

Laura Crowley

Call 2005



Laura Crowley's practice includes conducting trials and applications, acting for and representing parties in mediations and carrying out a full range of advisory and drafting work.

She also regularly works on large cases, both in litigation and arbitration, as part of a team with solicitors, other counsel, clients and experts.

Laura has a general commercial practice with expertise in:

- Construction & Engineering
- Commercial Disputes
- Insurance
- Professional Negligence
- Shipping, Shipbuilding, Offshore Construction & Energy

Construction & Engineering

Laura is recommended as a leading junior for construction disputes in the Legal 500. She has experience in a wide range of construction litigation, arbitration and adjudication proceedings. Laura has been instructed by employers, contractors and sub-contractors in both domestic and international cases involving a variety of technical and legal issues. Her experience includes offshore construction disputes. She is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and has completed the MSc course in Construction Law and Dispute Resolution at King's College London.

Featured Construction & Engineering cases

Instructed as junior counsel for a Chinese contractor in relation to a multi-billion dollar FIDIC Red Book contract for infrastructure works for a Middle Eastern sovereign investment fund.

Instructed in relation to ICC arbitration proceedings arising out of the construction of a landmark building in Saudi Arabia.

Instructed as a junior counsel by a leading firm of geotechnical specialists in a dispute concerning the construction of a port.

Instructed as junior counsel for a construction company in proceedings relating to alleged breaches of an EPC contract relating to wellhead platforms.

Instructed as junior counsel by a professional services firm in relation to TCC proceedings arising out of allegedly defective flood modelling in respect of a large development site.

Instructed as junior counsel by the Treasury Solicitor in TCC proceedings arising out of defective motorway design and traffic modelling work.

Instructed as junior counsel for the employer in a dispute arising out of a drill for oil off the coast of Tunisia.

Instructed as junior counsel for a major utilities provider in adjudication proceedings relating to an ongoing commercial contract.

Instructed by a water authority in relation to proceedings against a contractor.

Instructed as junior counsel for a party in a series of high-value adjudications arising out of BSF projects.

Acting for a party in TCC proceedings brought against a contractor and architects arising out of the flood of a newly-refurbished property.

Acting for a sub-contractor in relation to a claim against a contractor arising out of building works undertaken at a London hospital.

Instructed as a junior counsel in the preparation of LCIA arbitration proceedings concerning the construction of one of the world's largest semi-submersible drilling rigs.

Instructed as junior counsel by a local authority in relation to TCC proceedings arising out of the construction of a spa.

Commercial Disputes

Laura has experience of a wide range of commercial disputes, including advising on and appearing in contractual and other commercial claims, appealing against arbitration awards and making applications for urgent injunctive relief. Clients have included banks and major insurance companies and brokers. Laura has been instructed in a number of substantial fraud claims in various sectors.

Featured Commercial Disputes cases

Instructed as junior counsel in proceedings arising out a joint venture agreement for the construction of a German property development and in related fraud proceedings.

Instructed as junior counsel for the Respondent ship broking company in a 7 day Court of Appeal hearing arising out of a multi-million pound fraud claim, involving significant legal issues concerning claims for dishonest assistance.

Instructed as junior counsel by a major insurance broker in a claim for losses arising out of fraudulent schemes

orchestrated by his employee (included applications for freezing and search orders).

Instructed by a high street bank in relation to disputes by arising out of sales of interest rate hedging products (including claims within the FCA scheme).

Instructed as junior counsel for a defendant to proceedings arising out of a fire at a well-known London restaurant.

Instructed as junior counsel for a large manufacturer in relation to a significant claim for losses arising out of the failure of a sprinkler system at a factory.

Instructed as junior counsel in relation to the successful appeal of six FOSFA arbitration awards arising from pursuant to ss.67 to 69 of the Arbitration Act 1996.

Instructed by a substantial IT systems and services provider in relation to a dispute with one of its contractors.

Instructed as junior counsel for a US cosmetics manufacturer and exporter in relation to proceedings against a distributor, involving issues concerning jurisdiction, termination and notice period.

Instructed as junior counsel for an insurance company in proceedings against an IT consultancy firm.

Advising an IT systems and service provider in relation to contractual issues arising from a supply agreement.

Acting for a company business support services in contractual disputes with a company delivering government-funded employment and skills services.

Instructed as a junior counsel in a high-value fraud claim arising out of the purchase of a scrap metal business.

Advising a supplier of accommodation and service vessels for the offshore industry in relation to contractual issues arising from negotiations governed by an exclusivity agreement.

Advising the Office of Rail Regulation in relation to track access options and agreements and the determination of appeals to the ORR brought by Network Rail and train operators pursuant to the Network Code.

Instructed by a meat importer in proceedings arising out of a contract with a Hungarian meat supplier.

Acting in a dispute governed by the CMR Convention.

Insurance

Laura has been involved in a wide range of insurance disputes and is regularly instructed by leading insurers in coverage and avoidance disputes. In addition to indemnity disputes, she has also been instructed in cases where the quantum of settlement is in dispute (including the quantification of business interruption losses). She also regularly acts for insurers in subrogated claims against third parties.

Featured Insurance cases

Advising in relation to Hong Kong arbitration proceedings concerning an insurance coverage dispute.

Advising in relation to coverage issues relating to a marine insurance policy.

Acting for an insurer in proceedings concerning breaches of the duty of utmost good faith in relation to an income protection policy.

Advising an insurer in relation to indemnity issues concerning a highway inspection agency's claim under a public liability policy.

Acting for an insurer in arbitration proceedings concerning the quantum of a business interruption claim consequent on property damage caused by flooding.

Advising an insurer on issues relating to the scope of notification under a product liability policy.

Acting regularly in property insurance cases: in particular, tree root and other subsidence claims; flood damage; storm damage; fire damage.

Professional Negligence

Laura acts on a regular basis in professional negligence claims involving construction professionals, such as architects, project managers, surveyors and engineers of various disciplines, in claims involving allegations such as negligent design, advice in relation to contract formation, certification and project management.

Laura has also experience of a wide range of cases involving allegations of negligence against other professionals, including insurance brokers, solicitors, barristers, accountants and estate agents.

Featured Professional Negligence cases

Instructed as a junior counsel by a leading firm of geotechnical specialists in a dispute concerning the construction of a port.

Instructed as junior counsel by a professional services firm in relation to TCC proceedings arising out of allegedly defective flood modelling in respect of a sizeable development site.

Instructed as junior counsel by the Treasury Solicitor in TCC proceedings arising out of defective motorway design and traffic modelling work.

Acting for architects in various proceedings arising out of certification of building works.

Acting in various proceedings against surveyors for alleged negligent property valuations.

Advising a party wall surveyor in proceedings against him.

Instructed in TCC proceedings against a firm of private building inspectors.

Acting for a firm of engineers in a claim relating to foundation design.

Acting for a firm of engineers in proceedings relating to paving design for a local authority.

Instructed by an Austrian bank in Commercial Court proceedings arising out of negligence on the part of its insurance brokers.

Instructed by a firm of auditors in relation to arbitration proceedings brought against them in Singapore.

Instructed by an accountancy firm in relation to proceedings brought against them arising out of tax advice given to a client.

Instructed in relation to a number of claims brought against various firms of solicitors arising out of their handling of miners' VWF compensation claims.

Acting for solicitors in proceedings against them for negligence and breach of fiduciary duty in the payment of settlement monies.

Acting in proceedings for solicitors in claims arising from conveyancing advice.

Advising solicitors in relation to potential proceedings against a barrister arising out of settlement of a dispute at court.

Acting for a firm of estate agents in proceedings relating to alleged negligence in property letting.

Acting for a firm of insurance brokers in proceedings against them.

Shipping, Shipbuilding, Offshore Construction & Energy

Shipping is a growing area of Laura's practice and she has been instructed in a number of charterparty and bill of lading disputes.

Laura has acted in offshore construction disputes and her wide experience of construction disputes means that she is familiar with claims relating to variations, defects, delay and termination issues and has considerable experience in dealing with technical evidence.

Featured Shipping, Shipbuilding, Offshore Construction & Energy cases

Advising charterers in relation to a claim brought by shipowners for an indemnity in respect of a cargo shortage claim.

Instructed in relation to arbitration proceedings arising out of the breach of a safe port /berth warranty in a time charter.

Instructed by charterers in relation to arbitration proceedings relating to a claim for damages for breach of a time charter, involving issues concerning excluded cargo.

Instructed by owners in relation to arbitration proceedings against charterers in relation to unpaid hire and other expenses in relation to the time charter of a multi-purpose DP2 supply vessel.

Instructed as junior counsel for the employer in a dispute arising out of a drill for oil off the coast of Tunisia.

Instructed as junior counsel for a construction company in proceedings relating to alleged breaches of an EPC contract relating to wellhead platforms.

Instructed as a junior counsel in the preparation of LCIA arbitration proceedings concerning the construction of one of

the world's largest semi-submersible drilling rigs.

Assisted in drafting proceedings brought by the owners of a semi-submersible drilling rig against tug owners for loss of the rig and associated wreck removal expenses.

Assisted in advising about the implications of various contractual provisions in a bareboat charter for a barge and power generation facility.

Appointments

- TECBAR accredited adjudicator

Publications

- Contributor of updates to LexisNexis online Adjudication KnowHow.

Memberships

- FCI Arb

Education

- MA (Cantab) History
- MSc (London) Construction Law
- Dip Law (City)

Languages

- French (working knowledge)

Recommendations

Laura is recommended as a leading junior in the legal directories where she is praised as being:

- Hardworking with a good legal brain.
- Diligent and concise, and works well with leading counsel.
- Recommended for her impressive knowledge of construction law.
- Extremely hardworking, and completely reliable, always producing quality documents and advice on time.