



*Dispute  
Resolution  
Mediation*

## Dispute Resolution

*Whether dealing with a multi-national corporation or a private client, the dispute resolution department adopts a commercially realistic approach to bring each case to an efficient and practical conclusion.*

Independent researchers from The Legal 500 have described Simcocks as a "dynamic and young" practice and ranked it in the top tier of litigators in the Isle of Man. The team has established itself as one of the leading legal forces on the Island and staff are proud of its impressive reputation, client base and achievements.

The group specialises in international corporate and commercial litigation and has considerable expertise and experience in complex cross-jurisdiction disputes with particular emphasis upon trust related and shareholder disputes, emergency injunctive and discovery remedies, together with judicial review applications.

The team has developed specialist competencies to deal with human rights issues, personal injury claims, immigration, individual and corporate insolvency, asset tracing and recovery, white collar fraud together with financial services and compliance regulatory work.

In recent years the traditional approach to litigation has been complemented by fresh approaches and there are members of the team with training and experience in mediation, arbitration and collaborative law.

The department also enjoys the appointment, as with a small number of other practices, to a panel of approved advocates to be utilised by various arms of the Isle of Man Government.

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*Director*

**Chris Arrowsmith** is a director of Simcocks Advocates and a Commissioner for Oaths and Notary Public. He heads the dispute resolution department and steers the team to adopt a commercially realistic approach to every case. He fosters a "can do" philosophy and his energy and drive have helped the group attract some very high calibre recruits. Chris has been named as a leader in his field by the independent directory, Chambers UK and The Legal 500 has described him as "one of the best, if not the best on the Island, and a match for anyone at the London Bar."

Chris thrives on highly confrontational litigation particularly involving judicial review/public law challenges, cross-border disputes and advising those who are the target of, or affected by evidence gathering applications made by foreign states or regulatory bodies. His reputation generates many referrals and he is able to put together and lead teams who can deal with highly complex matters. Chris has a wide variety of clients both domestic and international. He acts for private individuals, multi-nationals, SMEs, regulators, and NGOs. Chris has been described as, "an excellent advocate – marked as the star of his generation," as well as being "punchy and on the ball" managing to be both an "aggressive litigator and defender" and "tremendously supportive" to his clients. Researchers have also said he is an "enthusiastic fighter who works hard and is full of ideas" and is "professional, discreet and reassuring."

[carrowsmith@simcocks.com](mailto:carrowsmith@simcocks.com)

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*Director*

**Kevin O'Riordan** is a director of Simcocks Advocates, and a practising English solicitor as well as an Isle of Man Advocate. He has also previously practised in the Cayman Islands as an Attorney. During his professional career he has gained a wide range of experience in contentious matters both on and offshore. Although his current main areas of practice are matrimonial/family and trust cases he is also often involved in handling other types of civil case, including complex commercial disputes. He is trained in mediation and collaborative law, enhancing his ability to mix tough litigation skills with effective negotiation outside the courtroom where appropriate.

His reputation is built on offering realistic and reliable solutions to people, often in emotionally charged situations and providing discreet and confidential legal and practical advice. His client base comes both from the Isle of Man and further afield, including high net worth individuals and those in the public eye. Where necessary he liaises with other specialists both within Simcocks Advocates and externally to offer advice covering other disciplines. Kevin has been named as a leader in his field by the independent directory, Chambers UK and has been recommended for his expertise by the Legal 500. He speaks French and some Spanish.

[koriordan@simcocks.com](mailto:koriordan@simcocks.com)

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# Meet The Team



*Associate*

**Robert Lindley** is an Advocate in the property, corporate and banking teams. He has particular responsibility for commercial property and property litigation, including advising on all aspects of planning and environmental law. He also advises corporate institutions on a wide range of company and commercial matters, including insolvency issues. As well as corporate and commercial experience, Robert has also handled a broad range of dispute resolution matters including court proceedings, arbitration and mediation hearings. Before joining Simcocks he worked for a number of years at Walker Morris, a leading law firm in Leeds in its Commercial Dispute Resolution department.

[rlindley@simcocks.com](mailto:rlindley@simcocks.com)

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*Associate*

**Caroline Murphy** is an Advocate who undertakes work in all areas of dispute resolution and specialises in family law. Caroline has expertise in a broad range of family law matters including child law, separation and divorce, financial provision, cohabitation, pre and post nuptial agreements. She is accustomed to dealing with financially complex and sensitive circumstances, often with a multi-jurisdictional element. Prior to joining Simcocks she worked as a solicitor in Edinburgh at Brodies and then with the firm now known as Sheehan Kelsey Oswald.

[cmurphy@simcocks.com](mailto:cmurphy@simcocks.com)

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*Associate*

**Jacqui Owens** was admitted as an English Solicitor in 1990. She acquired extensive international litigation and arbitration experience at leading London firms Lovells and Lawrence Graham, where she was partner until 2003. Jacqui was Chief General Counsel for a Lloyd's agency where she was responsible for the high value disputes arising from the reinsurance portfolios under management and for general litigation on behalf of the agency itself. Since joining Simcocks in 2007, she has assisted with commercial disputes, including a Petition of Doleance action.

[jowens@simcocks.com](mailto:jowens@simcocks.com)

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*Associate*

**Paul Rodgers** is an Advocate who has appeared in both the Manx civil and criminal courts as well as numerous contested tribunal hearings in the Isle of Man and England. His areas of practice include Corporate and Common Law Litigation, Employment Law, Public Law, and Social Security Law. Paul also has a MEng from Imperial College and spent three years working as a civil engineer at Ove Arup and Partners. Paul is fluent in Spanish.

[prodgers@simcocks.com](mailto:prodgers@simcocks.com)

*Associate*

**Peter Taylor** is an Advocate who joined Simcocks after a career in the shipping industry, latterly as a surveyor for the Isle of Man Ship Registry. He has considerable experience in surveying merchant ships, commercial yachts and fishing vessels and in drafting international and merchant shipping legislation. He has served as an engineer officer in the British Merchant Navy, as an officer in the Royal Naval Reserve and worked as a Hull and Machinery Surveyor for Lloyd's. Peter also has a degree in Mechanical Engineering and has been a Chartered Engineer since 1995. Peter is able to advise on most shipping and ship related matters and has specialised in pollution prevention regulations and the Limitation of Liability Convention. He has a very detailed knowledge of seafaring employment matters under the relevant Merchant Shipping Acts and can advise on all aspects of employment, contracts, incentives, workplace disputes, regulatory issues and proceedings. He is a panel Advocate for the seafarer union Nautilus. Peter also can advise on criminal matters, personal injury claims, engineering disputes and international arbitration.

[ptaylor@simcocks.com](mailto:ptaylor@simcocks.com)

*Associate*

**Winston Taylor** is an Advocate, Commissioner for Oaths and a non-practising English Barrister who enjoys a diverse common law practice. He has unparalleled immigration expertise and is able to offer advice on all aspects of the Island's immigration rules. He advises on work permits, including the Overseas Labour Scheme, visas and immigration appeals. He also specialises in planning, disputes relating to property and licensing. Prior to his call to the English Bar, Winston qualified and practiced as a radiographer and so brings with him a unique perspective in personal injury, medical negligence and related issues. Winston finds the above practice areas complement his criminal defence advocacy work.

[wtaylor@simcocks.com](mailto:wtaylor@simcocks.com)



*Legal Support*

**Simon Graley** is a former police officer with more than 30 years' experience with West Yorkshire Metropolitan Police and the Isle of Man Constabulary. Simon held a number of positions within the IOM force including Head of the Financial Crime Unit, Divisional Commander for Central and Douglas Divisions as well as time with the CID, the Fraud Squad and the Crime Management and Intelligence development. He held the rank of inspector with the IOM Constabulary before becoming Staff Officer to the Chief Constable.

[sgraley@simcocks.com](mailto:sgraley@simcocks.com)



*Legal Support*

**Gerry McKenna** has worked as a litigation executive in the private sector since 1992 during which time he has built a strong reputation in the management of complex commercial cases. He has unrivalled experience and expertise which assists the management of the Simcocks litigation portfolio and is generally the first point of contact with debt recovery enquiries. Prior to transferring to the private sector, Gerry was Clerk to the First Deemster (High Court Judge) in the Isle of Man Courts Division.

[gmckenna@simcocks.com](mailto:gmckenna@simcocks.com)

**Simcocks**

ADVOCATES

### Contact Isle of Man

Ridgeway House  
Ridgeway Street  
Douglas  
Isle of Man  
IM99 1PY  
Tel: +44 (0)1624 690300  
Fax: +44 (0)1624 690333

### Contact London

Central Court  
25 Southampton Buildings  
London  
England  
WC2A 1AL  
Tel: +44 (0)20 3043 4243  
Fax: +44 (0)20 3043 4247