

# ERICA LI

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## SUMMARY

Erica is an Associate and Solicitor Advocate in the International Arbitration team at Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr in London. Prior to joining WilmerHale, Erica trained at and qualified into the Dispute Resolution team at Herbert Smith Freehills LLP in London.

Erica has represented individuals and corporations from a broad range of industries under various arbitration rules (including the LCIA and ICC rules). She also has experience in English High Court litigation, complex international litigation and restructuring and insolvency litigation.

## EDUCATION & QUALIFICATIONS

- **Solicitor Advocate (Civil)**, England and Wales (January 2023)
- **Solicitor**, England and Wales (March 2021)
- **BPP University**, Accelerated Legal Practice Course (2018 – 2019)
  - Distinction
- **University of Oxford, Balliol College**, Bachelor of Civil Law (2016 – 2017)
  - Completed modules in Commercial Remedies, Restitution of Unjust Enrichment, Corporate Finance Law, Comparative Corporate Law
- **University of Hong Kong**, Bachelor of Laws (2012 – 2016)
  - First Class Honours; graduated 2nd/172; Dean's Honours List (2014, 2015); Linklaters Prize for Overall Excellence in Law; Reed Smith Richards Butler Scholarship; C.V. Starr Scholarship; Betty Ho Prize in Law (2014, 2015); Chan Kai Ming Prize; Gallant Ho Prize in Law; Jerome Chan Memorial Prize for the Law of Evidence; Deacons Prize in Law for Young Leaders; Bernard Downey Book Prize; HKU Foundation Scholarship for Outstanding Students

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### **Associate, Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr, London (Jan 2024 – present)**

Erica has worked on a range of arbitration matters across the oil and gas, construction and food and beverage sectors.

### **Associate, Herbert Smith Freehills, London (Mar 2021 – Jan 2024)**

Erica has worked on a wide range of commercial arbitration matters and restructuring and insolvency disputes. She has experience in arbitration/trial preparation, drafting witness statements and statements of case, proofing witnesses, analysing and advising on complex legal issues, and working with experts.

Her experience includes:

- Acting for a UK asset management company in LCIA arbitration proceedings relating to investment advisory services and mismanagement of assets.
- Acting for an offshore SPV in LCIA arbitration proceedings in respect of unpaid fees for services.
- Defending directors of a UK asset management company and related entities against claims for deceit, breach of fiduciary duty, breach of contract and conspiracy in the English High Court.

### **Trainee Solicitor, Herbert Smith Freehills (Mar 2019 – Feb 2021)**

Erica sat in Commercial Litigation; Restructuring, Turnaround and Insolvency; Corporate M&A; and Tax Litigation during her training contract. Her experience includes:

#### *Commercial Litigation*

- Assisting in the preparation of a defence in connection with a class action brought by a listed mining company in the High Court in London.
- Conducting legal research in relation to a challenge to anti-homosexuality legislation in various Caribbean jurisdictions, in conjunction with Human Dignity Trust.
- Drafting attendance notes and conducting legal research in relation to a high-profile internal investigation of a major PLC.
- Appearing on behalf of a pro bono client at the Employment Tribunal in relation to a discrimination claim and successfully negotiating a settlement.

#### *Restructuring, Turnaround and Insolvency*

- Researching complex issues of law and preparing for hearings in relation to the decade-long global insolvency of the Nortel group.
- Conducting legal research and assisting with the drafting of finance documents in relation to the rescue and bail-out of a commercial airline.

#### *Corporate M&A*

- Advising on a Class 1 disposal of a subsidiary of a PLC, to which the updated FCA rules in light of the COVID-19 pandemic were applied.
- Advising on the acquisition by a consortium consisting of the UK Government and Bharti Global Limited of OneWeb.
- Advising on the acquisition by Bridgestone Corporation of the business and assets relating to, and the grant of an exclusive worldwide licence to the technology of, the iTrack tyre monitoring system from Transense Technologies.
- Advising on the acquisition by a Japanese company of the trademark of an international fashion retailer.
- Advising a major accountancy firm in relation to forthcoming regulatory changes.

#### *Tax Litigation*

- Advising on and conducting legal research in relation to complex tax disputes against HMRC.
- Conducting legal research on PAYE and income tax issues in relation to a potential dispute.

### **Research Assistant, Law Commission of England and Wales (Sep 2017 – Jul 2018)**

Prior to joining Herbert Smith Freehills as a trainee, Erica worked as a Research Assistant on the Commercial and Common Law Team at the Law Commission, during which she worked on various Law Commission consultation projects.

Her experience includes:

- Conducting legal research on issues arising from the Bills of Sale, Electronic Signatures and Right to Manage projects.
- Liaising with stakeholders, including legal practitioners and academics, for consultation purposes.
- Managing project deadlines and preparing documents for publication.

### **LANGUAGES & HOBBIES**

- English (Native), Cantonese (Native); Mandarin (Fluent); French (B1)
- Certified 200-hour vinyasa yoga teacher