Why Slaughter and May?

Our approach
Protecting your interests is our priority. When we are instructed, our clients can be confident that we are on your team, we are listening, and we are fully focused on getting the best result for you, efficiently, smoothly and with no fuss.

Technical excellence
You can look to us for technical excellence in the law, a capacity for innovative thought and a positive commercial approach. These qualities give us the edge in negotiations, help achieve your objectives and ensure the effective handling of your legal matters.

Key Contacts

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Global Arbitration Review survey 2018
Recipients of the Global Arbitration Review’s annual listing of the world’s 100 leading international arbitration practices.

The British Legal Awards 2017
Win Regulatory and Investigations Team of the Year jointly with Osborne & Wharton for the Rolls-Royce DPA.

Dispute Resolution

Our disputes practice
Strategic advice when you need it most
We have successfully helped clients navigate some of the most complex, commercially sensitive and high value disputes in the market, including multi-jurisdictional litigation, arbitrations, investigations and inquiries. We handle all aspects of contentious matters, from the strategic and tactical to the practical and procedural. When excellence is imperative, our disputes practice can help you.

Diverse client list
No matter the industry sector you can rely on us to develop a strategy that will safeguard your immediate and future commercial and reputational interests. Our wide ranging and varied client list includes:

- Corporates
- Governments
- Multinationals
- Regulators
- International organisations
- High profile individuals

Our legal services
We provide our clients with a complete litigation and resolution service of the highest calibre. Our practice encompasses the full spectrum of contentious and non-contentious matters, including: contractual/commercial disputes, banking litigation, insolvencies and restructurings, insurance and reinsurance, judicial review proceedings and tax disputes.

We have a highly renowned international arbitration practice advising across the full range of domestic and cross border arbitral proceedings. We are one of the UK’s leading investigations practices, established by having played significant roles in many of the most important inquiries and regulatory investigations of the past two decades.

Quality legal advice where you need it
We work with market leading firms from around the world as a single united team. We build specific teams according to the issues and requirements in question and increase effectiveness by having the right minds in the right place at the right time, whilst always providing value for money.
Our legal services

Slaughter and May’s “lawyers are all outcome-oriented and deliver extraordinary service and results”

Legal 500, 2017, Commercial Litigation

Deutsche Bank in relation to regulatory investigations into conduct in relation to interest rate offered benchmark rates, including in the UK, US, Germany, Hong Kong and Japan. Settlements with the UK’s FCA, the US DOJ and CFTC and the New York DFS were announced in April 2015 following settlement with the European Commission in 2013.

Equitas in relation to a claim against Walbrook Brothers (Walbrook) relating to amounts collected on its behalf but not paid to it, in some cases for periods in excess of 20 years, together with investment returns on those sums worth in excess of US$20 million. The Commercial Court held that Walbrooks did have a continuing duty to Equitas to remit funds due to it (and Equitas’ claims to those funds were not time barred), and compensate Equitas for lost investment returns on those amounts and that Walbrook was not entitled to set off amounts due to it against those sums.

SIEC Trygg Liv on a €40 million Stockholm Chamber of Commerce arbitration arising out of the purchase of a life assurance company and the mis-selling of pensions, and the satellite High Court and Court of Appeal litigation it generated.

Alliance Bank of Kazakhstan on obtaining a freezing order and related disclosure orders from the English High Court against 15 defendants in various jurisdictions who are alleged to have conspired to orchestrate a US$1.1 billion fraud against Alliance Bank. We also acted in two related ICC arbitrations.

They get things done quickly and efficiently and always keep morale high. They are extremely commercial and focus on resolving a dispute in the most effective manner.


Standard Chartered: in respect of a number of investigations by UK authorities (Gul, New York District Attorney, New York DFS, US Federal Reserve and OFAC) into issues relating to AML issues and compliance with the US sanctions regime. Settlements were announced in August and December 2012, and August 2014.

RWE Aktiengesellschaft, a leading European utility group, in its successful defence of a US$1.4 billion damages claim, subject to LCIA arbitration, brought by the Russian Sibur Group. The claim arose out of RWE’s withdrawal from negotiations for a joint venture to buy control of one of Russia’s regional power generation companies, TGK-2.

A global financial institution in relation to a loan-rحداث by HNWC under co-operation agreements with the tax authorities of another EU member state.

Defending Krill Associates UK Limited in a major and long-running £300 million+ High Court claim brought by a Saudi real estate company and a Bahraini bank over Krill’s role in advising a client in the Middle East. The case went to trial in March 2015 and settled before the Claimants’ witnesses gave evidence.

Barco Santander Totta in successful litigation in the High Court and Court of Appeal relating to the validity of interest rate swaps entered into on SDA terms between the bank and Portuguese public sector companies. This case was the first case to be heard in the new Financial List in the High Court and the Court of Appeal decision is the leading judgement on the extent to which “mandatory” provisions of foreign law can be applied to English law governed contracts.

British American Tobacco in relation to an internal investigation into historical allegations of bribery and corruption in Africa.

Slaughter and May’s strength is without doubt the intelligence and depth of subject matter expertise of their lawyers.

Chambers UK, 2018, Financial Services: Contentious Regulatory

Equitous Assurance plc in respect of the multi-jurisdictional competition investigations into online hotel bookings carried out by national competition authorities and the European Commission.

Our lawyers are all outcome-oriented and deliver extraordinary service and results”

Legal 500, 2017, Commercial Litigation

BOOKING.COM in respect of the multi-jurisdictional competition investigations into online hotel bookings carried out by national competition authorities and the European Commission.

“Absolutely outstanding, from the beginning until the end of any complex case, performing at the highest possible level on all matters.”

Legal 500, 2017, Banking Litigation

Roll-Royce on investigations into allegations of bribery and corruption conducted by the UK SFO, the US DOJ and the Brazilian MPF and the resolution of those investigations by way of deferred prosecution agreements in the UK and US and a leniency agreement in Brazil. The UK deferred prosecution agreement was just the third (and by far the largest) such agreement and the first to be concluded concurrently with the resolution of non-UK investigations.

MTB Corporation’s Independent Board Committee on the Express Rail Link (ERL) Projects in Hong Kong regarding the investigation and reports into the reasons for the delay to the HK$5.3 billion project made public in April 2014.

British Airways in connection with the DOJ and European Commission investigations into an alleged air cargo cartel in respect of fuel surcharges, subsequent follow-on damages actions in the UK courts, and parallel regulatory investigations and follow-on litigation in other jurisdictions worldwide.

Olympus and one of its UK subsidiaries in its successful defence of a prosecution in the Crown Court for allegedly making false or misleading statements to the Auditors of the UK subsidiary. The proceedings were commenced after an investigation into a “tobashik” scheme used to hide investment losses over a number of years.

HTE delivery of a major oil and gas related arbitration involving allegations of fraud and breach of contract, with damages claimed in excess of US$5.5 billion.