

## Dispute Resolution, Insolvency & Restructuring

## Overview

For over three decades  ${f G}$   ${f O}$   ${f U}$   ${f G}$   ${f H}$  | advocates has delivered a comprehensive range of specialist solutions for a diverse range of individual and corporate clients around the world. Operating from offices in the Isle of Man, our natural tenacity and commercial focus has gained us a reputation as one of the leading offshore litigation practices.

Headed by Founder and Director Alan Gough, members of our team have worked on some of the world's largest corporate bankruptcy cases and have been instrumental in tracing and repatriating hundreds of millions of US Dollars of client funds.

Through a combination of high-level tactical recruitments and organic growth, we have evolved to become a leading boutique practice delivering the highest levels of service and specialist expertise.

## Areas of Expertise

As one of the Isle of Man's pre-eminent litigation practices, we have been involved in most of the major High Court litigation cases there have been in the Isle of Man over the past three decades.

Areas of litigation expertise include fraud and asset tracing, corporate and commercial disputes, banking and insurance disputes, wills and trusts, employment, professional negligence, judicial review, planning, environmental and real estate, personal bankruptcy and corporate insolvency and alternative dispute resolution.

With the globalisation of international business and the growing popularity of the Isle of Man as an established international financial

centre, our advocates and solicitors have developed particular expertise in the co-ordination of complex multi-jurisdictional litigation, including tracing actions, fraud recovery and injunctions.

### **High Court Litigation**

We have a very strong reputation in the field of High Court litigation, with our advocates regularly appearing in most of the major corporate, commercial and trust disputes before the Courts of the Isle of Man. Our advocates have also appeared at appellate levels (including the Privy Council) on a number of occasions.

We are regularly instructed by leading law firms in other jurisdictions as well as in-house counsel and foreign governments on a full range of contentious matters, including commercial and corporate disputes, professional negligence, banking and finance disputes, asset tracing, judicial review ("doleance" in Isle of Man law), planning, environmental and property disputes, personal bankruptcy and corporate insolvency, injunctions, enforcement proceedings and conflict of laws.

In addition, our advocates are experienced in the field of white collar crime defence work and the defence of company director disqualification proceedings.

#### Recent cases include:

- Acting for a major depositor challenging a liquidator's classification of claims in Habana Limited v Kaupthing Singer & Friedlander (Isle of Man) Limited.
- Acting for a petitioner in headline judicial review proceedings challenging planning refusal relating to the construction of a major residential development on the Isle of Man (Petition of JG Kelly)



## **Asset Tracing & Fraud Recovery**

We are the pre-eminent firm in the field of asset tracing and fraud recovery on the Isle of Man, having been instrumental in the recovery for clients in recent years of several hundred million dollars of misappropriated assets.

Alan Gough, one of the most senior advocates at the Manx Bar, was heavily involved in the celebrated Rossminster case, the extensive litigation which followed the collapse of Savings and Investment Bank and has acted in other high profile cases such as Barlow Clowes, Schmidt v Rosewood Trust and LaSala & Zeidman v Poyiadjis. He has acted as special counsel to the US bankruptcy court and has been advisor to departments of the governments of Pakistan, the UK and South Africa.

## Recent instructions include:

- Acting for Russian oil and gas conglomerate, Sibir Energy Plc (and associated entities) in Manx aspects of its high profile litigation with Gradison Consultants Inc.
- Acting upon a complex international tracing exercise arising out of a fraud in India, the proceeds of which were channelled through a complex series of vehicles and involved the co-ordination of proceedings in the Isle of Man, the British Virgin Islands, the Bahamas, Hong Kong and India.

#### **Insolvency & Restructuring**

Our insolvency and restructuring team has extensive multi-jurisdictional experience of all aspects of corporate insolvency and restructuring. Members of the team have handled the offshore aspects of various multi-billion US dollar restructurings, often involving extensive cross-border co-ordination.

The team has particular expertise in the area of distressed mutual funds with a level of experience unmatched in the jurisdiction.

The team also has experience of acting for trustees-in-bankruptcy in high profile, crossborder, bankruptcies.

Working closely with our Litigation Department, the team regularly becomes involved in high value and often high profile fraud and asset tracing cases and team members have acted for liquidators, receivers and other insolvency office holders in numerous jurisdictions for many years.

## Recent highlights include:

- Acting for the Government of the Isle of Man in proposing a Scheme of Arrangement in connection with the collapsed bank, Kaupthing Singer & Friedlander (Isle of Man) Limited
- Acting for a class of creditors in RAB Multi-Strategy Fund Plc
- Acting for the funds in Wimbledon Financing Master Fund Limited v Aarkad Plc & Heather Capital Limited
- Acting for the liquidator of Shepherds Select Fund Limited

#### **TAGLaw**

Established in 1998. TAGLaw is an international chain of 140 member firms based in nearly 100 countries totalling 7,500+



lawyers. As a member of TAGLaw, G O U G H | advocates are able to provide clients with prompt answers and advice on matters of law worldwide.

Recognised as one of the top three legal networks in the world, member firms are carefully screened to ensure adherence to the highest levels of professional and ethical standards; once admitted to the network, Member firms must also subscribe to TAGLaw's own code of conduct.

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