

## MATTHEW COLLINGS KC

CALL: 1985 KC: 2006

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## OVERVIEW

Matthew will always fight for his clients. He is a seasoned trial and appellate advocate, seen appearing before the Supreme Court in the most recent landmark judgments in his field. Matthew's cases here and abroad, span company, insolvency, trust and commercial disputes. Amongst his current varied workload are two multi-million claims in the Commercial Court, but he brings the same dedication and attention to detail to every single instruction. Matthew has over 150 reported cases to his name.

## EXPERTISE

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### COMMERCIAL LITIGATION & ARBITRATION

Matthew's current caseload embraces three multi-million claims including two class actions: one arising from the failed eclipse film finance scheme; the other concerning property development and involving extensive interlocutory relief: **4VVV v Spence** [2022] EWCA Civ 500 and [2023] EWMCI (Comm)

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### CIVIL FRAUD

Matthew has conducted numerous high profile civil fraud cases, including two in the Supreme Court: **FHR v Mankarious** on constructive trusts, and **Patel v Mirza** on illegality - the most significant authority on civil fraud for decades, with a five person panel of justices. Matthew has recently secured a significant victory in the Court of Appeal in a £70m conspiracy claim **Maranello Rosso Ltd v Lohomij** EWCA CV 1667.

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## COMPANY & PARTNERSHIP

Matthew has long specialised in company law, and appeared in the Supreme Court in **Progress Property v Moore** on unlawful distributions. He has fought dozens of shareholder disputes, and he successfully defended the recent directors from a multi million claim for breach of fiduciary duty in **TMD v Yeo** [2021] EWMC 2033 CH.

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## INSOLVENCY & ASSET RECOVERY

Matthew has featured in most of the significant insolvencies during his career including appearing in the House of Lords in Arrows and Atlantic Computers. Recent high profile instructions include London Capital & Finance and Greensill Bank. A recent Court of Appeal appearance of Matthew's explored the assignment of insolvency claims to litigation funders: **Edengate** [2022] EWCA Civ 626

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## OFFSHORE & TRUSTS

Matthew's case **Denaxe v Cooper** [2022] 4 WLR 52 provides the Court of Appeal with its first opportunity to review the courts jurisdiction to bless transactions by trustees and others. In the high profile London Capital v Finance Insolvency, Matthew successfully removed security trustees: [2020 EWMC 597(ch).

Matthew regularly deploys his expertise in his specialist fields aboard, and has been called to the Bar in the BVI, Cayman and Bermuda. He has acted in many trials and appeals (up to the Privy Council), and has appeared in tribunals in jurisdictions as diverse as Milan and Reykjavik.

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## DIRECTORY QUOTES

*"Matthew has a practical, no-nonsense approach. He is an excellent advocate, as well as a skilled and subtle negotiator."*

**Chambers UK Company (2024)**

*"Very charming and an agreeable person to work with, he's very client friendly and helpful."*

**Chambers UK Company (2024)**

*"A very effective advocate."*

**Chambers UK Chancery: Commercial (2024)**

*"Matthew is very capable, with a practical, no-nonsense approach. Excellent advocacy, aligned with skilled and subtle negotiation skills."*

**Chambers UK Offshore (2024)**

*"He is a very fine and nimble-footed barrister."*

**Chambers UK Restructuring/Insolvency (2024)**

*"Matthew Collings is a very effective advocate."*

**Chambers UK Commercial Dispute Resolution (2024)**

*"In court he's very good at jumping in and hammering home points when he spots a weakness."*

**Chambers UK Commercial Dispute Resolution (2024)**

*"He comes up with points that others have never thought of. It takes a special kind of lawyer who can see winning points no one else has made."*

**Chambers UK Offshore (2023)**

*"Smooth and fearless in court, he's a man who's prepared to run difficult points."*

**Chambers UK Commercial Chancery (2023)**

*"Matthew is a very good advocate. He has the ear of the court and is a very learned chap. He's a real fighter and good on his feet."*

**Chambers UK Restructuring and Insolvency (2023)**

*Matthew is a very fine, nimble-footed advocate who is a tenacious operator. He is extremely clever and consistently finds ways out of tight corners."*

**Chambers UK Commercial Chancery (2023)**

*"Thorough and very committed to his clients."*

**Chambers UK Commercial Chancery (2023)**

*"Tenacious, knowledgeable and creative"*

**Chambers UK Company (2022)**

*"He has real knowledge and expertise in shareholder disputes and Companies Court work. He can find novel winning arguments where necessary."*

**Legal 500 UK Company (2022)**

*"He is vastly experienced, spots the big points before they've even been raised and is always two steps ahead. He is also superb with clients."*

**Chambers UK Restructuring/Insolvency (2022)**

*"One of the most tenacious and imaginative operators."*

**Legal 500 UK Insolvency (2022)**

*"Thorough and very committed to his clients."*

**Chambers UK Chancery: Commercial (2022)**

*"One of the most tenacious and imaginative operators at the Bar. A go-to for clients in a tight spot, as he has performed miracles."*

**Legal 500 UK Commercial Litigation (2022)**

*"Wonderful to work with."*

**Chambers UK Fraud: Civil (2022)**

*"Vastly experienced, he spots the big points before they have even been raised, and is always two steps ahead. He is superb with clients, and an obvious choice for legally complex fraud matters."*

**Chambers UK Commercial Dispute Resolution (2022)**

*"Experienced in knotty cross-border cases."*

**Chambers UK Offshore (2022)**

*"A solid performer in court who has been instructed in several reported cases. He is notably active on shareholder disputes."*

**Chambers UK Company (2020)**

*"He's really good at thinking outside the box and very good on his feet; he has the ear of the court."*

**Chambers UK Company (2020)**

*"He is a very good advocate."*

**Legal 500 UK Company (2020)**

*"He is exceptionally good at handling very complex insolvency matters." "A go-to barrister for difficult and challenging cases. He's massively experienced and is a very good advocate."*

**Chambers UK Restructuring/Insolvency (2020)**

*"Experienced in insolvency law."*

**Legal 500 UK Restructuring/Insolvency (2020)**

*"He has a very impressive reputation at the Bar. He's a go-to man for tricky appellate work and is a name known by everybody at the Commercial Chancery Bar. He's a magnanimous opponent."*

**Chambers UK Chancery: Commercial (2020)**

*"Highly recommended for commercial litigation."*

**Legal 500 UK Commercial Litigation (2020)**

*"A very fine and nimble-footed advocate." "A tenacious operator."*

**Chambers UK Fraud: Civil (2020)**

*"Matthew is a very fine and nimble-footed advocate. He's a tenacious operator."*

**Chambers UK Commercial Dispute Resolution (2020)**

*"Matthew is a very entertaining advocate. He is a very clever man who is not to be underestimated."*

**Chambers UK Offshore (2020)**

## **MEMBERSHIPS**

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- Chancery Bar Association
- COMBAR

- Commercial Fraud Lawyers Association
- Insolvency Lawyers Association
- INSOL International

## QUALIFICATIONS

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- LLB Hons (London)

## NOTABLE CASES

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- *TMO Renewables Ltd v Yeo* [2021]
- *VB Football Assets v (1) Blackpool Football Club (Properties) Ltd (Formerly Segesta Ltd) (2) Owen Oyston (3) Karl Oyston (4) Blackpool Football Club Ltd* (2019)
- *Prince Arthur Ikpechukwu Eze v Conway & Anor* (2019)
- *Deansgate 123 LLP v (1) Ian Garth Workman (2) Ian Grant Workman : Carol Ann Forrester (As Executrix Of The Estate Of Susan Margaret Workman) v (1) Ian Garth Workman (2) Ian Grant Workman* (2019)
- *VB Football Assets v Blackpool Football Club (Properties) Ltd (Formerly Segesta Ltd) & Ors* (2018)
- *Oyston v (1) Asker (2) SHCE Limited* (2018)
- *VB Football Assets v (1) Blackpool Football Club (Properties) Ltd (Formerly Segesta Ltd) (2) Owen Oyston (3) Karl Oyston (4) Blackpool Football Club Ltd* (2018)
- *Terry Simou v Michael Salliss & Ors* (2017)
- *Desmond Gunewardena v Conran Holdings Ltd* (2016)
- *Apex Global v FI Call* (2016)
- *Patel v Mirza* (2016)
- *FHR European Ventures LLP v Mankarious & Cedar Capital* (2016)
- *Apex Global v FI Call* (2015)
- *WH Smith Travel Holdings Ltd v Twentieth Century Fox Home Entertainment Ltd* (2014)
- *Ashwood Enterprises Ltd & Ors v The Governor & Company of Bank of Ireland & Ors* (2014)
- *FHR European Ventures LLP & Ors v Cedar Capital Partners LLC* (2014)
- *In the Matter of Pan Ocean Co Ltd v Pan Ocean Co Ltd & Ors* (2014)
- *Liquid Investments Ltd v Revenue & Customs Commissioners* (2014)
- *Michael Salliss v Stephen Hunt* (2014)
- *Ticketus LLP & Ors v Craig Whyte & Ors* (2013)
- *FHR European Ventures LLP v Ramsey Makarious* (2013)
- *In the Matter of Virtualpurple Professional Services Ltd* (2011)
- *Merchantbridge & Co Ltd & Safron Advisors Ltd v Safron General Partner 1 Ltd & 9 Ors* (2011)
- *Sunwing Vacation Inc & Ors v E-Clear (UK) Plc & Ors* (2011)
- *Sinclair Investments (UK) Ltd v Versaille Trade Finance Ltd (In Administration) & 5 Ors* (2011)
- *Tradegro (UK) Ltd & Wigmore Street Investments Ltd v Charles Price* (2011)
- *Kieran Looney v Trafigura Beheer BV* (2011)

- *Progress Property Co Ltd v Moorgrath Group Ltd (2010)*
- *David Emmanuel Merton Mond & Cleardebt Ltd v MBNA Europe Bank Ltd (2010)*
- *Tradegro (UK) Ltd v Charles Price (2010)*
- *Anna Vinton & 6 ORS v Fladgate Fielder (A Firm) (2010)*
- *SRM Global Master Fund LP v Treasury Commisioners (2009)*
- *Progress Property Co Ltd v Moorgarth Group Ltd (2009)*
- *Itsalat International Co Ltd v Allied TC Plc & Ors (2009)*
- *R (on the application of SRM Global Master Fund LP & Ors) v Treasury Commissioners (2009)*
- *Progress Property Co Ltd v Tradegro (UK) Ltd (2008)*
- *Progress Property Co Ltd v Cornus Moore (2008)*
- *The General Trading Company (Holdings) Ltd v Richmond Corporation Ltd (2008)*
- *IIG Capital LLC v Van der Merwe (2008)*
- *Mission Capital PLC v Sinclair (2008)*
- *Anna Vinton & Jennifer Green (as Executors of the Estate of Mary Dugan-Chapman v Revenue & Customs*
- *Van Der Merwe v IIG Capital LLC (2007)*
- *Ian Franses (Liquidator of Arab News Network Ltd) v Somar Al Assad (2007)*
- *Lomax Leisure Ltd (In Liquidation) v (1) Nicholas John Miller (2) Timothy James Bramston (2007)*
- *Eastaway v Secretary of State for Trade & Industry (2007)*
- *Sinclair Investment Holdings SA v Versailles Trade Finance Ltd (2007)*
- *Habib Bank Ltd v Ahmed (2004)*
- *Koziol v Davies (2004)*
- *Jemma Trust Co Ltd v Peter D'Arcy Liptrott, John Forrester, Kippax Beaumont Lewis (2003)*
- *R v Secretary of State for Trade & Industry & Ors*
- *Law Society v Naomi Southall (2001)*
- *Jonathan Guy Anthony Phillips & Ors v (1) Robin James Symes (2) Robin Symes Ltd (2001)*
- *Secretary of State for Trade & Industry v Vernon Davies & Ors (2001)*
- *CAS (Nominees) Ltd & Ors v Nottingham Forest FC PLC & 7 Ors (2001)*
- *The Law Society v KPMG Peat Marwick & Ors (2000)*
- *R v Legal Aid Area No.1 (London) Appeal Committee, Ex Parte McCormick (2000)*
- *British & Commonwealth Holdings PLC (In Administration) v Barclays De Zoete Wedd Ltd*
- *Re Astec (BSR) PLC & Re Companies Act 1985 (1998)*
- *Re Hamlet International PLC (1998)*
- *In re Galileo Group Ltd sub nom William Jason Hugh Elles v Hanbros Bank Ltd (1997)*
- *Re Atlantic Computers PLC sub nom Secretary of State for Trade & Industry v McCormick (1997)*
- *In re BCCI (No.9) (July 1993)*