

Alicia Lawson

CALL: 2023

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Languages: French (proficient), Spanish (conversational)



Overview

Alicia is developing a broad practice across all of chambers' practice areas, including commercial litigation and international arbitration.

She is currently on secondment to Pogust Goodhead, where she is working on the Mariana Dam case. This is the largest ever group action to come before the English courts, in number of claimants and financial value.

Prior to joining chambers and alongside her legal studies, Alicia spent a year working in the legal team at the Good Law Project, where she worked on several high profile environmental and public law cases, including at Court of Appeal and Supreme Court level.

She also worked as a legal researcher for the AIRE Centre, contributing to a series of papers on multinational liability for human rights and environmental harms. Alicia is hoping to develop her practice in climate change litigation and is committed to pro bono work in this area.

Before coming to the Bar, Alicia had a successful career in business. In 2016 she was listed as one of Forbes Magazine's "30 under 30" social entrepreneurs.

Alicia has a double first-class degree in Classics, from Wadham College, Oxford, where she was awarded several academic scholarships and prizes. She completed her GDL with distinction at City University, London.

Education

- City University: Bar Vocational Studies, Very Competent (2023)
- City University: General Diploma in Law, Distinction (2022)
- University of Oxford, Wadham College: BA in Classics, Double First Class (2012)

Awards/Scholarships

- Lord Denning Scholar, Lincoln's Inn (2022)
- Lord Brougham Scholar, Lincoln's Inn (2021)
- De Paravicini Prize, University of Oxford (2012)
- Academic Scholarships, Wadham College, University of Oxford (2010, 2012)

(Re)insurance

- Assisted (as a pupil) with the drafting of an opinion on the application of business interruption insurance to government enforced business closures during COVID-19.

Arbitration

- Assisted (as a pupil) with the drafting of submissions on partial determination of key issues in ICC arbitration proceedings relating to the project financing of an oil field.
- Assisted (as a pupil) with the drafting of a skeleton for dismissal without a hearing of a s.68 arbitration challenge, in a dispute over a yacht construction contract.

Commodities and international trade

- Assisted (as a pupil) with the preparation of an application for relief from sanctions in a commodities dispute involving an international sale of diesel.
- Assisted (as a pupil) with the drafting of written closings in a commodities trial involving sale of goods.

Civil fraud and asset tracing

- Assisted (as a pupil) with the drafting of an opinion on potential causes of action following an “authorised push payment” between a German and English bank.

Insolvency and restructuring

- Assisted (as a pupil) with research to resist objections to disclosure due to potential breaches of (quasi) foreign law, in insolvency proceedings.
- Assisted (as a pupil) with drafting a skeleton resisting an application for a time extension for disclosure, in a merger attempt.

Company law

- Assisted (as a pupil) with drafting a skeleton on the validity of a loan agreement which had been entered in breach of a shareholders’ agreement.

Energy and infrastructure

- Assisted (as a pupil) with the drafting of an opinion on whether a sanctions clause entitled termination of a contract for energy supply.

Jurisdictions, conflicts and enforcement

- Assisted (as a pupil) with the drafting of a skeleton appealing a refusal of an application for a worldwide freezing order in aid of a foreign judgment.
- Assisted (as a pupil) with research and drafting of a skeleton on objections to disclosure due to breach of (quasi) foreign law.

Public and administrative law

The following cases are from Alicia’s time working with the Good Law Project before joining Twenty Essex.

- *The Manchester Ship Canal Company Ltd v United Utilities Water Ltd No 2* [2024] UKSC 22.
- *Friends of the Earth, ClientEarth and Good Law Project v Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero* [2024]

EWHC 995 (Admin).

- *R (on the application of the Good Law Project) v The Prime Minister & Ors* [2022] EWCA Civ 1580.

Shipping

- Assisted (as a pupil) with the drafting of a defence and opinion on the merits of a claim for damages caused by fuel contamination.
- Assisted (as a pupil) with the drafting of claim submissions and reply in an LMAA arbitration claim relating to bunker redelivery.