



Complex Disputes

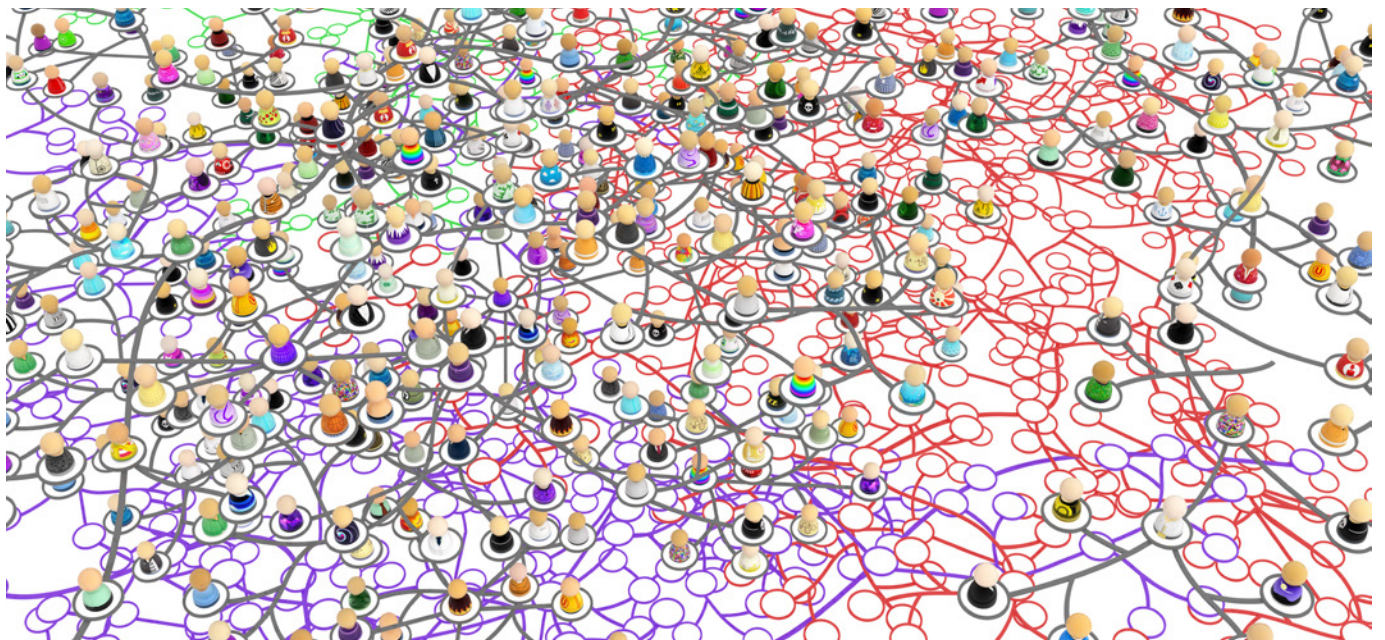
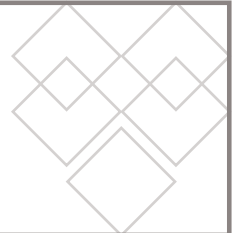
2022



PROFILED:

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Complex Disputes



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PERSONAL BIOGRAPHY

Chloe Steele represents international and domestic, corporate and individual clients in a variety of complex commercial disputes. She handles a wide range of proceedings, often with an international dimension, in the High Court, Court of Appeal, Supreme Court, county courts, tribunals and London Court of International Arbitration. Ms Steele provides tailored advice on an array of high-stakes issues, including at the pre-action stage and in alternative dispute resolution.

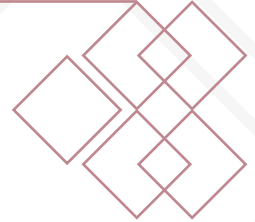
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Q&A WITH CHLOE STEELE

**In what ways do you endeavour to support the career development of your colleagues rising through the ranks?**

◆ I started at McGuireWoods straight after law school, as a trainee solicitor. Having had some fantastic mentors myself over the years, I have always been keen to pay that forward. I am fortunate to work at a firm that offers incredible opportunities to colleagues at all levels – everyone’s voice is heard. Being a lawyer comes with a multitude of responsibilities and expectations, which makes it all the more important to benefit from the experience of others. I have enjoyed both formal and informal roles in supporting my colleagues’ career development – as a direct supervisor, a buddy for new joiners, an informal mentor, and through our Women Lawyers Network in particular – and endeavour to focus on building confidence and expanding experience by facilitating and supporting team members in identifying and taking opportunities. Dedicating time to teammates’ progression is really important and rewarding.

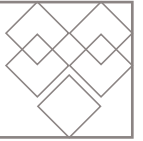
Are you active in any programmes or initiatives within your organisation? To what extent have you found this work rewarding and fulfilling?

◆ We have a number of professional development, diversity and affinity networks. One example is ‘McGuireWoods ACT’, which is the junior lawyers’ professional development group in our London office. I helped develop the strategy and intention behind the group and am very proud of what we have achieved. Externally, the initiative seeks to provide opportunities for members of the wider business community to build relationships with peer-level contacts from a variety of industries and specialisms, including by hosting interactive events. Seeing those connections develop is extremely rewarding. Internally, it builds on everything I have said about teamwork

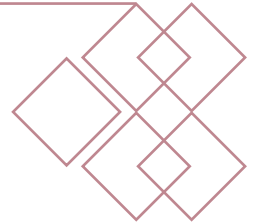


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and actively contributing to colleagues' development. Staying well-connected and making an effort to understand one another are unbeatable in strengthening team relationships and maintaining morale. It encourages people to venture outside their comfort zones, offer opinions and develop ideas together to further professional growth, which also supports us in offering the best service to clients.



What strengths and characteristics do you, your team and your firm strive to demonstrate to clients?

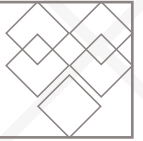
◆ Many of our strengths and characteristics are a given. Clients need and expect to receive from us sound and quality advice, drawing on strong technical legal ability and commercial awareness. As an international dispute resolution team, we are always keen to demonstrate our proficiency in handling complex, often multijurisdictional, commercial disputes, whether there is litigation or arbitration afoot or a formal dispute can be avoided in the early stages. We do that best by combining it with innovative solutions and commercially-minded strategy. The lawyer/client relationship is one of trust so we certainly strive to be dependable and valued advisers; a first port of call in resolving a whole range of issues. It is rewarding and effective when we operate essentially as part of our client's team. Our firm has six core values: excellence, client service, integrity, collegiality, diversity & inclusion and community. They permeate through everything we do. ■

“STAYING WELL-CONNECTED AND MAKING AN EFFORT TO UNDERSTAND ONE ANOTHER ARE UNBEATABLE IN STRENGTHENING TEAM RELATIONSHIPS AND MAINTAINING MORALE.”



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REPRESENTATIVE ENGAGEMENTS

- ◆ Advising an oil & gas industry client in its handling of a counterparty's termination of a major offshore project.
- ◆ Representing a multinational organisation in relation to the defence of alleged follow-on damages claims.
- ◆ Representing claimants in a multibillion-pound Commercial Court claim and appeal proceedings, involving important issues regarding the interplay between alleged fraud and settlement agreements.
- ◆ Representing property and hotelier clients in swaps mis-selling claims against major banks, involving issues of misrepresentation, breach of contract, breach of duty and matters relating to LIBOR.
- ◆ Representing an individual client in proceedings relating to worldwide freezing orders.
- ◆ Representing a claimant in its multimillion-pound commission claim in the Commercial Court, in relation to the disposal of an oil licence, dealing with issues regarding implied terms and agreements.

