withersworldwide

Henry Farris

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Henry is a partner in the litigation and arbitration team.

He has a broad commercial litigation practice, working on complex disputes in the financial services, banking and corporate sectors, often with an international or multi-jurisdictional element.

He has particular expertise in (i) disputes arising out of the private equity and investment fund sectors; (ii) brokerage and capital markets disputes (iii) disputes relating to banking services and (iv) shareholder and company claims. He also has significant recent experience advising on disputes relating to cryptoassets and digital payment services.

Track record

Acting for company founder in dispute private equity investor

Represented a successful tech entrepreneur in a dispute with a large PE fund, relating to alleged breaches of warranties and claims under the Share Purchase Agreement.

Breach of warranty claim for Real Estate private equity fund

Defending a substantial High Court claim for a real estate private equity fund relating to alleged breach of warranties following the development and sale of luxury hotel in St Barthelemy.

Claims for misselling of financial products

Successfully acted for a high-profile family in their claim against a large private bank, which focussed on the historic misselling of investment products and giving misleading advice.

Disputes relating to carry, fees and General Partner rights

Acted for and advised multiple parties in contentious matters relating to the wind down of funds, key man exits, and disputes with shareholders and partners.

LCIA arbitration concerning placement fees for private equity fund

Acted for a substantial renewable energy infrastructure fund in a dispute with its placement agents. The dispute concerned the agents' entitlement to placement fees and follow-on fees for the investors in the fund.

Prime brokerage dispute

Acting for New York and Bermuda-based brokers in a substantial High Court claim against a large prime broker. The disputes related to the payment of introduction fees and margin calls on Biotech stocks during the pandemic.

Talks

• Shareholder Activism: Balancing Accountability and Effective Governance, Webinar, January 2022

External Publications

Significant decisions for the Private Equity sector in 2022, Lexology, December 2022.

The English Court's perspective on cryptoassets, and why it matters, Lexology, November 2022

Shareholder Activism: Balancing Accountability and Effective Governance, Lexology Article and Webinar, January 2022

On Whose Authority? - The perils of negotiating contractual variations, Lexology, November 2021

Justice delayed is justice denied – Court of Appeal orders retrial following a 19 month wait for judgment, Lexology, May 2021

Court of Appeal refuses to grant cross-undertakings for security for costs, Lexology, February 2021

Four significant decisions for the Private Equity industry in 2020, Lexology, January 2021

Admissions

Solicitor, England & Wales, 2009. (Solicitor Advocate, Higher Rights of Audience, 2014)

Education

University of Nottingham, History (BA Hons)

Languages

English

Key dates

Joined 2023

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