must be situated in Hong Kong. The registered office address may be a different address to the company's business address.

Post Incorporation Matters

A company must keep annually audited accounts. It is advisable for auditors to be appointed as soon as possible after incorporation. After incorporation a company may open bank accounts in Hong Kong and elsewhere. The company must determine a financial year, file annual returns and hold/maintain a business registration certificate.

A Branch Office of a Parent Company

A foreign company is permitted to establish a branch office in Hong Kong. It must register the branch with the Registrar of Companies within one month of establishing a place of business in Hong Kong. A certificate of registration of a non-Hong Kong company will be issued by the Companies Registry. In addition, a branch office must apply for a business registration certificate.

Subject to being exempted from an obligation to do so, a foreign company must file an annual return confirming that there is no change to the documents and particulars already filed with the Registrar at the time of registration. The company must also file an annual balance sheet, profit and loss account, group accounts, directors' report and auditors report.

Considerations when choosing a branch vs. a subsidiary include the following:

- A subsidiary is an entity which is completely separate from its parent. The parent is not, therefore, responsible for the debts of its subsidiary.
- Profits tax is the same for local and foreign companies.
- Establishment of a subsidiary is quicker than setting up a branch.
- A Hong Kong subsidiary is not required to file its accounts on public record. A branch will need to do so unless it is exempted.
- Establishment of a branch may lead to tax advantages in the home jurisdiction such as the treatment of any losses by the Hong Kong branch.
- No capital duty is payable for setting up a branch.
- A separate audit of a branch is not required.
- Termination of a branch may be affected by notification to the Companies Registry. A subsidiary may only be terminated by way of liquidation or deregistration.

Representative Offices

A foreign company is permitted to establish a local representative office which is not required to register with the Registrar of Companies but must obtain a business registration certificate. Subject to certain exceptions, a representative office must not undergo business in Hong Kong that creates any legal obligations. A representative office is usually a liaison office.

Sole Proprietorships, General Partnerships and Limited Partnerships

A Sole Proprietorship must obtain a Business Registration Certificate. It is not a separate legal entity, therefore all debts and liabilities are the personal responsibility of the sole proprietor.

A general partnership is usually governed by a partnership agreement. A partnership is not a separate legal entity. The partners are personally liable for all debts and liabilities. A general partnership must obtain a Business Registration Certificate.

A limited partnership must be registered with the Registrar of Companies and obtain a Business Registration Certificate. A limited partnership must consist of at least one or more general partners who are responsible for the management of, and are liable for, all the debts and obligations of the partnership and one or more limited partners who are liable for the debts or obligations of the partnership only up to the amount that they contribute to the capital of the partnership. A limited partner must not take part in the management or control of the business of the limited partnership and must have no power to bind the limited partnership as its agent.

Acquiring a Business

There are two ways to purchase a business in Hong Kong. The first is to buy the shares of a company. This involves acquiring a company with all of its assets and liabilities which generally involves a due diligence exercise and appropriate warranty and indemnity protection in the sale and purchase documentation.

The second is to buy the assets of a business which may protect the purchaser from certain liabilities of the business but can be a complicated process requiring third party and other consents.

Joint Ventures

Two or more joint venture partners may agree to undertake a business together. The most common legal structure for a joint venture arrangement is to establish a private limited company where the shareholders are the joint venture partners. A shareholders agreement will regulate the business of the joint venture company and the rights and obligations of the joint venture partners.

HW Corporate Services

HW (Corporate Services) Ltd. provides a range of corporate secretarial services to clients in relation to companies incorporated in Hong Kong, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands and setting up a WOFE in China.

We are able to provide initial set-up and ongoing secretarial services for Hong Kong and offshore companies and foreign companies registered in Hong Kong. Our services include provision of a company secretary; provision of a registered office; custody of statutory books, records, stamps and chops; preparation of annual returns and other filings to the Companies Registry, Inland Revenue and other regulatory bodies; company and name search services; preparation of minutes, articles of association and execution of documents in relation to annual and extraordinary meetings of shareholders and directors.

HW Legal Services

In addition to company formation, HW provides practical legal advice on the following areas associated with setting up companies in Hong Kong:

- licensing issues
- consents and regulatory requirements
- intellectual property rights
- competition law
- corporate services, from complex multi-jurisdiction cross-border investments to drafting commercial and service agreements
- employment visas and other immigration issues
- employee contracts, employee relocations, employee returns and other statutory and common law employment matters
- office set-up including insurance, commercial and residential leases and other contractual arrangements
- banking and taxation issues.

Our clients include multinationals, small and medium enterprises and innovative start-ups. Details of HW's practice areas are listed below.

HW Practice Areas

Dispute Resolution: HW specialises in dispute resolution both in Hong Kong and internationally. The firm handles complex multi-jurisdictional commercial cases involving sale of goods; trade finance; media law; fraud; shareholder, joint venture, employment, property and franchise disputes; insolvency issues; injunction proceedings; jurisdictional challenges; public inquiries and judicial reviews.

China Practice: Howse Williams has entered into a formal Association with Shu Jin Law Firm (Hong Kong) to further enhance and expand our China practice and services on PRC legal matters.

Shu Jin was established in Shenzhen in 1993 and is a leading and highly regarded full-service law firm in the PRC and in particular the Greater Bay Area. The firm currently has 60 partners and approximately 400 employees in total. Headquartered in Shenzhen, the firm has offices in Hong Kong, Shanghai, Beijing, Xi'an and Guangzhou.

Corporate/Commercial and Corporate Finance: HW's team advises clients on a diverse spectrum of practice areas in all Asian jurisdictions, including mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance, direct investment, capital markets and securities, private equity and venture capital, shareholder/joint venture agreements, corporate restructuring/reorganization, corporate governance and general commercial matters including operational contracts and intellectual property commercialization.

Insurance and Professional Indemnity Insurance: The firm advises on general insurance, professional indemnity, D&O and specialised insurance lines acting for, amongst others, mutual and fixed premium insurers of ships, a wide range of insurers for freight forwarders, warehouse operators, transport intermediaries, cargo owners and trade insurers. We also represent insurers who provide professional indemnity insurance for various professional bodies in Hong Kong. We provide services to the following professionals: solicitors, accountants, medical and dental practitioners, architects, directors and officers, engineers, estate agencies, financial institutions, fund managers, nurses, occupational therapists, pharmacists and health care workers.

Shipping: The firm specialises in maritime dispute resolution and handles a wide range of disputes both in Hong Kong and throughout Asia. The shipping team has considerable experience in all types of dry shipping litigation acting usually on behalf of owners, charterers and their P&I Clubs. They are able to advise on any problems concerning charterparties, bills of lading and contracts of affreightment. They have particular expertise in handling problems arising from the shipment of coal, iron ore, nickel ore and fluorspar.

Clinical Negligence and Healthcare: The medico-legal team advises doctors, dentists and their indemnity providers and other healthcare professionals. The partners also advise private hospitals, medical group practices, corporate healthcare providers and pharmaceutical companies on issues relating to the import and distribution of drugs and pharmaceutical products, drug liability claims and other regulatory matters.

Employment: HW provides contentious and non-contentious employment advice to both employers and employees in Hong Kong. We advise on all aspects of the fast changing contractual, common law and statutory law employment framework. In 2013 HW was awarded International Employment Law Firm of the Year in Hong Kong by Global Law Experts.

Family and Matrimonial: In respect of matrimonial and relationship breakdown, our clients are inevitably undergoing a stressful and difficult period in their lives; we provide a personal, practical and cost-oriented approach. We work closely with other professionals in the field of family disputes, including psychologists and accountants, but particularly mediators, to provide the best solutions for our clients. We fully support dispute resolution in the form of mediation, both in respect of children and financial matters; two members of our department are trained in collaborative practice. We are accessible, respond immediately when emergencies arise and provide our services efficiently and effectively. Our clients' privacy and confidentiality are treated with the utmost importance. We ensure that our clients have a realistic idea of what can be achieved. We have no hesitation in taking action by way of legal proceedings immediately if the necessity arises, but overall our approach is conciliatory. We are mindful that the cases we handle are very sensitive and frequently involve children. We provide practical solutions and protect our clients' interests.

Our clients include a broad range of individuals from all walks of life, including spouses and partners who have devoted substantial time to the home and bringing up children, as well as professionals, business owners, and people well known in the community. Our clients frequently have connections with other jurisdictions around the world. Consequently our children cases often cover the circumstances of international child abduction or applications for permanent relocation of children to other countries. The vast majority of our cases cover assets in multiple jurisdictions around the world, ranging from modest assets to families with complex commercial structures and high net worth.

Trusts and Wealth Preservation: Our team has extensive experience advising high and ultra-high net worth individuals and their families, entrepreneurs, family businesses and trustees from Hong Kong, the PRC, or internationally. We are trusted legal advisers providing advice and support to our clients on a wide range of contentious and non-contentious wealth preservation, inheritance and succession matters. Our private clients range from high profile to discreet individuals. Our team includes solicitors who are full members of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP) and are registered Trust and Estate Practitioners.



Wills, Probate & Estate Administration: Our Family Department assists clients in probate matters and with all aspects of estate planning and administration, from the drafting of wills and letters of wishes to taking out the necessary applications in court to protect and administer estates. We deal with estates of all sizes for clients both local and overseas. In particular, our probate practice has an international element and we frequently advise with respect to estate matters which involve several jurisdictions, including probate in those jurisdictions or the re-sealing of wills. We provide expert opinions on Hong Kong probate law in foreign probate proceedings.

Property and Building Management: The firm advises on a wide range of property and building management matters including land rights disputes, building management and tenancy issues. We work with major corporate landlords, international real estate agencies and property developers in connection with issues such as interpretation of Deeds of Mutual Covenant, easements / right of way, adverse possession, nuisance, illegal structures and common areas.

Banking and Finance: HW's banking team has experience in a broad range of banking and finance matters, including bilateral and syndicated lending, international trade finance, project finance, acquisition finance, asset-backed finance, general cash management and liquidity products, asset and debt recovery, security enforcement actions, banking regulation and compliance, sanctions, AML, KYC and various regulatory project and remediation works. The team also specialises in a diverse range of trade finance matters, including supply chain finance programs, factoring, open account finance, letter of credit and bank guarantee disputes, export credit agency backed finance, structured trade finance, warehouse finance, prepayment and deferred payment finance, documentary credits refinance and credit risk portfolio management.

Regulatory: HW's regulatory team advises financial institutions and corporates on a wide variety of contentious and non-contentious regulatory and compliance issues. On the contentious side: we represent clients in regulatory investigations; conduct or advise on internal/disciplinary enquiries; advise or implement remedial action; liaise and negotiate with regulators; handle issues with stakeholders and deal with related issues such as injunctions and other court orders. On the non-contentious side: we advise on regulatory compliance, carry out gap analyses and operational/compliance reviews; work with clients on licensing and other regulatory applications; advise on business structure and business conduct issues; draft compliance manuals/ dawn raid procedures/client and counterparty agreements; advise on rules applicable to listed companies and shareholders and assist with entry into and exit from Hong Kong. We often work with clients in both capacities for our clients, therefore meeting all of their regulatory and compliance needs.

We are involved in key and topical issues affecting financial institutions, corporates and their senior managers/advisors, including: money laundering; insider dealing and other market misconduct; fraud and bribery; listing rules; investor protection; sale of structured products; auditing issues; corporate governance; internal controls and clearing/settlement/payment systems. We also advise clients on privacy and competition issues.

Notarisations and China Attestation: We offer Notary and China Attestation services to our clients.

We have an in-house Notary Public who is a member of the Hong Kong Society of Notaries.

We also have two partners, Brian Ho and Chris Yu who are China Appointed Attesting Officers and members of the Association of China Appointed Attesting Officers Limited. China-Appointed Attesting Officers ("Attesting Officers") are qualified Hong Kong lawyers who have been appointed by the Ministry of Justice of the People's Republic of China after passing the prescribed qualifying examinations. Their scope of business includes attesting and certifying acts, matters and documents of legal significance occurring in or emanating from Hong Kong and such attested documents are for use in Mainland China. The namelist of all China-Appointed Attesting Officers are available at the Office and Website of the "Association of China-Appointed Attesting Officers". To be legally valid and protected by the laws of the PRC, attested documents issued by Attesting Officers for use in Mainland China must be sent to the "China Legal Services (H.K.) Limited" for "Sealing and Transfer Delivery".

Distressed Debt: HW's restructuring, insolvency and special situations practice provides clients including investors, boards and shareholders of distressed corporate debtors, insolvency office holders, financial institutions, hedge funds, private equity funds and official and ad hoc committees, financial restructuring legal solutions. We are a cross-departmental practice that draws on the expertise of our corporate / M&A, dispute resolution, insolvency and banking practices to provide seamless service to our clients covering the Hong Kong aspects of cross border restructuring situations. Our formal association with Shu Jin Law Firm (Hong Kong) allows us to provide enhanced and expanded services on PRC legal matters.



Chris Howse

Partner

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Chris Howse is a dispute resolution lawyer with more than 43 years of legal experience in handling commercial, insurance and maritime disputes.

Chris also has an extensive arbitration practice and has represented parties in arbitrations in China (both CIETAC and CMAC), Hong Kong, London, Singapore and Malaysia. He is a qualified arbitrator in Hong Kong, China (CIETAC and CMAC), Singapore, Korea and Malaysia and other Southeast Asian jurisdictions. Chris is also an accredited mediator.

A substantial part of Chris' practice involves insurance both advising on insurance contracts and acting for parties in insurance disputes. He provides professional indemnity advice and assistance to professionals in Hong Kong including solicitors, accountants, brokers, architects, doctors, dentists and other healthcare professionals. He heads up the medico-legal team with partner, Dr. David Kan. The medico-legal team advises doctors, dentists and their indemnity providers / insurers as well as private hospitals and other healthcare professionals. The medico-legal team also advises pharmaceutical companies on issues relating to the import and distribution of drugs from pharmaceutical products, drug liability claims and regulatory matters.

▼ *Experience*

2012 Howse Williams
2011 Reed Smith Richards Butler
2008 Richards Butler in Association with Reed Smith LLP
1983 Richards Butler, Hong Kong
1975 Richards Butler, London

▼ *Education*

1975 College of Law
1973 University of Bristol, BA (Hons)
1970 University of Geneva

▼ *Professional Admissions / Qualifications*

1978 England and Wales
1981 Hong Kong
1988 Australia

Arbitration:

Fellow, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (Hong Kong)
Fellow, Hong Kong Institute of Arbitrators Ltd
Supporting Member, London Maritime Arbitrators Association
Arbitrator, Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre
Arbitrator, China Maritime Arbitration Commission
Arbitrator, China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission
Arbitrator, Hong Kong Maritime Arbitration Group
Arbitrator, Korean Commercial Arbitration Board
Member, Hong Kong Arbitrations Law Review Committee (1996-2000)

Professional Indemnity Insurance:

Member, Hong Kong Law Society Professional Indemnity Insurance Claims Committee (1989-1999)
Deputy Chairman, Hong Kong Law Society Professional Indemnity Claims Committee (1999-2004)
Chairman, Hong Kong Law Society Professional Indemnity Claims Committee (2004-2007)
Member, Hong Kong Law Society Working Party on Professional Indemnity Insurance Scheme (1996-2004)
Chairman, Hong Kong Professional Indemnity Review Committee (2002)
Member, Hong Kong Law Society Professional Indemnity Advisory Committee (1999-2006)
Director, Hong Kong Solicitors Indemnity Fund Limited



Christopher Williams

Partner

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Chris Williams is one of the founding partners of HW. He specialises in corporate finance, mergers and acquisitions, direct investment and corporate restructurings and reorganisations. He also advises on corporate governance and compliance. Chris qualified as a solicitor in England and Wales in 1986 and practiced with Richards Butler in London, then moved to Richards Butler Hong Kong in early 1991. He was admitted as a solicitor in Hong Kong in 1991. Chris sits as non-executive chairman and non-executive deputy chairman of two entities listed on the Singapore Stock Exchange ("SGX").

His practice encompasses Hong Kong and the Asia Pacific region, particularly Indonesia and Singapore. Chris has been named in the Guide to the World's Leading Mergers and Acquisitions Lawyers as well as the International Who's Who of Merger and Acquisition Lawyers as one of the world's top mergers and acquisitions lawyers.

Chris has represented major clients on many significant matters including:

- Acted on behalf of PT Lippo Karawaci Tbk group of companies in a Rp 2.2 trillion equity deal in which CVC Capital Partners agreed to acquire a 15% stake in PT Siloam International Hospitals Tbk, the largest private national healthcare group in Indonesia and a listed subsidiary of PT Lippo Karawaci Tbk.
- Acted for PT Multipolar Tbk and its wholly owned subsidiary in relation to the issuance to and subscription by Anderson Investment Pte Ltd., a wholly owned subsidiary of Temasek Holdings (Private) Limited, of a USD300 million equity linked instrument which is exchangeable into a 26.1% stake in PT Matahari Putra Prima Tbk.
- Acted for Lippo China Resources, a Hong Kong listed company, in its disposal of interest in its PRC retail department store business carried out under the name "Robbinz".
- Acted for Hong Kong Chinese (formerly The HKCB Bank Holding Company Limited) in its acquisition of an 85% interest in Finibanco (Macau), S.A.R.L.
- Acted for an Indonesian based group in relation to the reorganisation of its regional telecommunication and technology interests into a single group and the listing of that group on the Growth Enterprise Market of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited.
- Acted on behalf of PT Matahari Putra Prima Tbk, one of Indonesia's largest retailers, in its divestment of a substantial part of its interest in PT Matahari Department Stores Tbk to a newly established joint venture with funds

managed by CVC Asia Pacific Limited, Matahari retaining a 20% interest in the venture.

- Acted for PT First Media Tbk, a company listed on the Indonesia Stock Exchange, in its divestment of part of its interest in PT Link Net and PT First Media Television to a private equity group.
- Acted on behalf of a consortium comprising European financial institutions and Asian investment funds regarding the acquisition of a controlling interest in a financial institution from the Indonesian Bank Restructuring Agency and its subsequent sale to a sovereign wealth fund.
- Acted as international counsel for Overseas Union Enterprise Limited ("OUE"), a company listed on the SGX, and a consortium led by OUE, in its competing general offer for all the shares in Fraser & Neave Limited for an aggregate consideration of approximately S\$13 Billion. The offer subsequently lapsed.
- Acted for Lippo Limited in its proposed arrangements with Caesars Entertainment Corporation in relation to a proposed joint venture to construct an integrated resort, hotel-casino and serviced apartments in South Korea.
- Restructuring of external debt obligations of Guangdong Enterprises, a wholly-owned conglomerate of Guangdong Provincial Government ("GPG"). The total indebtedness involved was approximately US\$5.7 billion owed by some 300 companies to about 170 banks and 4 large groups of holders of debt securities. The restructuring involved complex and protracted negotiations with the steering committees appointed by the bank creditors and the noteholders. GPG's principal contribution to the restructuring was the privatisation of the entity in Guangdong Province which supplies Hong Kong with most of its natural water. Following the formation of a new company, debt in excess of US\$2 billion was issued to amortise the rescheduled debt. The privatised entity was then injected into Guangdong Investment Limited, a company listed on the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong and controlled by GPG as part of the overall restructuring.
- Acting for Overseas Union Enterprise Limited, a company listed on the SGX, generally as international counsel in various corporate transactions.
- Acted for an Asian based conglomerate on the reorganisation of its Hong Kong interests which involved several entities listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange and including regulated entities.
- Acted on numerous IPO's on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, many of which involved the reorganisation of companies within the group to be listed in anticipation of listing.

▼ *Experience*

2012 Howse Williams
2011 Reed Smith Richards Butler
2008 Richards Butler in Association with Reed Smith LLP
1991 Richards Butler Hong Kong
1986 Richards Butler London

▼ *Education*

1985 Law Society Finals, College of Law
1984 CPE, College of Law
1981 BA(Hons) in international Relations and Economics, University of Reading

▼ *Professional Admissions / Qualifications*

1991 Hong Kong
1986 England and Wales

▼ *Professional Affiliations*

Member, Law Society of England and Wales
Member, Law Society of Hong Kong



David Kan

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David is a dual qualified medical doctor/solicitor and is a Founding Member of the Faculty of Forensic and Legal Medicine of the Royal College of Physicians (UK). He "changed horses" to law almost 30 years ago and has specialised in healthcare law since.

Nowadays David and Chris Howse lead a team of healthcare lawyers, which is the largest team of its kind in HK, with extensive experience in defending clinical negligence claims.

As an experienced litigator, David has gained accreditation as a Solicitor Advocate with Higher Rights of Audience in Hong Kong's Court of First Instance, Court of Appeal and CFA. David has substantial advocacy experience before the Civil Courts, Coroner's Court, Medical and Dental Council and other professional tribunals. He appreciates the importance of getting involved in a case and managing the evidence and strategies from day 1.

David has a Master's Degree in Medical Law and Ethics which puts him on good stead in providing regulatory advice to healthcare institutions including hospitals, biotechnology companies, medical device manufacturers and specialist group practices. He has a special interest in advising on mental health law, medical criminal proceedings, clinical trials, and due diligence in corporate transactions.

In 2008, David was appointed as an Honorary Associate Professor by the Department of Pathology, Faculty of Medicine, The University of Hong Kong. He regularly lectures at the University as well as to the Specialist Colleges. He provides clients with training in clinical risk management.

David keeps up to date with clinical medicine, especially in general surgery. He has served on various governing boards including those of a government hospital and a major international school. He is a qualified coach with the Squash Rackets Association (UK) and he trains almost daily.

▼ Experience

2012 Howse Williams
2011 Reed Smith Richards Butler
2008 Richards Butler in Association with Reed Smith LLP
1999 Richards Butler, Hong Kong
1998 Bevan Ashford Solicitors, UK
1996 Lees and Partner Solicitors, UK

▼ Education

University of Hong Kong, Postgraduate Diploma in Child and Adolescent Health
Keele University, Master Degree in Medical Law
Birmingham University, LPC (with commendation)
Birmingham University, CPE
Nottingham University, Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery
Nottingham University Exhibition Prize for Medicine
Nottingham University, Bachelor of Medical Sciences (Hons)

▼ Professional Admissions / Qualifications

1999 Hong Kong
1998 England and Wales
MA (Med Law), MBBS, MFFLM, BMed Sci (Hons), PDipCAH

▼ Professional Affiliations

Honorary Legal Advisor of The Hong Kong Ophthalmological Society, Hong Kong Medical Association, Hong Kong Dental Association, British Medical Association of Hong Kong, Association of Private Eye Surgeons, Federation of Society for the Prevention of Blindness, Association of Private Medical Specialists of (HK), The College of Ophthalmologists of Hong Kong, Hong Kong Community Psychological Medicine Association (HKCPMA), Hong Kong Doctors Union and Eye Care Charitable Foundation Limited

Others:

Honorary Associate Professor in the Department of Pathology, Faculty of Medicine, The University of Hong Kong
Member, Hospital Governing Committee of the Shatin Hospital
Founding Member, Faculty of Legal and Forensic Medicine, Royal College of Physicians UK
Member, Ethics Committee for the Hong Kong College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology
Previously Panel Member, Guardianship Board of Hong Kong
Previously Vice-chairman, New Medico-Legal Society of Hong Kong
Member, Hong Kong Association of the Pharmaceutical Industry
Member, Law Society of England and Wales
Member, Law Society of Hong Kong



Linda Heathfield

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Born in England and holding both British and Australian nationality, Linda was admitted to practice law in Hong Kong in October 1994 and in England and Wales in June 1995. She was later admitted to practice in Queensland Australia in January 2002.

Linda's cases often involve families with assets in multiple jurisdictions around the world. Her work includes all manner of children's issues, including custody, care and control and other parenting disputes, such as access, child maintenance, paternity and schooling applications both in respect of married and unmarried couples and cohabitants. Linda has processed a number of applications for private adoptions, usually with extended families or step-families and cases involving the abduction or return of children to or from Hague Convention and non-Hague Convention countries. Her work in respect of family finances has covered maintenance claims made for or against her clients, capital claims, including property transfers as well as an increasing number of pre-nuptial agreements and separation deeds.

Linda became an Executive Committee Member of the Hong Kong Family Law Association in 2006 and was its Chairlady in 2010 and 2011. She was elected a Fellow of the International Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers in 2007 and became a member of the International Academy of Collaborative Practitioners in 2009 with the objective of becoming an active collaborative lawyer. She has undertaken the first multi-disciplinary training set up in Hong Kong for collaborative family law. Linda has completed mediation and advanced mediation courses in 1996 and 1997 and whilst never becoming a practicing mediator, actively promotes mediation as a means of resolving her clients' disputes.

Linda has edited educational materials on family law and matrimonial practice for Legal Executives studying in Hong Kong through Hong Kong University in conjunction with the Institute of Legal Executives in the UK.

▼ *Experience*

2012 Howse Williams
2008 Ip & Heathfield
1994 Boase, Cohen & Collins

▼ *Education*

University of Hong Kong, 1991-1992
University of Liverpool, 1973-1976

▼ *Professional Admissions / Qualifications*

1994 Hong Kong

1995 England & Wales

2002 Australia (Queensland)

▼ *Professional Affiliations*

Fellow, International Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers (2007)

Member, International Academy of Collaborative Practitioners (2009)

Member of Lawasia

Member, Law Society of Hong Kong



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David is a commercial disputes lawyer specialising in international trade disputes. David has over 25 years of experience in commercial dispute resolution. He advises a wide variety of shipping interests including marine and non-marine insurers. David also has extensive experience outside of international trade matters, including dealing with, insolvency matters, shareholder disputes and the recovery and tracing of monies lost due to internet/identity fraud.

Before qualifying as a lawyer, David served as a deck officer in the British Merchant Navy with the Cunard Steamship Company. He has dealt with several high profile casualty matters.

David has handled both Court proceedings and Arbitrations concerning a wide range of disputes in Hong Kong, England & Wales, Australia, Singapore and the United States. David is familiar with UNCITRAL rules, LMAA terms, ICDR, ACICA and SIAC Rules. David has also acted as mediator in several high value disputes.

▼ *Experience*

2012 Howse Williams
2005 General Counsel P&O Cruises Sydney Australia
1989 Richards Butler, Hong Kong
1976 Cunard Steamship Company

▼ *Education*

1985 College of Law, Chancery Lane, London, Solicitors Final Examinations
1984 Anglia University, England, BA (Hons)
1980 Riversdale College, Liverpool, England, British 2nd Deck Officer's Certificate of Competency

▼ *Professional Admissions / Qualifications*

1987 England and Wales
1989 Hong Kong
1991 Australia (NSW & Victoria and the ACT)

▼ *Professional Affiliations*

LEADR and nationally accredited mediation practitioner
Member, Law Society of Hong Kong
Member of the Hong Kong Maritime Law Association Executive Committee
Board member of the Maritime Services Training Board



Bernard Murphy

Partner

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A medically qualified solicitor, Bernard represents healthcare organisations, doctors, dentists, veterinary surgeons and other healthcare professionals across a range of practice areas. Bernard supports clients in Medical Council, Dental Council and Veterinary Surgeons Board disciplinary proceedings and coroners investigations, from the commencement of investigations through to appearing on behalf of clients at disciplinary inquiries and coroners inquests.

An Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Accident and Emergency Medicine Academic Unit, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Bernard teaches on the university's Master of Science Programme in Prehospital and Emergency Care and on the Postgraduate Diploma in Prehospital and Emergency Care. Bernard also provides expert witness training to doctors, dentists and other healthcare professionals involved/interested in expert witness work.

A graduate of Aberdeen University Medical School, before qualifying as a lawyer Bernard practised medicine for more than ten years, the majority of that time in Hong Kong and China. During and following his medical training, Bernard worked as a doctor in NHS hospitals in the UK. Bernard worked in the field of emergency medical evacuation in China and Hong Kong between 1995 and 1999. He has also worked in private medical practice in Hong Kong.

Since 2008, Bernard has been a Member of the Faculty of Forensic Legal Medicine, Royal College of Physicians UK. In 2021 he received a Foundation Fellowship (Dento-legal Adviser) of the Faculty of Forensic Legal Medicine, Royal College of Physicians UK.

▼ *Experience*

2012 Howse Williams
2011 Reed Smith Richards Butler
2008 Richards Butler in Association with Reed Smith LLP
2002 Richards Butler, Hong Kong

▼ *Education*

2002 University of Hong Kong, Postgraduate Certificate in Law (PCLL)
2001 Manchester Metropolitan University, Postgraduate Diploma in Law (PGDL)
1988 University of Aberdeen, Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MB ChB)

▼ *Professional Admissions / Qualifications*

2021 Ireland
2005 England and Wales
2004 Hong Kong

▼ *Professional Affiliations*

Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Accident and Emergency Medicine, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Foundation Member, Faculty of Forensic and Legal Medicine, Royal College of Physicians UK
Foundation Fellow (Dento-legal adviser) Faculty of Forensic and Legal Medicine, Royal College of Physicians UK
Member, British Medical Association of Hong Kong
Member, Law Society of England and Wales
Member, Law Society of Hong Kong
Member, Law Society of Ireland



Brian Ho

Partner

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Brian Ho is one of the partners of HW. He specialises in corporate finance, initial public offerings, secondary fund raising exercises, mergers and acquisitions, direct investment and corporate restructurings and reorganisations. He also advises on corporate governance and compliance. Brian qualified as a barrister and solicitor in the State of Victoria, Australia in 1997 and admitted as a solicitor in Hong Kong in 2000.

Brian has led, executed and completed IPOs for companies based in Hong Kong, China, Singapore and Malaysia in consumer products, medical, construction, industrial, technology, food and beverages, property, financial sectors. He previously practiced in the corporate and securities department of various leading local and international law firms in Hong Kong and has advised blue chip listed companies, PRC privately owned or state owned enterprises and multi-national corporations in various corporate finance and corporate compliance transactions. Prior to joining HW, Brian has gained substantial investment banking experience at Standard Chartered Bank in which he has led and participated in the completion of various high profile ECM transactions.

▼ *Experience*

2012 Howse Williams
2007 Standard Chartered Bank, Hong Kong
2004 Baker & McKenzie, Hong Kong
2002 Stephenson Harwood, Hong Kong
2000 Woo, Kwan, Lee & Lo, Hong Kong

▼ *Education*

2008 MBA, Australian Graduate School of Management (AGSM)
1997 LL.B, Monash University
1995 B.Com in Accounting, Monash University

▼ *Professional Admissions / Qualifications*

2000 Hong Kong
1997 Australia (Victoria)
Certified Practising Accountant of Australia

▼ *Professional Affiliations*

Member, Law Society of Hong Kong
Member, CPA Australia
Member, Law Society of Hong Kong Greater China Legal Affairs Committee

▼ Deal List

IPOs

- Acted for First Shanghai Capital in the HK\$125 million IPO of Wah Wo Holdings Group Limited (stock code: 9938) on the Main Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- Acted for Dongxing Securities (Hong Kong) in the HK\$400 million IPO of Activation Group Holdings Limited (stock code: 9919) on the Main Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- Acted for CMBC Capital in the HK\$477 million IPO of Dalipal Holdings Limited (stock code: 1921) on the Main Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- Acted for Alliance Capital in the HK\$125 million IPO of JBB Builders International Limited (stock code: 1903) on the Main Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- Acted for Ample Capital in the HK\$95 million IPO of MOS House Group Limited (stock code: 1653) on the Main Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- Acted for Ample Capital in the HK\$46 million IPO of WAC Holdings Limited (stock code: 8619) on the GEM of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- Acted for the issuer, Wah Sun Handbags International Holdings Limited (stock code: 2683) in its HK\$118 million IPO on the Main Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, DBS was the sponsor
- Acted for the issuer, ZACD Group Limited (stock code: 8313) in its HK\$160 million IPO on the GEM of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, China Everbright Capital and Innovax Capital were the joint sponsors
- Acted for Halcyon Capital in the HK\$155 million IPO of Trio Industrial Electronics Group Limited (stock code: 1710) on the Main Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- Acted for Sunfund Capital in the HK\$55 million IPO of Satu Holdings Limited (stock code: 8392) on the GEM of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- Acted for Ample Capital in the HK\$104 million IPO of Milestone Building Holdings Limited (stock code: 1667) on the Main Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- Acted for the issuer, GME Group Holdings Limited (stock code: 8188) in its HK\$67.5 million IPO on the GEM of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, Altus Capital was the sponsor
- Acted for the issuer, Able Engineering Holdings Company Limited (stock code: 1627) in its HK\$550 million IPO on the Main Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, Ample Capital was the sponsor

- Acted for Sinolink Securities (HK) in the HK\$262 million IPO of Morris Holdings Limited (stock code: 1575) on the Main Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- Acted for the issuer, Guangdong Adway Construction (Group) Holdings Company Limited (stock code: 6189) in its HK\$274 million IPO on the Main Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, Guotai Junan International was the sponsor
- Acted for Alliance Capital in the HK\$80 million IPO of Gemilang International Limited (stock code: 6163) on the Main Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- Acted for BOSC International in the HK\$60 million IPO of Expert Systems Holdings Limited (stock code: 8319) on the GEM of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- Acted for the issuer, China Rongzhong Financial Holdings Company Limited (stock code: 3963) in its HK\$211 million IPO on the Main Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, Alliance Capital was the sponsor
- Acted for the issuer, BBI Life Sciences Corporation (stock code: 1035) in the HK\$230 million IPO on the Main Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, Haitong International was the sponsor
- Acted for Shenyin Wenguo Capital in the HK\$60 million IPO of Medicskin Holdings Limited (stock code: 8307) on the GEM of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- Acted for the issuer, Nga Chun Holdings Company Limited (stock code: 1462) in the HK\$110 million IPO on the Main Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, Ample Capital was the sponsor
- Acted for Altus Capital in the HK\$45 million IPO of Kate China Holdings Limited (stock code: 8125) on the GEM of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- Acted for the issuer, Korador Holdings Limited (stock code: 3709), in its HK\$525 million IPO on the Main Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, Haitong International and CIMB were the sponsors
- Acted for Mizuho Securities in the HK\$60 million IPO of Excel Development (Holdings) Limited (stock code: 1372) on the Main Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- Acted as Joint Sponsor and Joint Bookrunner in the US\$395m initial public offering of Chinalco Mining Corporation International (stock code: 3668) on the Main Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- Acted as Joint Sponsor and Joint Bookrunner in the US\$68m initial public offering of Xiao Nan Guo Restaurants Holdings Limited (stock code: 3666) on the Main Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- Acting as the Sole Sponsor in the listing by way of introduction of Elec & Eltek International Company Limited (stock code: 1151) on the Main Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange

- Acted as the Sole Sponsor in the listing by way of introduction of China New Town Development Company Limited (stock code: 1278) on the Main Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- Acted for the manager in the US\$910 million IPO of Champion REIT (stock code: 2778) on the Main Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, BofA Merrill Lynch was the sole listing agent
- Acted for the issuer, China Coal Energy Company Limited (stock code: 1898), in its US\$1.6 billion IPO on the Main Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, CICC, Citibank and Morgan Stanley were the sponsors
- Acted for BofA Merrill Lynch and BNP Paribas in the US\$504m IPO of Nine Dragons Paper (Holdings) Limited (stock code: 2689) on the Main Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- Acted for CICC and BofA Merrill Lynch in the US\$1.11 billion IPO of Air China Limited (stock code: 753) on the Main Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange

Rights Issues

- Acted for the UOB Kay Hian in the HK\$156 million rights issue of Q Technology (Group) Limited (stock code: 1478)
- Acted for the UOB Kay Hian in the HK\$719 million rights issue of Coolpad Group Limited (stock code: 2369)

Placings

- Acted for China Youzan Limited (stock code: 8083) in the HK\$793 million placing of new shares
- Acted for Haitong International in the HK\$328 million placing of new shares of Meilleure Health International Industry Group Limited (stock code: 2327)
- Acted for Truly International Holdings Limited (stock code: 732) in its HK\$199 million placing of new shares
- Acted for the UOB Kay Hian and China Merchants Securities in the HK\$133 million placing of new shares of China Biotech Services Holdings Limited (stock code: 8037)
- Acted for Dafeng Port Heshun Technology Company Limited (stock code: 8310) in its US\$50 million 7.5% senior secured notes due 2021
- Acted for Morris Holdings Limited (stock code: 1575) in its HK\$200 million issuance of convertible loan to International Finance Corporation
- Acted for the UOB Kay Hian in the HK\$436 million placing of new shares of Colour Life Services Group Co., Limited (stock code: 1778)

- Acted for the UOB Kay Hian in the HK\$28.7 million top-up placing of new shares of Centron Telecom International Holding Limited (stock code: 1155)
- Acted for Truly International Holdings Limited (stock code: 732) in its HK\$323 million placing of new shares
- Acted for Haitong International and Huarong Financial in the HK\$1.18 billion top-up placing of new shares of Jiayuan International Group Limited (stock code: 2768)
- Acted for Haitong International, Emperor Securities and EBS International in the HK\$725 million placing of new shares of Carnival Group International Holdings Limited (stock code: 996)
- Acted for the Medicskin Holdings Limited (stock code: 8307) in the HK\$52 million placing of new shares
- Acted for the Dafeng Port Heshun Technology Company Limited (stock code: 8310) in the HK\$97 million placing of new shares
- Acted for the controlling shareholder of Koradior Holdings Limited (stock code: 3709) in relation to the HK\$232 million disposal of shares in Koradior to Fosun Group
- Acted for Haitong International in the HK\$87.5 million placing of new shares of Miko International Holdings Limited (stock code: 1247)
- Acted for Haitong International in the HK\$230 million placing of new shares of China Creative Home Group Limited (stock code: 1678)
- Acted for Haitong International in the HK\$97 million placing of new shares of Xingye Copper International Group Limited (stock code: 505)
- Acted for Haitong International in the HK\$1,275 million top up placing of shares of Sunshine 100 China Holdings Limited (stock code: 2608)
- Acted for UOB Kay Hian in the HK\$900 million placing of new shares of AID Partners Holdings Limited (stock code: 8088)
- Acted for UOB Kay Hian in the HK\$400 million placing of new shares of Beijingwest Industries International Limited (stock code: 2339)
- Acted for Haitong International in the HK\$133 million placing of new shares of C Y Foundation Group Limited (stock code: 1182)
- Acted for Haitong International in the HK\$167 million top up placing of shares and the HK\$240 million placing of convertible notes of Up Energy Development Group Limited (stock code: 307)

- Acted for Haitong International and Huatai Financial in the HK\$792 million placing of new shares of Yuzhou Properties Company Limited (stock code: 1628)
- Acted for Haitong International in the HK\$1,724 million placing of new shares of China Oceanwide Holdings Limited (stock code: 715)
- Acted for CICC, First Shanghai, Kingston Securities and UOB Kay Hian in the HK\$1,404 million placing of new shares of Kong Sun Holdings Limited (stock code: 295)
- Acted for Haitong International, Kingston Securities and UOB Kay Hian in the HK\$376 million placing of new shares of Kong Sun Holdings Limited (stock code: 295)

M&A Transactions

- Acted for Hanergy Thin Film Power Group Limited (stock code: 566) in relation to its privatisation and delisting from the Hong Kong Stock Exchange by way of a scheme of arrangement
- Acted for Morris Holdings Limited (stock code: 1575) in its US\$35 million acquisition of the entire equity interest in Jennifer Convertibles, Inc.
- Acted for Dafeng Port Heshun Technology Company Limited (stock code: 8310) in its RMB405 million acquisition of the entire equity interest in Jiangsu Hairong Dafeng Port Petrochemical Product Terminal Company Limited
- Acted for Huarong Investment Stock Corporation Limited (stock code: 2277) in its HK\$120 million investment in Retech Technology Co. Limited, a company listed on the Australian Stock Exchange, by way of shares and convertible bond
- Acted for Quam Limited (stock code: 952) and its controlling shareholders in relation to the HK\$1.05 billion disposal of its controlling interest of Quam and the mandatory general offer for all the remaining shares of Quam by China Oceanwide
- Acted for Shandong Luoxin Pharmaceutical Group Stock Co., Ltd. (stock code: 8058) in relation to a voluntary general offer over the H Shares of the company and its subsequent delisting from the Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- Acted for the controlling shareholder and the offeree company, Nga Chun Holdings Company Limited (stock code: 1462) in relation to the HK\$1 billion disposal of its controlling interest of Nga Chun and the mandatory general offer for all the remaining shares of Nga Chun
- Acted for the controlling shareholder and the offeree company, Excel Development (Holdings) Company Limited (stock code: 1372) in relation to the HK\$647 million disposal of its controlling interest of Excel and the mandatory general offer for all the remaining shares of Excel

- Acted for the controlling shareholder of Chun Wo Development Holdings Limited (stock code: 711) in relation to the HK\$560 million disposal of its controlling interest of Chun Wo and the offeror in relation to the voluntary general offer of all the shares of a private company of Chun Wo
- Acted for the offeror, Dafeng Port Overseas Investment Holdings Limited in relation to the HK\$425 million acquisition of the controlling interest of Gamma Logistics Corporation (stock code: 8310) and the subsequent mandatory general offer for all the shares of Gamma



Oonagh Toner

Partner

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Oonagh specialises in dispute resolution and commercial and professional negligence litigation. She also handles clinical negligence claims advising healthcare professionals on a range of contractual, regulatory and criminal matters. Prior to qualifying as a Solicitor, Oonagh was an industrial designer and worked in design and advertising in London, Dublin and Hong Kong.

▼ *Experience*

2012 Howse Williams
2011 Reed Smith Richards Butler
2008 Richards Butler in Association with Reed Smith LLP
2005 Richards Butler, Hong Kong
Previously with Hayes Solicitors, Dublin, Ireland

▼ *Education*

Griffith College Law School, Dublin
Bachelor of Design in Industrial Design, National College of Art and Design, Dublin, Ireland
Master of Design in Design Management, Royal College of Art, London

▼ *Professional Admissions / Qualifications*

2007 England and Wales
2006 Hong Kong
2005 Ireland

▼ *Professional Affiliations*

Member, Law Society of Hong Kong



Chia Ching Tan

Partner

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Based in Hong Kong since 2007, Chia Ching is a dual qualified practicing lawyer in Hong Kong and Malaysia. She has over 19 years of experience in a wide range of corporate and commercial matters including IPOs, spin-offs, transfer of listings, corporate restructuring, acquisition and disposal, general corporate advisory and regulatory compliance.

Benefitting from her practice experiences in both Hong Kong and Malaysia, she is familiar with the Listing Rules, Takeovers Code and the laws of both Hong Kong and Malaysia. This serves as a strong foundation and provides her with better insights and competitive edge in understanding businesses from, not only the South East Asian countries, but also from Hong Kong and China. “*She is experienced in assisting Southeast Asian companies with Hong Kong listings*” (quoted from *Legal 500* in 2020). She is familiar with a wide spectrum of industries, including but not limited to oil and gas, independent power plants, mining, manufacturing, media, telecommunications, agriculture/plantations, real estates, construction, digital platforms, healthcare, retail, technology, education and general trading. She reads and writes English, Chinese and Malay languages, and is fluent in speaking all three languages, as well as Putonghua, Cantonese and Hokkien.

Chia Ching was involved in a number of notable initial public offerings and listings on the Stock Exchange acting for the sponsors as well as the issuers, both on the Main Board and GEM, including the first listing of a mineral company under Chapter 18 of the Listing Rules in 2008, the first business trust in the form of stapled securities of HKT Trust in 2011 and a dual-listing (Singapore and Hong Kong) in 2017. On M&A transactions, Chia Ching was involved in a number of local and cross-border acquisitions as well as public takeovers. She also advises listed companies on Listing Rules compliance matters post listing and secondary fund-raising.

Chia Ching has represented major clients on many significant matters including:

- Altus Capital as sponsor in the HK\$368 million spin-off and separate listing of Pentamaster International Limited on the Main Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange;
- VBG Capital Limited in the dual listing of Centurion Corporation Limited on the Main Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, which has business operations in Singapore, Malaysia, Australia, South Korea, United Kingdom and United States
- Fortune Financial Capital in the listing of Pipeline Engineering Holdings Limited on the Main Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange

- Dakin Capital in the IPO of VBG International Holdings Limited on GEM of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- A.Plus Group Holdings Limited in the transfer of listing from GEM to Main Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- Icicle Group Holdings Limited in its IPO on GEM of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- Deson Construction International Holdings Limited in the spin-off and separate listing on the GEM of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange together with distribution in specie,
- OUE Group for the listing of S\$346.4 million OUE Commercial REIT on the Main Board of the Singapore Stock Exchange
- CapitaMalls Asia Limited in its privatisation and withdrawal of listing from the Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- Deson Construction International Holdings Limited on its takeovers by an individual followed by mandatory takeover offer
- Deson Construction International Holdings Limited in its placing of convertible bonds
- Lippo Limited and Hongkong Chinese Limited in the disposal of interest in Macau Chinese Bank
- HKT Trust in its HK\$8.8 billion spin-off and separate listing of share stapled units of on the Main Board of the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong
- CVM Minerals Limited in the first listing of mining company under Chapter 18 of the Listing Rules of on the Main Board of Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- BNP Paribas in the HK\$4.9 billion of spin-off and listing of Dah Chong Hong Holdings Limited on the Main Board of the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited
- China Merchants Holdings in relation to its acquisition of a pallet hire group of companies based in Australia and ASEAN countries for approximately AUD600 million
- Malakoff Berhad in its US\$2.6 billion (or RM9.3 billion) privatisation and delisting from Bursa Malaysia by way of asset disposal and capital reduction.

▼ *Experience*

2013 Howse Williams
 2007 Reed Smith Richards Butler
 2003 Zaid Ibrahim & Co, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
 2001 Chee Siah Le Kee & Partners, Malacca, Malaysia

▼ *Education*

2007 Overseas Lawyers Qualifying Examination
2000 University of Melbourne, Australia – Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor
of Law (Hons.)

▼ *Professional Admissions / Qualifications*

2008 Hong Kong
2001 Malaysia

▼ *Professional Affiliations*

Member, Law Society of Hong Kong



Alison Scott

Partner

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Alison previously worked as a partner with HW's senior partner Chris Howse at Richards Butler in Hong Kong. She has extensive experience in dispute resolution and commercial and professional negligence litigation. Alison moved to England in 1998 but returned to join HW in 2014.

Alison continues to advise in respect of commercial litigation matters including regulatory investigations by governmental bodies and corporate litigation including shareholder disputes. She also provides professional indemnity advice and assistance to doctors, dentists and other healthcare professionals in HW's medico legal practice.

▼ *Experience*

2014 Howse Williams
1991 Richards Butler

▼ *Professional Admissions / Qualifications*

1986 Admission as a solicitor, Hong Kong
1985 Admission as a solicitor, England and Wales

▼ *Professional Affiliations*

Member, Law Society of Hong Kong



William Leung

Partner

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As a prominent commercial litigator with more than 22 years solid experience, William with his team of fee earners specialize in the following:

Commercial litigation

William's commercial practice ranges from companies'/shareholder's disputes, joint venture disputes, winding up/bankruptcy, restructuring and corporate risk management issues. His clients would include prominent liquidators, corporates, listed companies, banks/lenders, investors, charitable organisations to private/corporate shareholders. Notably, William and his team have recently been involved in a number of large winding up/re-restructuring matters.

William also acts for both trustees and beneficiaries on contentious trust and probate matters particularly on high net worth individuals on personal wealth matters.

William also handles general debt recovery matters for listed companies and is known for his efficiency and costs effectiveness producing great results for clients.

He has ample experience in acting for both Claimants and Recipients for funds internet fraud cases.

Insurance litigation

William acts for more than 10 large international/PRC insurers covering public liability, property, marine, travel, EC/PI insurance. He is also a leading advisor in dealing with riot and COVID19 related claims for various insurers.

William regularly gives talks and seminars on insurance matters due to his high acclaim within the industry.

He leads a large team of dedicated lawyers specialising in insurance disputes covering public liability, property damage marine, yacht and EC/PI matters.

Transport litigation

William acts for shipping companies, forwarders, international logistic companies, four of the largest container terminals in Hong Kong and leading warehouse operators along with their liability/property insurers. He has unrivalled experience in handling a wide range of contentious matters on bills of lading/air waybills, cargo claims, forwarding, warehousing and logistics disputes. Particularly he is a leading figure in advising container terminals on their emergency casualty, employment, risks and property damage matters. He has advised on transport related regulatory matters such as enforcement actions by Customs & Excise, Labour Department, Environmental Protection Department and ICAC.

William is also on the Transport and Logistics Committee of the Law Society of Hong Kong.

Pleasure crafts

William has vast experience on yacht matters including sale and purchase, collision, casualty, fire and their related personal injury, insurance and litigation matters.

Escrow agent / accounts

William frequently advises on escrow agent / account agreements and their litigation risks to facilitate sale and purchase of valuable yachts, club debentures offshore properties and antiques/ paintings etc. In appropriate cases, our firm will act as escrow agent or stakeholder.

Accreditation

William has been consistently named as one of the leading lawyers in Hong Kong by various legal directories. He is admitted to practice law in both Hong Kong and England & Wales.

William also holds a number of public posts with a view to rewarding the society.

▼ *Experience*

2015 Howse Williams
2009 Eversheds
2001 DLA Piper
2000 Stevenson Wong & Co
1998 Hampton, Winter & Glynn

▼ *Education*

1997 PCLL, University of Hong Kong
1993 LLB, University of Wales / Portobello College, Dublin, Ireland

▼ *Professional Qualifications*

2001 Solicitor of England and Wales
1999 Solicitor of Hong Kong

▼ *Public Office*

Since 2021 Member of Patient Complaint Committee of The Prince Philip Dental Hospital
Since 2018 Transportation and Logistics Committee of The Law Society of The Hong Kong (Co-option)
Since 2017 The Transport Tribunals' Panel (Member) appointed by Secretary for Transport and Housing
Since 2015 to Dec 2020 The Board of Review, Inland Revenue Department (Panel member)
Since 2015 to Aug 2020 The Obscene Articles Tribunal (Member Adjudicator appointed by Chief Justice of HKSAR)
Since 2013 Admiralty Court Users Committee appointed by Chief Justice of HKSAR (Member)



Michael Withington

Partner

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Michael is experienced in a wide range of commercial litigation, including shareholder disputes involving both listed companies and high-profile private companies (many of which involve a cross-border element). He has also acted in litigation involving financial services institutions (including mis-selling claims and negligence claims), claims involving directors, and disputes over asset acquisitions. He advises property managers and landlords in relation to enforcement of deeds of mutual covenant and tenancy disputes.

A large part of Michael's practice at Howse Williams involves contentious employment matters (acting for both employers and employees), including claims over termination and remuneration, enforcement of post-termination restrictions, discrimination claims and partnership disputes. He advises employers and statutory bodies on internal investigations and disciplinary proceedings, and has represented a number of individuals in SFC investigations. He also has significant experience in conducting and defending judicial review proceedings.

Michael also has extensive insurance experience, particularly in relation to the defence of professional negligence claims and advising on coverage issues. He has been a panel solicitor for the Hong Kong Solicitors Professional Indemnity Scheme since 1998, and has represented both local and international law firms in connection with a broad range of claims.

▼ *Experience*

2015 Howse Williams
2012 Gall
2002 Herbert Smith Freehills
1998 Wilkinson & Grist
1994 Haldanes

▼ *Education*

1987 The University of Sydney, LLB

▼ *Professional Admissions / Qualifications*

1994 Hong Kong
1994 England and Wales
1987 New South Wales, Australia

▼ *Professional Affiliations*

Member, Law Society of Hong Kong

▼ *Reported Decisions*

- Philippe Delhaise v Ng & Co & Erving Brettell [HCA 10165/2000; CACV 386/2003]
- Mimi Monica Wong v Mirko Saccani [HCA 2061/2004]
- Pat Bobby Ying Ho v Hong Kong Solicitors Indemnity Fund Ltd [HCCT 40/2004]
- Michael John Treloar Rowse v The Secretary for the Civil Service, The Chief Executive & The Chief Secretary for Administration [HCAL 41/2007]
- GFI (HK) Securities LLC v Kang Gyong Hee & ICAP Equities Asia Ltd [HCA 451/2015]

▼ *Professional Recognition*

Michael is currently ranked by Chambers Asia as a Band 2 employment lawyer and a Band 3 insurance lawyer. Comments include:

2017: "He has a cool, calm demeanour. We use him during a crisis."

2015: "a seasoned operator"
"a very good litigator - very experienced and steady"

2014: "is an experienced litigator who certainly knows his stuff; gives clients sensible and considerate advice."

"He is particularly adept in restrictive covenants, partnership disputes and investigations by local regulators"

2013: "very quick and very clear on providing advice" ... "his immediate response and technical support are always available"

2012: "good judgement and great technical skills"... "is a seasoned practitioner for commercial litigious matters on labour issues"

2011: "has deep rooted experience in employment litigation"



Christopher Yu

Partner

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Chris is experienced in private equity and Hong Kong capital markets transactions and regularly advises private equity clients and Hong Kong listed companies on strategic investments in and outside of Hong Kong and China. Chris is qualified as a solicitor in Hong Kong and England and Wales.

Chris represents clients in cross-border mergers and acquisitions, privatizations of Hong Kong listed companies, PIPEs, pre-IPO and cornerstone investments, primary and secondary listings of portfolio companies on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, general regulatory compliance of private equity firms in Hong Kong and of their listed portfolio companies, and a broad range of other corporate transactions.

Chris has represented major clients on many significant matters including:

- Alliance Capital as sponsor in the HK\$211million initial public offering of China Rongzhong Financial on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- Zensun in the acquisition of a controlling stake in Heng Fai Enterprise Limited and the subsequent HK\$1.2 billion mandatory general offer triggered as a result of such acquisition
- Selling Shareholders in the US\$169 million Hong Kong IPO of China Shengmu on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- Selling Shareholders in the US\$206 million Hong Kong IPO of Forgame on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- Mando China Holdings Limited in its US\$270 million Hong Kong IPO and global offering of shares, the first Korean company's listing in Hong Kong.
- China Suntien Energy Corporation Limited on the US\$400 million Hong Kong IPO and global offering of H shares
- Morgan Stanley, Citigroup and China International Capital Corporation on the US\$2 billion Hong Kong IPO and global offering of shares by China Coal Energy Company Limited
- GCL New Energy, Sino-Credit, Lenovo, Belle International, Rusal, Guangshen Railway, China Suntien Energy, China Coal and Sinopec Shanghai Petrochemical on various connected transaction disclosure, regulatory, compliance and general corporate matters
- TPG in relation to its successful US\$134 million investment in Li Ning Company Limited via purchase of shares and subscription of convertible bonds
- Hony Capital on the US\$155 million pre-IPO investments in Rongzhong Group and Rongzhong Capital. Rongzhong Group provides pawn shop services, fund management, investment banking and loan guarantee services in China.

Rongzhong Capital provides financial leasing and other related financial services in China

- KKR on its pre-IPO investment in Rungdong Automobile Group and the establishment of a share incentive structure for the controlling shareholder and senior management team
- MSPE on a pre-IPO investment in a PRC-based convenience store business, Hi-24
- Lenovo Group in relation to its successful US\$671 million public takeover of Medion AG
- Petronas on its successful US\$720 million mandatory general offer for Star Energy Group PLC
- CSX Corporation and CSX World Terminals Limited in the US\$1.15 billion acquisition by Dubai Ports International of their global terminals and logistics business
- Merrill Lynch and China International Capital Corporation in their capacities as financial advisers to China Mobile (Hong Kong) Limited on a successful US\$433 million voluntary conditional cash offer for China Resources Peoples Telephone Company
- Anheuser-Busch on a US\$182 million strategic alliance with Tsingtao Brewery, an A+H share company, including increasing its stake in Tsingtao Brewery
- Bank of America Merrill Lynch on the sale of its private wealth business to Julius Baer Group

▼ *Experience*

2016 Howse Williams
2013 Goodwin Procter, Hong Kong
2011 Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton, Hong Kong
2009 Latham & Watkins, Hong Kong
2002 Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, Hong Kong and London

▼ *Education*

2000 LL.B. (Hons), the University of Melbourne
2000 Bachelor of Engineering (Hons), the University of Melbourne

▼ *Professional Admissions / Qualifications*

2005 Hong Kong
2005 England and Wales

▼ *Professional Affiliations*

Member, Law Society of Hong Kong



Antony Yung

Partner

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Antony has experience in a broad range of banking and finance matters, including bilateral and syndicated lending, international trade finance, project finance, acquisition finance, ship finance, general cash management and liquidity products, asset and debt recovery, security enforcement actions, banking regulation and compliance, sanctions, AML, KYC and various regulatory project and remediation works. He also specialises in a diverse range of trade finance matters, including supply chain finance programs, open account finance, letter of credit and bank guarantee disputes, export credit agency backed finance, structured trade finance, warehouse finance, prepayment and deferred payment finance, documentary credits refinance and credit risk portfolio management.

Antony previously worked at J.P. Morgan where he was an Executive Director and Assistant General Counsel. Antony set up and headed the bank's APAC trade finance legal team as well as the APAC lending practice group from 2011. He also co-headed the bank's APAC transaction services legal group. Antony has an excellent understanding of banking products, internal operations and risk appetite as a result of his in-house banking experience.

▼ Experience

2016 Howse Williams
2007 JP Morgan Chase
2006 Mallesons Stephen Jaques
1999 DLA Piper

▼ Education

2015 The University of Manchester, UK & International Compliance Association:
International Diploma in AML
2013 APLMA: Certificate in Syndicated Loan Market
2010 ifs School of Finance, UK: Certificate for Documentary Credit Specialist and Diploma
in International Trade and Finance
2009 ifs School of Finance, UK Certificate in International Trade and Finance
2004 People's (Renmin) University of China: LLM (PRC Law)
1999 City University of Hong Kong: PCLL and LLB
1995 Raimondi College, Hong Kong

▼ Professional Qualifications and Memberships

2016 Professional Member, International Compliance Association
2015 Council Member, IIBLP Council on International Standby Practices
2012 Legal Committee, Asia Financial Supply Chain Committee, BAFT-IFSA
2010 Certified Documentary Credit Specialist, ICC & BAFT-IFSA Endorsed
2002 Associate, Hong Kong Institute of Arbitrators
2002 Associate, The Chartered Institute of Arbitrators
2001 Solicitor, Hong Kong



Heidi Lee

Partner

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Heidi has extensive experience in mergers and acquisitions, public takeovers, regulatory and compliance work for Hong Kong listed companies. Heidi also has an established track record advising on equity capital markets transactions (including Hong Kong Main Board as well as other capital markets fund raising transactions) including initial public offerings and secondary offerings in Hong Kong for both state-owned and privately-owned companies in China and overseas, whether as issuer's or underwriters' counsel (all involving leading investment banks).

Heidi has been named by Legal 500 Asia Pacific as one of the top Next Generation Lawyers under both categories of Corporate (including M&A) and Capital Markets.

▼ *Experience*

2016 Howse Williams
2015 Ashurst Hong Kong
2011 Simpson Thacher & Bartlett
2009 Clifford Chance
2007 Baker & McKenzie

▼ *Education*

2004 Postgraduate Certificate in Laws, University of Hong Kong
2003 Bachelor of Laws, University of Hong Kong

▼ *Professional Admissions / Qualifications*

2008 England and Wales
2006 Hong Kong

▼ *Professional Affiliations*

Member, Law Society of Hong Kong



Karen Lam

Partner

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Karen was admitted to practice law in New South Wales, Australia in 2007 and Hong Kong in 2008. Karen's practice focuses on family law matters with emphasis on matrimonial disputes including divorce and separation, child custody, wardship and financial applications, third party interests, injunctions, pre- and post-nuptial agreements and settlements. Karen's other areas of focus are will drafting, probate and general civil litigation matters.

Karen is a member of the Family Law Committee of the Law Society of Hong Kong and the Committee of the Hong Kong Family Law Association. Karen has been elected a fellow of the International Academy of Family Lawyers in 2020. Karen has been appointed by the Chief Justice to sit on the Family Proceedings Court Users Committee in January 2021. Karen has obtained the Lawyer's License of the People's Republic of China (Guangdong - Hong Kong - Macao Greater Bay Area) in 2022.

Karen is an Accredited Mediator on the Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre's (HKIAC) Panel of General Mediators and is a Civil Celebrant of Marriages in Hong Kong.

Karen is a qualified Private Adjudicator on financial disputes in Matrimonial and Family Proceedings.

"Karen Lam is a star in the industry and is a very safe and reliable pair of hands." Legal 500 2022

▼ Experience

2012 Howse Williams
2009 Ip & Heathfield
2008 Boase, Cohen & Collins

▼ Education

PCLL, City University of Hong Kong
Bachelor of Laws, University of New South Wales, Australia
Bachelor of Commerce, University of New South Wales, Australia

▼ Professional Admissions / Qualifications

2023 Private Adjudicator (Financial Disputes in Matrimonial and Family Proceedings)
2022 The People's Republic of China (Guangdong - Hong Kong - Macao Greater Bay Area)
2016 Civil Celebrant of Marriages
2010 Accredited General Mediator
2008 Hong Kong
2007 New South Wales, Australia

▼ Professional Affiliations

Member of the Family Proceedings Court Users Committee
Member of the Family Law Committee, The Law Society of Hong Kong
Fellow, International Academy of Family Lawyers
Member of Committee, Hong Kong Family Law Association
Member, Hong Kong Collaborative Practice Group
Member, LAWASIA



Patricia Yeung

Partner

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Patricia has focused on employment law since qualifying as a solicitor in 2011, and her experience in employment matters is now widely recognised in Hong Kong. Patricia heads up HW's employment team, which consists of two partners (including Patricia) and three associates.

Patricia regularly advises employers and senior executives on both contentious and non-contentious employment matters. Her clients include airlines, education providers, insurers and financial services providers.

Patricia's practice covers a wide range of work, including drafting employment contracts, handbooks and policies, terminations and advising upon the enforcement of post-termination restrictions and confidentiality obligations. She and her team frequently advise on the employment aspects of M&A deals and business transfers.

Many of Patricia's clients operate in the financial services sector, and she frequently negotiates exit packages in relation to high-level employees of banks, brokerages and insurance companies. Patricia also advises upon the employment issues arising from discrimination and harassment, personal data related matters and immigration issues (including prosecutions). She also has experience in assisting employers and employees during the conduct of internal investigations and discrimination and harassment complaints.

Patricia has an in-depth knowledge of the Labour Tribunal, having assisted parties involved in Labour Tribunal proceedings for several years. She has also represented both plaintiffs and defendants in both District and High Court actions involving substantial claims for unpaid bonuses, enforcement of restrictive covenants and claims for injunctive relief in Hong Kong, including applications for injunctive relief. She also advises clients on licencing issues and regulatory investigations involving the SFC and the HKMA.

▀ *Professional Recognition*

Patricia is consistently ranked in Legal Directories. Examples of recent client comments:

2021 Chambers and Partners: *"a very dedicated, client-centric and commercial partner, who manages to be detail-oriented and technical, while giving clear and succinct advice."*

2021 Chambers and Partners client testimonial: *"The advice we received was excellent. It was well constructed, thorough, easy to follow, and received in a timely manner."*

2021 Legal 500: *"Very sensible team head Patricia Yeung is at the heart of many of the firm's financial services-related mandates, and as well as advising on employment litigation in the sector, also frequently negotiates exit packages in relation to high-level employees of banks, brokerages, and insurance companies."*

Patricia has also been listed in the Labour and Employment section of Who's Who Legal.

Patricia is the author of the 'Hong Kong Employment Ordinance - An Annotated Guide', which is published by Lexis Nexis. She also teaches on the PCLL Employment Law and Practice course at the University of Hong Kong.

▼ *Experience*

2015 Howse Williams
2008 Gall Solicitors

▼ *Education*

2008 The University of Hong Kong, Postgraduate Certificate in Laws
2007 Cardiff University, Master of Laws in Commercial Law
2006 BPP Law School, Legal Practice Course

▼ *Professional Admissions/Qualifications*

2011 Hong Kong

▼ *Professional Affiliations*

Member, Law Society of Hong Kong



Maureen Liu

Partner

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Maureen specialises in dispute resolution and medico-legal issues advising healthcare professionals and hospitals on clinical negligence claims and complaints, Coroner's inquests and disciplinary proceedings. Maureen is fluent in English, Cantonese and Mandarin.

▼ *Experience*

2012 Howse Williams
2011 Reed Smith Richards Butler
2008 Richards Butler in Association with Reed Smith LLP

▼ *Education*

2008 Bachelor of Civil Law (BCL), The University of Oxford
2007 Postgraduate Certificate in Laws (PCLL), The University of Hong Kong
2006 Bachelor of Laws (LLB), The University of Hong Kong

▼ *Professional Admissions / Qualifications*

2010 Hong Kong

▼ *Professional Affiliations*

Member, Law Society of Hong Kong



Veronica Chow

Partner

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Fax +852 2803 3618
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Veronica is one of the partners of HW. She focuses her practice on initial public offerings, mergers and acquisitions, corporate restructurings and general corporate and commercial matters, and has extensive experience in advising issuers, sponsors and underwriters on listings on the Main Board and GEM in Hong Kong and regularly advises listed issuers and investors on general offers, fund raising activities, compliance matters and a broad range of other corporate transactions.

Over the years, Veronica has advised enterprises based in Asia Pacific and investment banks on projects relating to a wide range of businesses including: security; food and beverage; engineering; construction; property development; property agency; property management; sale of hardware and light machinery; human resources services; digital marketing; software development and sale; operation of elderly care homes; mining; TV series production; book publication and retail; pharmaceuticals; apparel design, production and retail; rubber production and export; and production and sale of children healthcare products, automotive safety products, water-saving irrigation systems, electrical appliances, polyester filament yarns and flooring materials.

IPOs successfully completed by Veronica include the following:

- Representing the sponsor and underwriters in the Main Board listing of **Xingye Wulian Service Group Co. Ltd.** (Stock code: 9916). Xingye Wulian is a reputable property management service provider in Henan Province, PRC with a particular focus on offering property management and value-added services for non-residential properties
- Representing the issuer in the Main Board listing of **CTR Holdings Limited** (Stock code: 1416). CTR is a Singapore-based contractor specialising in structural engineering works and wet architectural works
- Representing the issuer in the GEM listing of **Novacon Technology Group Limited** (Stock code: 8635). Novacon Technology is a Hong Kong-based financial trading solution provider principally engaged in the development and provision of financial trading solutions
- Representing the issuer in the GEM listing of **Hing Ming Holdings Limited** (Stock code: 8425). Hing Ming is principally engaged in the provision of rental services of temporary suspended working platforms and other equipment, and trading of equipment and spare parts in Hong Kong
- Representing the issuer in the Main Board listing of **Pine Care Group Limited** (Stock code: 1989). Pine Care is an operator of care and attention homes for the elderly in Hong Kong

- Representing the sponsor and underwriters in the Main Board listing of **Wang On Properties Limited** (Stock code: 1243). Wang On is a property developer and owner in Hong Kong
- Representing the sponsor and underwriters in the GEM listing of **Ahsay Backup Software Development Company Limited** (Stock code: 8290). Ahsay is based in Hong Kong and is principally engaged in the development of online backup software
- Representing the sponsor and underwriters in the GEM listing of **Guru Online (Holdings) Limited** (Stock code: 8121). Guru Online is based in Hong Kong and is principally engaged in the provision of digital marketing services
- Representing the issuer in the Main Board listing of **Prince Frog International Holdings Limited** (Stock code: 1259). Prince Frog is based in Fujian Province, PRC and is principally engaged in the design and provision of children care products
- Representing the issuer in the Main Board listing of **Billion Industrial Holdings Limited** (Stock code: 2299). Billion is based in Fujian Province, PRC and is principally engaged in the development and manufacturing of polyester filament yarns
- Representing the sponsor and underwriters in the Main Board listing of **CVM Minerals Limited** (Stock code: 705). CVM is based in Malaysia and is principally engaged in the production of magnesium
- Representing the issuer in the Main Board H-share listing of **Sichuan Xinhua Winshare Chainstore Co., Ltd.** (Stock code: 811). Sichuan Winshare is based in Sichuan Province, PRC and is principally engaged in the operation of retail outlets for books and audio-visual products; distribution of textbooks and supplementary materials; and provision of ancillary support and services to publishers of books
- Representing the sponsor and underwriters in the Main Board listing of **AUPU Group Holding Company Limited** (Stock code: 477). AUPU is based in Zhejiang Province, PRC and is principally engaged in the manufacturing of bathroom masters
- Representing the sponsor and underwriters in the GEM H-share listing of **Xinjiang Tianye Water Saving Irrigation System Company Limited** (Stock code: 8280). Xinjiang Tianye is based in Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, PRC and is principally engaged in the provision of water-saving irrigation systems
- Representing the issuer in the Main Board listing of **Lijun International Pharmaceutical (Holding) Co., Ltd.** (Stock code: 2005). Lijun is based in Shaanxi Province, PRC and is principally engaged in the research, development, manufacture and sale of pharmaceutical
- Representing the issuer in the GEM listing of **JinHeng Automotive Safety Technology Holdings Limited** (Stock code: 8293). JinHeng is based in Liaoning Province, PRC and is principally engaged in the design, research and development, manufacturing and sale of automotive safety systems

Veronica was also involved in the following mergers and acquisitions recently:

- Acting as the Hong Kong legal advisers to the offeror in the mandatory unconditional cash offer to acquire all of the issued shares of Future Data Group Limited (Stock Code: 8229)
- Acting as the Hong Kong legal advisers to the offeror in the mandatory unconditional cash offer to acquire all of the issued shares of Universe Printshop Holdings Limited (Stock Code: 8448)
- Acting as the Hong Kong legal advisers to the offeror in the mandatory unconditional cash offer to acquire all of the issued shares of Global Mastermind Capital Limited (Stock Code: 905) in 2021
- Acting as the Hong Kong legal advisers to the offeror in the mandatory unconditional cash offer to acquire all of the issued shares of Pak Wing Group (Holdings) Limited (Stock Code: 8316)
- Acting as the Hong Kong legal advisers to the offeror in the mandatory unconditional cash offer to acquire all of the issued shares of and to cancel all outstanding options of Global Mastermind Capital Limited (Stock Code: 905) in 2020
- Acting as the Hong Kong legal advisers to The Grande Holdings Limited (Stock Code: 186) in the mandatory unconditional cash offer to acquire all of the issued shares of The Grande Holdings Limited

▼ Experience

2021 Howse Williams
2015 ONC Lawyers, Hong Kong
2013 Pang & Co. in association with Loeb & Loeb LLP, Hong Kong
2010 Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe, Hong Kong
2005 Mallesons Stephen Jaques, Hong Kong

▼ Education

PCLL University of Hong Kong
LLM The University of Sheffield, UK
LLB (Hons) The University of Sheffield, UK

▼ Professional Admissions / Qualifications

2019 Civil Celebrant of Marriages, Hong Kong
2004 Solicitor, Hong Kong

▼ Professional Affiliations

Member, Law Society of Hong Kong



Desmond Lee

Partner

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Email	desmond.lee@howsewilliams.com

Desmond is one of our partners specialising in contentious regulatory and compliance matters as well as complex cross-border commercial and shareholders' disputes. Desmond regularly advises and represents financial institutions, multinational corporations, state-owned enterprises, start-ups and private clients.

In particular, Desmond is experienced in representing clients on complex investigations by law enforcement agencies and market regulators in Hong Kong and abroad, such as the SFC and ICAC. He also represents clients across a range of commercial litigations in court and arbitration including cross-border commercial / trade disputes, corporate restructuring/insolvency, debt and asset recovery, disputes relating to financial products, investors/shareholders' disputes, and fraud/white-collar crimes,

Desmond is well regarded in Hong Kong and is tri-qualified in Hong Kong, England & Wales and Victoria, Australia. He is proficient in English, Cantonese and Mandarin.

▼ *Experience*

2021 Howse Williams
2016 Dentons Hong Kong
2007 Allen & Overy, Hong Kong

▼ *Education*

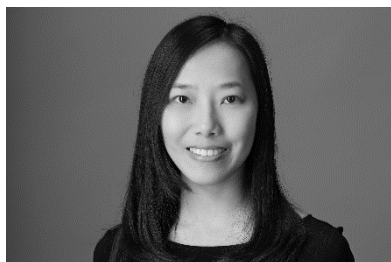
2007 Postgraduate Certificate in Laws (PCLL), The University of Hong Kong,
2006 Postgraduate Diplomas in Legal Practice (Merit), Monash University,
Melbourne
2005 LLB (2:1 Hons), Monash University, Melbourne
1998 Bachelor of Business Systems, Monash University, Melbourne

▼ *Professional Admissions / Qualifications*

2019 Civil Celebrant of Marriages, Hong Kong
2011 Solicitor, England & Wales
2009 Solicitor, Hong Kong
2006 Lawyer, Australia (Victoria)

▼ *Professional Affiliations*

Member, Law Society of Hong Kong
Member, Law Society of England and Wales



Carmen Fung

Partner

Direct +852 2803 3610
Fax +852 2803 3608
Email carmen.fung@howsewilliams.com

Carmen specialises in medicolegal work. Carmen provides advice and assistance to doctors, dentists, other healthcare professionals and hospitals concerning clinical negligence claims and complaints, and disciplinary proceedings. Carmen is fluent in English, Cantonese and Mandarin.

▼ Experience

2014 Howse Williams
2008 Winnie Mak, Chan & Yeung, Solicitors
2005 Liu, Chan and Lam, Solicitors

▼ Education

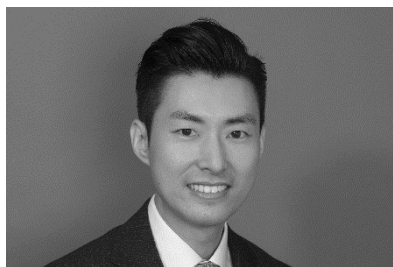
2005 Postgraduate Certificate in Laws, The University of Hong Kong
2004 Bachelor of Laws, The University of Hong Kong

▼ Professional Admissions / Qualifications

2007 Hong Kong

▼ Professional Affiliations

Member, Law Society of Hong Kong



Anthony Chan

Partner

Direct +852 2803 3643
Fax +852 2803 3618
Email anthony.chan@howsewilliams.com

Anthony has extensive experience in a wide range of corporate matters, including mergers and acquisitions, public takeovers, corporate restructuring, corporate finance and post-listing regulatory compliance. Anthony regularly advises private equity firms, private and public corporations on complex cross-border acquisitions and disposals, joint ventures and other corporate transactions throughout Asia.

Prior to joining the firm, Anthony has worked in Hong Kong and London for other leading international law firms.

Anthony holds the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) and Chartered Alternative Investment Analyst (CAIA) designation.

▼ Experience

2021 Howse Williams
International law firms in London and Hong Kong

▼ Education

2009 Postgraduate Certificate in Laws, Chinese University of Hong Kong
2008 Bachelor of Laws, London School of Economics
2003 Bachelor of Business Administration (Accounting & Finance), University of Hong Kong

▼ Professional Admissions / Qualifications

2011 Hong Kong

▼ Professional Affiliations

Member, Law Society of Hong Kong
Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA)
Chartered Alternative Investment Analyst (CAIA)



Gary Chow

Partner

Direct +852 2803 3538
Mobile +852 5208 8963
Fax +852 2803 3608
Email gary.chow@howsewilliams.com

Gary was admitted in Hong Kong in 2008 and specialises in personal injury and insurance related litigation. He is a highly experienced practitioner with strong technical competence.

Gary regularly acts for liability insurers. He has extensive experience in defending personal injury claims involving work accidents, traffic accidents, occupiers' liability and medical malpractice. He advises insurers on a multitude of complex policy issues.

Gary also acts for professional indemnity insurers as coverage and defence counsel with claims involving educational institutions and healthcare professionals.

Gary has experience in advising on regulatory and compliance matters, contractual disputes, debt recovery, employment related matters, data privacy matters, arbitration and criminal matters.

▼ Experience highlights:

- Advising insurers on policy coverage and exclusion, policy interpretation, double insurance, seeking contribution from co-insurers, repudiation of policy liability, recovery against insured, under-insurance, insurable interest, subrogation, liability under compulsory insurance legislation, etc.
- Handling subrogation (recovery) claims against third party wrongdoers
- Handling, investigating, defending and settling personal injury claims of various scale from very minor injury to paraplegic / tetraplegic / fatal claims (concluded by negotiation, mediation or trial)
- Handling claims for contribution / indemnity against co-defendants
- Handling, investigating and defending highly suspicious personal injury claims and succeeding in getting the claimants to withdraw or discontinue their claims, or settle at low level and early stage
- Acting for construction site contractors, logistics companies, cleaning companies, security companies, property management companies, restaurants, retail shops, elderly homes, offices, SMEs, etc. in handling work accident claims and recovery claims under Section 25 of the Employees' Compensation Ordinance against third party wrongdoers
- Advising and handling industrial summons, claims for non-payment of periodical payment and complaints to the Labour Department against employers
- Advising motor insurers and the Motor Insurer' Bureau of Hong Kong on liability under the Domestic Agreement and the compulsory insurance legislation, and defending traffic accident bodily injury claims
- Acting for property management, security and cleaning companies on accidents at residential estates, commercial buildings and shopping malls, and advising on the related contribution / indemnity claims between the property management, security

and cleaning companies under their respective public liability policies and service contracts

- Advising on water seepage claims in residential, commercial and hotel buildings
- Acting for physiotherapists, chiropractors, Chinese medicine practitioners and optometrists in malpractice claims involving alleged negligent treatment
- Acting for special schools and elderly homes in personal injury claims involving alleged negligent care
- Acting for educational institutions and their management committees in defending a wide variety of claims relating to employment related matters (e.g. dismissal, suspension of employment, disciplinary procedure, variation of employment terms, reduction of wages, misrepresentation, etc.), discrimination, alleged wrongful or negligent student care, guidance or discipline, breach of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance, etc.
- Handling a telephone enquiry hotline for answering enquiries from insured relating to policy coverage and claim notification issues
- Advising a property all risk and business interruption insurer on policy liability, subrogation issue, legal liability and quantum of loss arising out of a major roof collapse incident in Hong Kong
- Advising insurers on business interruption claims and policy coverage issues arising out of COVID-19
- Advising on debt recovery claims and related enforcement action and bankruptcy / winding up proceedings
- Advising insurers on complaints filed by insured with the Insurance Authority

▼ Experience

2022 Howse Williams
2013 Clyde & Co
2009 Leung & Lau
2008 YC Lee, Pang & Kwok

▼ Education

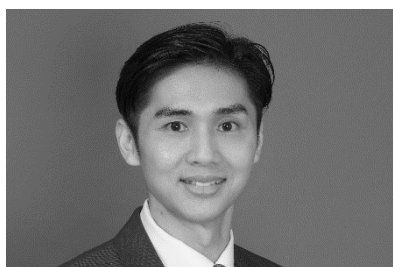
2006 Postgraduate Certificate in Laws, The University of Hong Kong
2005 Bachelor of Laws, The University of Hong Kong

▼ Professional Admissions / Qualifications

2008 Hong Kong

▼ Professional Affiliations

Member, Law Society of Hong Kong



William Wong

Partner

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William specialises in contentious regulatory work and financial services and commercial litigation. He represents both institutional and individual clients in investigations by regulatory authorities and law enforcement agencies in Hong Kong on matters including market misconduct, money-laundering, bribery and corruption, mis-selling, internal controls failure, fraud, employee whistleblowing and data breaches.

On the advisory side, leveraging his in-house experience William frequently provides counsel on a broad range of regulatory and compliance issues concerning financial institutions and listed companies, including new business initiatives (the drafting of client agreements), licensing issues and internal controls, as well as emerging trends such as the use of Tech and virtual assets.

As a litigator, William has over 15 years of experience in advising financial institutions, listed and private companies and family offices/high net worth individuals on high-stake commercial disputes, from pre-action strategy and settlement negotiations, interim injunctive relief, commencement of proceedings and trial, to enforcement of judgments and arbitration awards.

William has been ranked by leading legal directories since 2018, including Legal 500 ("Next Generation Lawyer" for Disputes Resolution), Who's Who Legal ("Future Leader" in Investigations), LexisNexis ("40 Under 40") and Chinese Business Law Journal (20 Rising Stars in international firms).

Clients have consistently provided positive testimonials about William:

"William is highly praised for his top-notch litigation work representing clients on investigations relating to market misconduct and white-collar crime." (Who's Who Legal Investigations 2022)

"William has been a standout: he is commercially astute, technically sound and extremely responsive." (Legal 500 Hong Kong 2022)

"William Wong is meticulous, professional, thoughtful and willing to listen and consider client needs." (Legal 500 Hong Kong 2022)

"William is a seasoned professional with in-depth experience not just in law, but also possesses excellent compliance related skills and techniques to deal with regulators. He is also very competent in civil litigation. He is highly accessible and responsive." (Legal 500 Hong Kong 2021)

"William is a "very experienced and highly skilled litigation lawyer" whose "responsiveness and attitude is top class". (WWL Investigations 2021)
"William is "knowledgeable" and has an "ability to deliver succinct and appropriate advice". (Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2018)

Before joining Howse Williams in April 2022, William spent over seven years at Clifford Chance's dispute resolution and regulatory practices after working at the Legal and Compliance Department at Bank of American Merrill Lynch and Credit Suisse for four years. He trained and worked with Simmons & Simmons in Hong Kong and London.

William is one of the authors of the Hong Kong chapter of The Practitioner's Guide to Global Investigation (3rd-6th editions) and Lissack and Horlick on Bribery and Corruption (3rd edition).

He is fluent in English, Mandarin and Cantonese.

The below is a list of his selected experience:

- Advising multiple financial institutions and their senior employees on compliance with Banking Ordinance, Securities and Futures Ordinance (including circulars and Codes), HKMA SPMs/Circulars, AMLO, Listing Rules and Takeovers Code
- Advising listed companies and their directors in internal investigations and investigations by HKEX or SFC
- Advising financial institutions (which are covered by investment management or financial services liability insurance) on client complaints, SFC/HKMA investigations and High court litigation relating to a wide range of issues including mis-selling, sponsor work, publication of research reports, conducting unlicensed regulated activities, phone recording requirements, etc.
- Advising major Chinese financial institutions on disputes arising from management of investments for an institutional investor, involving High Court proceedings
- Advising a PRC bank in resisting arbitrations commenced by a minority shareholder in Hong Kong
- Advising financial institutions on internal investigations of employee misconduct
- Advising financial institutions on financial crimes matters, including AML investigations, sanctions compliance, anti-bribery corruption issues, and NSL issues
- Advising crypto exchanges on investigations by the SFC

▼ Experience

2022 Howse Williams
2014 Clifford Chance
2011 Credit Suisse
2010 Merrill Lynch
2005 Simmons & Simmons

▼ Education

2005 Postgraduate Certificate in Laws (Distinction), University of Hong Kong

2004 Bachelor of Laws (First Class Honours), University of Hong Kong

▼ Professional Admissions / Qualifications

2016 Civil Celebrant, Hong Kong

2008 England and Wales

2007 Hong Kong

▼ Professional Affiliations

Member, Law Society of Hong Kong

Member, International Legal Affairs Committee, Law Society of Hong Kong

Member, OLQE Eligibility and Exemption committee, Law Society of Hong Kong

Member, Investment Products and Financial Services Committee, Law Society of Hong Kong (2020-2021)

Member, Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal Panel, HKSAR Government



Hiu Yee Chung

Partner

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Hiu Yee specialises in medicolegal matters, providing advice to doctors, dentists, physiotherapists, nurses and other clinical professionals regarding clinical negligence claims and regulatory proceedings. Hiu Yee was admitted in Hong Kong in 2012.

Hiu Yee is an accredited mediator on the Panel of General Mediators of the Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre and the Hong Kong Mediation Accreditation Association Limited. She is also a Civil Celebrant of Marriages.

Hiu Yee is fluent in English, Cantonese and Mandarin.

▼ Experience

2013 Howse Williams
2010 DLA Piper Hong Kong

▼ Education

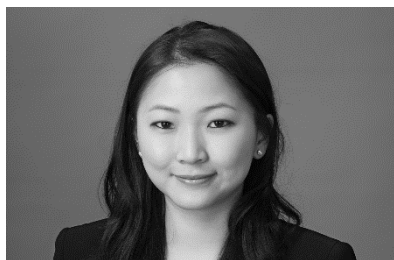
2010 PCLL, City University of Hong Kong
2009 Bachelor of Laws, City University of Hong Kong

▼ Professional Admissions / Qualifications

2021 Civil Celebrant of Marriages
2012 Accredited General Mediator
2012 Hong Kong

▼ Professional Affiliations

Member, Law Society of Hong Kong



Victoria Ng So TEP

Partner

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Victoria was admitted to practice law in Hong Kong in 2013.

Victoria's practice focuses on matrimonial and trust matters. Her cases always involve international elements including relocations and substantial overseas assets, including those held in overseas trust. Victoria advises clients on issues when new marital relationships are to be formed or when relationships break down, drafts and negotiates pre-nuptial and post-nuptial agreements, separation deeds, and divorce settlements.

Victoria advises on children matters such as custody, care and control, access arrangement disputes with respect to children born to married and unmarried couples and cohabitants. She also advises on a wide range of inheritance and succession matters.

Victoria is a Registered Trusts & Estates Practitioner with STEP (the Society of Trust & Estate Practitioners) and sits on STEP HK Marketing & Communications Sub-committee. Victoria has been awarded the STEP Diploma in International Trust Management with distinction. She advises on trusts and the duties of trustees as well as beneficiaries' rights to information on trusts.

Victoria is also a Committee Member of the Hong Kong Family Law Association and a member of LawAsia. She is fluent in English, Cantonese and Putonghua.

▼ Experience

2014 Howse Williams
2011 Ip & Heathfield

▼ Education

2017 Diploma in International Trust Management (Distinction), STEP
2011 Postgraduate Certificate in Laws (PCLL), The University of Hong Kong
2010 Master of Laws in Chinese Law (LLM), Peking University, Beijing
2008 Bachelor of Laws (LLB), King's College London, UK

▼ Professional Admissions / Qualifications

2013 Hong Kong

▼ Professional Affiliations

Registered Trust & Estate Practitioner, STEP
Committee Member, Hong Kong Family Law Association
Committee Member, STEP HK Marketing & Communications Sub-committee
Member, The Law Society of Hong Kong
Member, LawAsia



Janie Wong

Partner

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Janie focuses her practice on international arbitration, complex commercial litigation and cross-border investigations with an emphasis on Asia. She represents clients in a range of contentious matters including those relating to cross-border fraud, enforcement of arbitral awards and judgments, insolvency, intellectual property rights, M&A deals, private equity investments, product liability, professional negligence and shareholders' disputes. She also counsels clients on regulatory compliance, bribery and/or corruption issues and assists with pre-acquisition due diligence. Most recently, she has been acting for liquidators in a US\$11 billion restructuring of a China-state-linked group.

Janie has been recognised by Who's Who Legal in the category of Litigation – Future Leaders – Partners in 2020 and 2021. Janie was among the lawyers, in-house investigators, prosecutors and academics from the international investigations community profiled by Global Investigation Review in its “Women in Investigations 2021” survey.

Janie is a member of the Hong Kong Law Society Arbitration Committee.

Janie is fluent in English and Cantonese.

▼ Experience

2022 Howse Williams
2018 Addleshaw Goddard (Hong Kong) LLP
2016 Dechert LLP
2008 Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe
2004 Tanner De Witt

▼ Education

2019 International Diploma in Governance Risk and Compliance, International Compliance Association (in association with the University of Manchester)
2004 Postgraduate Certificate in Laws, University of Hong Kong
2003 Bachelor of Laws, University of Hong Kong
2002 Bachelor of Business Administration (Law), University of Hong Kong
2001 Bachelor of Arts (Psychology), Queen's University, Canada

▼ Professional Admissions / Qualifications

2007 England and Wales
2006 Hong Kong

▼ Professional Affiliations

Member, Law Society of Hong Kong
Hong Kong Law Society Arbitration Committee



Alan Yip

Partner

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Alan is a partner of Howse Williams. He advises on land compulsory sale applications, residential first-hand sale legislation compliance, project conveyancing, strategic acquisitions for redevelopment purpose, commercial real estate (M&A and joint venture), building plans and town planning legal issues, property-related litigation (judicial review, building appeals, planning appeals), Government lease advices (lease modification and land exchange applications), large-scale leasing projects, complicated stamp duty legal advice and PRC real estate projects and acquisitions.

'Alan Yip is dynamic, knowledgeable, with strong business acumen.' - The Legal 500 Asia Pacific (2019)

▼ Experience

2022 Howse Williams
2004 Mayer Brown

▼ Education

Postgraduate Certificate in Laws, The University of Hong Kong
Bachelor of Laws, The University of Hong Kong

▼ Professional Admissions / Qualifications

2006 England and Wales
2004 Hong Kong

▼ Professional Affiliations

Member, Law Society of Hong Kong

▼ Selected Important Deals

Commercial Real Estate (M&A, Sale and Purchase of Shares and Joint Venture)

- Acted in the HK\$9.95 billion acquisition of the entire 22-storey Grade A office building at No. 18 King Wah Road, North Point through the acquisition of equity interest in the property holding companies. The price tag equates to approximately HK\$30,169 per square foot, which is the then highest price for office space in North Point.
- Acted in the HK\$6.6 billion deal for a developer to acquire a large residential site in Tuen Mun, New Territories through the acquisition of equity interest in the property holding companies (now known as Emerald Bay). This represents one of the largest transactions of one single residential site in 2017.

- Represented a PRC developer in its HK\$4.7 billion acquisition of 100 percent equity interest in a property holding company which consists of significant number of lots in Wo Shang Wai, New Territories, involving approximately 20.74 ha (or 2.23 million square feet).
- Represented a leading property developer in Hong Kong in the HK\$3 billion disposal of all of its economic interest in two shopping malls operated by MTR Corporation Limited, namely Telford Plaza II and PopCorn 2.
- Represented a leading property developer in Hong Kong in the disposal of approximately HK\$2.36 billion of its 45% interest in the joint venture company being the property holding company of Shun Tak Centre in Sheung Wan. The joint venture company owns certain properties at Shun Tak Centre, including the shopping arcade's lettable area of 214,486 square feet, the office's gross area of 13,827 square feet and 85 car parking spaces.
- Represented a reputable Chinese developer to acquire a residential site in Tonkin Street, Kowloon through the acquisition of the shares and shareholders loan in the property holding companies at a consideration of over HK\$2.5 billion (now known as The Vertex).
- Represented a leading property developer in Hong Kong in the disposal of approximately HK\$1.21 billion of the entire equity interest in four property holding companies with the target property at Eight Kwai Fong, a residential project in Happy Valley.
- Represented a leading developer in the HK\$1.85 billion sale of a residential site in Mount Parker Road, involving ex civil servants co-operative building society scheme by way of disposal of the equity interest in various property holding companies.

Land Compulsory Sale Applications

- One of the largest compulsory sale application in terms of redevelopment value (over HK\$4.7 billion being highest amount in history up to the end of 2021) and number of respondents (35 respondents), which is also Hong Kong's first compulsory sale application on building which is listed as "Grade 1 historic building" by the Antiquities Advisory Board (LDCS 27000/2018).
- Hong Kong's first compulsory sale application on Government Civil Servants' Co-operative Building Society Scheme buildings at Nos. 2, 4, 6, 8 Mount Parker Road (LDCS 13000/2019).
- Successful compulsory sale application for various residential buildings in Po Wah Building and tenement blocks at Landale Street and Anton Street, Wan Chai, being the then largest compulsory sale application in terms of redevelopment value (over HK\$2 billion) and number of respondents (with 35 respondents at the commencement of the action) (LDCS 1000/2015).

- Represented majority owners in obtaining compulsory sale order for Nos. 93-95 Catchick Street in Kennedy Town (LDCS 22000/2020).
- Represented majority owners in successfully obtaining compulsory sale order for Nos. 244-256 Hai Tan Street in Sham Shui Po (LDCS 32000/2018).
- Represented majority owners in successfully obtaining a 42-month extension of the building covenant imposed under a compulsory sale order granted in 2016 at the site where the former Kai Tak Mansion is situated (LDCS 4000/2013).
- Successful 2 compulsory sale applications of commercial/ residential composite building in 9, 9A, 11 and 11A and 13-13A Liberty Avenue, Kowloon (LDCS 3000/2018 and LDCS 4000/2018).
- Successful compulsory sale application of a residential building in 168, 168A, 168B, 168C Boundary Street (LDCS 25000/2014).
- Successful compulsory sale application of a residential building in 10, 10A, 12, 12A La Salle Road (LDCS 42000/2012).

Compliance with Residential First-hand Sales Legislation

- One of the few solicitors in private practice who have direct involvement in the entire legislative process of the Residential Properties (First-hand Sales) Ordinance (the “Ordinance”), being the first legislation in Hong Kong regulating sale of first-hand residential properties, by providing full-scale comprehensive advice on the impact of the Ordinance on the real estate industry: Alan represented The Real Estate Developers Association of Hong Kong to negotiate with the Government on the entire legislative process relating to the Ordinance since it was still in its Bill form in 2011.
- Frequently interviewed by newspapers, magazines and media to share views on hot topics in town regarding the compliance issues of the Ordinance (including Sing Tao Daily, Metro Radio, The Hong Kong Economic Journal, iMoney magazine).
- Delivered over 70 seminars to over 1,000 attendees since 2012, including developers (most of them are the Hang Seng Index’s Properties constituents), legal profession, surveyors and law school students, to provide introduction and training for compliance with the Ordinance.

Project Conveyancing

- Advising major developers and statutory bodies on the sale of first-hand properties of different types of development (including residential, office, commercial, industrial mixed-use composite developments).
- Selected large-scale/ luxurious projects: Villa La Plage, The Pavilia Farm, Mount Pavilia, Grand Central, Emerald Bay, Le Pont, Montego Bay, 888 Lai Chi

Kok Road, Mount Regalia, 45 Tai Tam Road, Artisan House, Artisan Garden, Atrium House, Alassio, Azura, Argenta, Arezzo, Mount Parker Residences, My Central, Mayfair By The Sea.

Town Planning and Building Plans Applications and Appeals

- Represented a key developer in a successful Court of Appeal action quashing the Town Planning Board's decision to refuse relaxation of plot ratio and building height restrictions for a residential redevelopment at Seymour Road, Mid-Levels West (reported in Hong Kong Law Report & Digest as [2009] 3 HKLRD 339).
- Represented a key container terminal operator to successfully request the Town Planning Board to relax height restrictions imposed on various container terminal sites in Kwan Chun, involving a gross floor area of over 6 million sq. m. which worth billions of HKD investment.
- Acted for a developer in its successful appeal before the Appeal Tribunal (Buildings) quashing the Building Authority's decision to reject general building plans for a hotel development at Leighton Road, Causeway Bay.

Strategic Large-scale Acquisitions for Redevelopment

- Represented a reputable Hong Kong developer in its strategic acquisition to consolidate the title of all the units in Nos. 21 to 31 Wing Fung Street, Wan Chai, Hong Kong, for redevelopment. As part of the acquisition process, also advised various highly complicated real estate legal issues, including advice on redevelopment potential in terms of plot ratio and gross floor area, building management disputes, strategy on compulsory sale applications, submission of general building plans, lodging of building appeal to the Appeal Tribunal (Buildings) to challenge the Building Authority's disapproval of building plans and objection to the Town Planning Board on the proposed restrictions imposed on future redevelopment of the site.
- Represented one of the largest Chinese developer in the successful acquisition of a significant number of units (over 80% undivided shares) in several residential buildings in Hong Kong through the acquisition of the equity interest in a number of property holding companies involving a total consideration of over HK\$650 million, paving the way for compulsory sale applications for redevelopment.
- Acted for a key developer to acquire the Government's interest in Cornwall House to complete its title consolidation in TaiKoo Place, Quarry Bay which involved an exchange of 10 floors of office space in Cityplaza Three for all the areas in Cornwall House owned by the Government consisting of 8 floors. This is an important transaction to the developer because this is the last piece of acquisition to consolidate the title of the entire TaiKoo Place to facilitate its redevelopment of three existing industrial buildings into two Grade A office towers. The transaction involves the drafting of complicated legal documentation because, upon completion of the exchange, the Government

will become a co-owner of Cityplaza Three. Apart from the deed of mutual covenant, a tailor-made sub-deed of mutual covenant is prepared for the office accommodation of Cityplaza Three. The developer is also required to grant various rights of way, easements and right of use to the Government to facilitate the use and operation of its office premises in Cityplaza Three.

- Acted for the majority owner in the successful acquisition of 100% interest in various sites at Caine Road, Seymour Road and Castle Road in the Mid-Levels West for comprehensive residential redevelopments (now known as AZURA, ARGENTA, AREZZO and ALASSIO).

Large-Scale Leasing Projects in Hong Kong and PRC

- Represented the landlord in its successful renewal of the 10-year lease with an investment bank in International Commerce Centre (ICC), which is the tallest building in Hong Kong. The deal involved the renewed leasing of 14 floors of office space (total gross floor area of 499,859 square feet).
- Represented the landlord in three largest standalone office leasing transactions in Hong Kong - International Commerce Centre (ICC) leasing to Deutsche Bank, Credit Suisse and Morgan Stanley involving complicated leasing structure and granting of special rights and interests, and a total rental income of billions of Hong Kong dollars.
- Acted for a key developer in the leasing of office space in "TaiKoo Hui", Guangzhou to HSBC, being one of the then largest standalone office leasing transactions in southern part of PRC.
- Acted for a key developer in the pre-lease and lease of office and retail premises in a large-scale comprehensive development in Guangzhou, PRC involving over 4 million sq. ft.
- Acted for major developers in letting of large-scale shopping centres and offices in Hong Kong and PRC (including International Commerce Centre, Two Harbour Square, Shanghai ifc, apm, Langham Place, 33 Des Voeux Road Central, The Westwood in Belcher's and Liberte Place).

PRC Real Estate Projects, Joint Venture, Land Acquisition

- Acted for the joint venture company established by Lee Kum Kee Group and Vanke Group on the RMB 5.7 billion acquisition of Corporate Avenue 3 in Shanghai Xintiandi, from Shui On Land, through the acquisition of the share capital in the property holding companies. The deal represents one of the largest standalone real estate transactions in PRC in 2015.
- Acted for a key developer in a joint venture project in a large-scale comprehensive development in Guangzhou known as "TaiKoo Hui" comprising office, hotel and shopping mall involving an investment of over RMB 6 billion.

- Advised a key developer in its large-scale mixed use development known as “Shanghai ifc” comprising retail, commercial, office and hotels.
- Advised a major developer in its development at No.3 Huaihai Central Road, Xuhui District, Shanghai for the development, leasing and sale of the mixed use complex comprising retail, office, hotel, entertainment and residential premises.
- Advising different developers in “tender, auction, gua pai” applications for the grant of State land use right and property management matters for different kinds of property developments in the PRC.

Government Lease Modifications and Land Exchanges

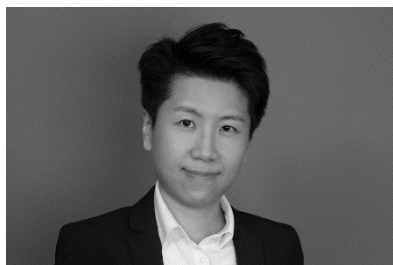
- Represented a PRC developer on its land exchange cum lease modification applications which was one of the most complicated mixture with the Lands Department in relation to a large-scale residential development cum wetland restoration program at Wo Shang Wai, Yuen Long involving the land premium of approximately HK\$4 billion. The proposed comprehensive development includes a Wetland Restoration Area (comprising over 200 houses and a wetland habitat). The applications involved simultaneous applications for lease modification in respect of portion for wetland habitat and in-situ land exchange for the grant of a new lot for private residential purposes.
- Advise developers and charitable organisations in relation to applications for in-situ land exchange, modification of government leases, assessment of land premium, master layout plans applications, lease extensions, removal of non-offensive trade clause and extension of building covenant.

Judicial Review Applications

- Represented a major developer in a successful judicial review application requiring the Town Planning Appeal Board to relax the plot ratio restrictions (and hence increase the permitted gross floor area to be constructed) on the site at Castle Steps, Mid-Levels West.
- Representing major developers in property related judicial review applications including renewal of government leases, review of Town Planning Board’s decisions on town planning appeals and Appeal Tribunal’s decisions on general building appeals.

Successful Court of Final Appeal Compensation Claim

- Representing a developer in its successful claim before the Court of Final Appeal for compensation under the Railways Ordinance in relation to a residential development at Lam Tei, Tuen Mun (reported in the Hong Kong Court of Final Appeal Report as [2011] 14 HKCFAR 439).



Daisy Tang

Partner

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Daisy is a partner of Howse Williams. Daisy has experience in a wide range of matters throughout the cycle of real estate development in Hong Kong, including strategic acquisitions for redevelopment purpose, project conveyancing, advice on compliance with first-hand sale legislation, commercial real estate, real estate finance, landlord and tenant matters and building management issues.

Daisy speaks English, Cantonese and Mandarin.

▼ Experience

2022 Howse Williams
2016 Mayer Brown
2010 Clifford Chance

▼ Education

Postgraduate Certificate in Laws, The University of Hong Kong
Bachelor of Laws, The University of Hong Kong

▼ Professional Admissions / Qualifications

2008 Hong Kong

▼ Professional Affiliations

Member, Law Society of Hong Kong



Tony Leung

Partner

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Tony is a Partner whose practice focusses on insurance-related matters, complex commercial litigation and arbitration proceedings. He has been with the firm since he joined as a Trainee Solicitor in 2012.

Tony has extensive experience in a range of contentious and non-contentious commercial matters, and frequently acts for and advises clients in court and arbitration proceedings on misrepresentation claims, asset recovery, shareholder disputes, internet fraud claims, fraud investigations, and construction related claims. He has significant experience in building management and tenancy related claims, and his clients include leading real estate / property service companies. Tony has advised on matters relating to data privacy, and acted for a telecommunications / media company in a key case relating to the production of journalistic materials. He also has experience in acting for professional associations and bodies in conducting and defending judicial review proceedings.

Tony has particular experience in insurance-related matters, and frequently advises and acts for clients in connection with claims involving directors and officers as well as professional negligence claims (usually with the involvement of an insurer). He also has experience with policy disputes in relation to medical, life and cargo insurance. He has been a Panel Solicitor for the Hong Kong Solicitors Professional Indemnity Scheme since 2014, advising upon both coverage and defence of a broad range of professional indemnity claims.

Tony is fluent in English, Cantonese, and Mandarin.

▼ *Experience*

2012 Howse Williams

▼ *Education*

2012 The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Postgraduate Certificate in Laws (PCLL)

2011 The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Juris Doctor

2009 University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Bachelor of Arts (Economics)

▼ *Professional Admissions / Qualifications*

2014 Hong Kong

▼ *Professional Affiliations*

Member, Law Society of Hong Kong

▼ *Reported Decisions*

- Commissioner of Police v i-CABLE Communications Ltd. [HCMP 119/2016]
- First Asia Finance International Ltd v Tso Au Yim & Yeung [HCA 2128/2013]
- Tsui Yuen (formerly known as Ho Wai Hung) v Ho Tse Wai, Philip Li & Partners (A Firm) (formerly known as Ho, Tse & Wai & Partners) [HCA587/2015 / HKCFI 1447/2019]
- Yip Kin Kwan Kenneth v Rich Well Finance Limited v K.B. Chau & Co. (A Firm) [HCA 2181/2016 / HKCFI 456/2020]
- Chan Shu Chun and Another v Dr Kung Yan Sum and Others [HCA 832/2014 / HKCFI 840/2023]

▼ *Publications*

Halsbury's Laws of Hong Kong: Insurance (Vol.32(1)&(2)) (co-author)



Yvonne Zhang

Partner

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Yvonne specialises in Hong Kong corporate finance, Hong Kong IPOs, pre-IPO investments and restructurings and post-IPO regulatory and compliance matters. Yvonne also has experience of advising on mergers and acquisitions and banking in Hong Kong and Mainland China.

Yvonne has participated in Hong Kong IPO projects involving various industries, including IT services, papermaking felts manufacturing, freight forwarding, handbag manufacturing, investment management and property consulting and management, homeware design, landscape design, telecommunications and related services, manufacturing and sales of umbrellas, logistics solution services, electronic control and automation equipment products, and civil engineering industries. She has also provided legal advice on bank financing to well-known commercial banks in China.

Recent transactions in which Yvonne has been involved include:

IPOs

- Acted on behalf of Boardware Intelligent (HK stock code: 1204) in the HK\$94 million initial public offering on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- Acted on behalf of CMBC Capital, as sponsor, in the HK\$144 million initial public offering of Vanov Holdings (HK stock code: 2260) on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- Acted on behalf of CMBC Capital, as sponsor, in the HK\$143 million initial public offering of CN Logistics International (HK stock code: 2130) on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- Acted on behalf of Wah Sun Handbags (HK stock code: 2683) in the HK\$118 million initial public offering on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- Acted on behalf of ZACD Group (HK stock code: 8313) in the HK\$160 million initial public offering on the GEM of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- Acted on behalf of Sunfund Capital, as sponsor, in the initial public offering of Satu Holdings (HK stock code: 8392) on the GEM of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- Acted on behalf of Guotai Junan Capital, as sponsor, in the HK\$287 million initial public offering of Nanfang Communication (HK stock code: 1617) on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- Acted on behalf of Octal Capital, as sponsor, in the initial public offering of World-Link Logistics (HK stock code: 8012) on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange \
- Acted on behalf of Jicheng Umbrella (HK stock code: 1027) in the HK\$ 165 million initial public offering on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- Acted on behalf of Guotai Junan Capital, as sponsor, in the initial public offering of Telecom Digital (HK stock code: 8336) in the HK\$100 million initial public offering on the GEM of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange

- Acted on behalf of Earthasia International (HK stock code: 6128) in the HK\$120 million initial public offering on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange

Placings

- Acted on behalf of Haitong International, as placing agent, in the HK\$213 million placing of shares of EC Healthcare (HK stock code: 2138)
- Acted on behalf of Haitong International, as placing agent, in the HK\$328 million placing of shares of Meilleure Health International Industry Group Limited (HK stock code: 2327)
- Acted on behalf of UOB Kay Hian and China Merchant Securities, as placing agent, in the HK\$133 million top up placing of China Biotech Services Holdings (HK stock code: 8037)

M&A Transactions

- Acted for Morris Holdings Limited (stock code: 1575) in its US\$35 million acquisition of the entire equity interest in Jennifer Convertibles, Inc.
- Acted for Shandong Luoxin Pharmaceutical Group Stock Co., Ltd. (stock code: 8058) in relation to a voluntary general offer over the H Shares of the company and its subsequent delisting from the Hong Kong Stock Exchange

▼ Experience

2016 Howse Williams

2015 Francis & Co. in association with Addleshaw Goddard (Hong Kong) LLP

2012 Hastings & Co.

▼ Education

2012 Post Graduate Certificate in Laws, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

2011 Juris Doctor, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

2009 Bachelor of Laws, The China University of Political Science and Law

▼ Professional Admissions / Qualifications

2014 Hong Kong

▼ Professional Affiliations

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