



Tara Liao
Barrister-at-Law

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Curriculum Vitae

Professional Qualifications Barrister, Hong Kong S.A.R. (2015); Solicitor, Hong Kong S.A.R. (2010 -2014)

PRC National Judicial Examination

Languages English: Fluent; Mandarin and Cantonese: Native

Practice Profile

Tara is ranked as a leading junior (tier 2) in the Commercial Disputes category by Legal 500 Asia-Pacific 2021, and is described as “*a very sharp and forceful advocate, a case with her is in safe hands.*” She sat as a Deputy District Judge in 2021.

As counsel, Tara appears regularly in the Court of Appeal, the High Court, the District Court and in arbitrations with a focus on commercial injunctions, shareholders’ disputes, company, insolvency, civil fraud, trust and cross-border disputes. She also has experience in land, competition, insurance and regulatory cases. She is a Committee member of HK45, an active young arbitration practitioners group in Asia.

Prior to joining the Bar, she was a solicitor in an international law firm specialising in commercial litigation and regulatory matters. She holds a bachelor degree in PRC laws from Peking University and has passed the PRC National Judicial Examination.

Tara began full practice as a barrister in 2015 after completing pupillages with Mr Philip Dykes SC, Mr Richard Khaw SC, Mr Derek C.L. Chan SC and Mr Roger Beresford.

Selected cases:

Company and insolvency

Acropolis Limited & another v W&Q Investment Ltd & others [2018] HKCA 184, HCA 1496/2017, 31 August 2017 (*shareholders dispute in a GEM listco – unfair prejudice - conspiracy to defraud/injure – breach of fiduciary duties - interim injunction*)

Aeso Holding Limited & others v Chan Siu Chung & others, HCMP 1721/2017, 11 August 2017 (*Director’s right to inspect documents – mandatory injunction*)

Tsang Woon Ming v Lai Ka Lim & Others (HCCW 407/2016); King’s Glory Educational Centre Limited v Tsang Woon Ming & Others (HCA 33/2017); Nobility School Limited v Tsang Woon Ming & Others [2020] HKCFI 1503 (*unfair prejudice – just and equitable winding up – breach of fiduciary duties*)

WHC Limited trading as Wine High Club & others v Hong Kong Wine Chamber of Commerce Limited [2019] HKCFI 2548 (*irregular general meeting/resolutions – Chairman’s exercise of power -determination of membership*)

Commercial injunctions

Silver Universe Investments Ltd v China Times Securities Limited & ors [2019] HKCFI 834, [2019] HKCFI 153, [2021] HKCA 105 (*securities & financing arrangement – breach of trust - civil fraud - proprietary injunction – ancillary disclosure order*)

Aeso Holding Limited & another v Chan Siu Chung & others, HCA 1737/2017 & HCMP 1647/2017, 4 September 2017 (*civil fraud/breach of fiduciary duties - Mareva/proprietary injunction – receivership*)

Grupo Arbulu S L v Likewo (HK) Limited [2019] HKCFI 2896 (*Mareva injunction*)

The University of Hong Kong v Hong Kong Commercial Broadcasting Co Ltd & another, [2016] 1 HKLRD 536 (*interim injunction – confidentiality – freedom of speech – public interest*)

Arbitration

IPS International Polysacks GMBH v Intersack Holdings Ltd & Others [2019] HKCFI 1336 (*stay of unfair prejudice petition in favour of arbitration*)

Competition

Competition Commission v W. Hing Construction Company Limited [2019] HKLRD 46 (*alleged market sharing & price sharing - economic efficiency defence*)

Defamation

Tam Heung Man v Incorporated Owners of Tung Lung Court (Blocks A-F) [2019] HKDC 401 (*defamation – qualified privilege – malice – attribution of malice*)

Others

Re A & Another [2019] HKCFI 1749 (*surrogacy – parental order*)

Wu Zuo Cheng v Leung Lai Ching Margaret & others, HCMP 2080/2015, 16 February 2016 (*registration and enforcement of a Mainland Judgment under the Mainland Judgments (Reciprocal Arrangement) Ordinance (CAP.597)*)

Education

Postgraduate Certificate in Laws, The University of Hong Kong
Graduate Diploma in Law, BPP Law School, UK
Bachelor of Laws (PRC), Peking University, Beijing, P. R. China

Appointments

Deputy District Judge (2021)
HK45 Committee Member (2020-2022)

Scholarships

Middle Temple Society Advocacy Scholarship
Herbert Smith PRC Scholarship

Publication

Contributed to the update on laws on matrimonial finance in the PRC in Chapter 20 of Family Law and Practice in Hong Kong (3rd Edition)