

# John Wright

# Chartered Arbitrator, Accredited Mediator, Adjudicator



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**DATE OF BIRTH** 2nd May 1952

**EDUCATION** Hereford Cathedral School (1963 - 1970)

St John's College, Cambridge (1970 - 1973)

BA 1973 MA 1977

PRESENT POSITION Principal, John Wright ADR

Member and Director, ArbDB Chambers

#### **PROFESSIONAL CAREER**

1976 - 1979	Solicitor - Coward Chance (now Clifford Chance LLP)
1979 - 1983	Solicitor - McKenna & Co (now CMS Cameron McKenna)
1984 - 1998	Partner and Head of Construction Department – Warner Cranston (now Reed Smith LLP)
1999 - 2003	Partner - Berwin Leighton Paisner
2003 - 2011	Partner - Lane & Partners LLP (now Bird & Bird LLP)
2011 – 2016	Partner - Goodman Derrick LLP
2016 – 2018	Consultant, Goodman Derrick LLP

# **QUALIFICATIONS**

1976	Solicitor of the Supreme Court of England and Wales
1991	Fellow - Chartered Institute of Arbitrators
1995	Mediator accredited by Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution
1996	Adjudicator accredited by Technology & Construction Solicitors' Association (TeCSA)
2009	Appointed to FIDIC President's List of Approved Dispute Adjudicators
2009	Fellow – Dispute Board Federation (DBF)
2016	Fellow – Malaysian Society of Adjudicators
2017	Chartered Arbitrator

# **PANEL MEMBERSHIPS**

- FIDIC President's List of Approved Dispute Adjudicators
- RICS Register of Dispute Board Members
- Panel of Arbitrators, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators
- Panel of Arbitrators, Dubai International Arbitration Centre
- Panel of Arbitrators, Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre
- Panel of Arbitrators, Asian International Arbitration Centre
- Panel of Arbitrators, Georgian International Arbitration Centre
- Panel of Arbitrators, Pacific International Arbitration Centre (Vietnam)
- Panel of Arbitrators, Thailand Arbitration Centre
- Panel of Arbitrators, RICS Select Construction and Engineering Arbitration Service
- Panel of Arbitrators, RICS Fast Track Construction and Engineering Arbitration Service
- Panel of Arbitrators, CIArb Dispute Appointment Property Service
- Panel of Arbitrators, CIArb Business Arbitration Scheme
- Panel of Arbitrators, CEDR Solve
- Panel of Arbitrators, the Law Society
- Transport for London Conflict Avoidance Panel
- Panel of Adjudicators, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators

#### **ArbDB Chambers**

- Panel of Adjudicators, Asian International Arbitration Centre
- Panel of Adjudicators, Technology and Construction Solicitors' Association
- Panel of Adjudicators, Royal Institute of British Architects
- Panel of Construction Adjudicators, CEDR Solve
- Panel of Mediators, the Mediation Centre, Dubai
- Specialist Panel of Arbitrators and Mediators, ADR Chambers
- Resolex Panel of Construction Mediators

#### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND POSITIONS HELD

- Board of Trustees of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (2009-2014, Chair 2011-2013)
- Co-Chair International Construction Projects Committee of the International Bar Association (2012-2013)
- Chair of interview panel for RICS Adjudication Panel Assessments (2005-2006)
- Chair of tribunal for RICS Adjudication Panel Appeals (2006)
- Member Arbitration Club
- Member Adjudication Society
- Member Society of Construction Law
- Member Society of Construction Arbitrators
- Member Dispute Resolution Board Foundation

#### **RECOGNITIONS**

- Recognised for many years in Chambers' Directory and the Legal 500 as a leading construction lawyer
- Included in Who's Who Legal Directory from 2007 onwards as one of the world's leading construction lawyers
- Included in Who's Who Legal Directory 2018 as one of the world's leading mediators

#### **EXPERIENCE AS THIRD PARTY NEUTRAL**

Is currently sitting, or has sat, as Arbitrator, Dispute Board Member, Adjudicator or Mediator in the following matters:

# Arbitration

- Chair of an ad hoc international arbitral tribunal in connection with a 40m Dirhams dispute between a Middle East developer and a consultant concerning a number of connected infrastructure projects (settled 2016)
- Chair of an international arbitral tribunal in connection with a 35m Dirhams dispute between an M&E sub-contractor and a main contractor regarding a residential development in the Middle East under DIAC rules (award rendered in 2016)

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- Chair of an international arbitral tribunal in connection with a 200m Dirhams dispute between a sub-contractor and main contractor regarding a large commercial/retail development in the Middle East under DIAC Rules (award rendered in 2016)
- Chair of an ad hoc international arbitral tribunal dealing with a US\$10m dispute arising from the termination of a contractor's employment under a FIDIC Yellow Book contract for a power plant project in Asia (settled in 2011)
- Sole arbitrator in a US\$150m dispute arising from the construction of a container port facility in the Far East under UNCITRAL Rules (settled in 2018 after a 3 week hearing)
- Sole arbitrator on a £2.5m dispute regarding an energy supply agreement (settled in 2017)
- Sole arbitrator on a £5m dispute regarding refurbishment works to a substantial private residence in London (settled in 2018)
- Sole arbitrator on two interrelated disputes (value £1m) between and landlord and tenant regarding energy supply agreements (settled in 2018)
- Sole arbitrator on a dispute regarding commissions paid on a large development in the UK (ongoing)
- Party appointed arbitrator in a €3m dispute under LCIA Rules regarding a solar energy plant in Eastern Europe (award rendered in 2018)
- Sole arbitrator in a £100k dispute between a house owner and a building contractor regarding defects in a new residence (award rendered in 2018)
- Sole arbitrator in a dispute regarding subsidence under a row of terraced houses in the north of England (award rendered in 2015)
- Sole arbitrator in a dispute regarding mining subsidence to a housing estate (award rendered in 2017)
- Sole arbitrator in seven disputes regarding valuation of properties affected by mining subsidence (four awards rendered in 2015-2018, one withdrawn and two, claim values £500K and £250K, ongoing)
- Various appointments as arbitrator under the ABTA arbitration scheme on travel disputes
- Various appointments as arbitrator under the Renewable Energy Consumer Code
- Member of a three person arbitral tribunal in a dispute between a bank and customer relating to trading agreements in the Middle East under LCIA Rules (awards rendered in 2006)
- Member of a three person arbitral tribunal in a dispute between an employer and pipework contractor in connection with a flagship project in Switzerland under ICC Rules (settled in 2006)

# **Dispute Board Member**

- Standing Dispute Board member on a US\$600m port project in Central America (ongoing)
- Standing Dispute Board member on a flagship nuclear research facility in Europe (ongoing)
- Sole Standing Dispute Board member on three road/bridge projects in Eastern Europe under the FIDIC MDB Contract (ongoing)
- Dispute Board member on a major transport infrastructure project in the EMEA region involving disputes of US\$75m+(ongoing)
- Standing Dispute Board member on a major Netherlands offshore wind farm project (ongoing)
- Sole Standing Dispute Board member on a road construction/rehabilitation project in Africa under the FIDIC Red Book (ongoing)
- Sole Dispute Board member on a dispute regarding the construction of a shopping centre in Central Europe (ongoing)
- Dispute Board member in connection with disputes arising from a major infrastructure project in Africa under the FIDIC Yellow Book (two appointments)
- Dispute Board member in connection with disputes arising from a major infrastructure project in Africa under the FIDIC Red Book
- Standing Dispute Board member on a road construction/rehabilitation project in Southern Africa under the FIDIC Red Book
- Sole Standing Dispute Board member on a road construction/rehabilitation project in West Africa under the FIDIC Red Book
- Sole Dispute Board member on disputes arising from an infrastructure project in Continental Europe under the FIDIC Red Book
- Sole Dispute Board member on disputes concerning a major road project in Central Europe under the FIDIC Yellow Book (three appointments)
- Sole Dispute Board member on a road project in Central Europe under the FIDIC Red Book
- Sole Dispute Board member in connection with disputes arising from an energy project in the UK under the FIDIC Silver Book

# Adjudicator

- Adjudicator in a dispute between a Sub-Contractor and Main Contractor regarding payment issues on a pharmaceutical plant
- Adjudicator in a dispute regarding a concrete sub-contract in an office block development
- Adjudicator in disputes between Employer and Main Contractor relating to the refurbishment of a major shopping centre (three appointments)
- Adjudicator in a sub-contract dispute in a civil engineering project
- Adjudicator in disputes between Employer and Contractor regarding an industrial plant in Africa (two appointments)
- Adjudicator in an M&E sub-contract dispute in a large industrial development
- Adjudicator in a dispute between consultant and local authority employer relating to a large redevelopment project
- Adjudicator in disputes between a Consultant/Contractor and Employer relating to mobile telephone masts (two appointments)
- Adjudicator in a dispute between Consultant and Employer relating to a substantial engineering project
- Adjudicator in a dispute between Employer and Main Contractor regarding civil engineering works at a waste to energy plant (two appointments)
- Adjudicator in a dispute between a Contractor and a bank relating to defects in heating/air conditioning equipment
- Adjudicator in a £3m dispute between a Contractor and Employer relating to the construction of a gas storage facility
- Adjudicator in a dispute between a Developer and a Contractor regarding piling works
- Adjudicator in disputes between a university and a PPP Contractor regarding FM issues arising under the project agreement (three appointments)
- Adjudicator in a dispute regarding payment issues between Main Contractor and a Sub-Contractor on a groundworks contract
- Adjudicator in a £3m dispute between the Employer and EPC Contractor relating to defects in a mechanical and biological treatment plant
- Adjudicator in a dispute arising from the construction of a £100m mechanical and biological treatment plant in England (two appointments)

- Adjudicator in disputes between the Employer and Main Contractor regarding the construction of a biogas facility (three appointments, amounts claimed £3.5m)
- Adjudicator in a £10m dispute between the Employer and the Main Contractor regarding the construction of a substantial office development in central London (decision rendered in 2016)
- Adjudicator in a £7m dispute regarding the construction of an energy from waste plant (decision rendered in 2016)
- Adjudicator on a £750K dispute between a Sub-Contractor and a Main Contractor regarding glazing works (decision rendered in 2016)
- Adjudicator in a US\$6m dispute between a Sub-Contractor and Main Contractor regarding a pipeline project in the Far East (five appointments decisions rendered in 2017)
- Adjudicator in a £1m dispute between a Main Contractor and Sub-Contractor regarding works to a paint process facility (decision rendered in 2016)
- Adjudicator in a dispute regarding fees payable for professional services rendered on a substantial UK construction project (decision rendered in 2017)
- Adjudicator in a £4m dispute between a Sub-Contractor and Main Contractor concerning a £3bn residential/retail development in London (decision rendered in 2017)
- Adjudicator in a £200k dispute regarding works carried out at a leisure facility in the UK (decision rendered in 2017)
- Adjudicator in a £100k dispute regarding design work carried out for a prospective development in London (decision rendered in 2017)
- Adjudicator on five disputes totalling £8m relating to works on a long term PFI road maintenance project in the UK (five decisions rendered in 2018)
- Adjudicator on £600K dispute regarding works to a substantial housing development in London (decision rendered in 2018)
- Adjudicator on £1.7m dispute relating to a flagship mixed housing/retail/leisure development in the UK (decision rendered in 2018)
- Adjudicator on a £750K dispute regarding delays and additional cost incurred in a building contract at an educational establishment (settled in 2018)
- Adjudicator on a £400k dispute regarding the Final Certificate on a hotel refurbishment project (decision rendered in 2019)
- Adjudicator on a £36m dispute between an Employer and a Contractor regarding time and cost issues arising from a major infrastructure project in Central London (settled in 2019)
- Adjudicator on four connected disputes for £1m regarding the construction of solar plants in the

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UK under the FIDIC Silver Book (ongoing)

- On Panel Of Adjudicators for £100m sports and entertainment complex in the UK (ongoing)
- On Panel of Adjudicators for £750m 25 year waste management PFI contract (ongoing)
- On Panel of Adjudicators for £300m offshore wind farm project (ongoing)

#### Mediator

- Mediator in a dispute between architects and employers under the FIDIC Client/Consultant Model Services Agreement regarding a hotel project in Africa
- Mediator in a €100m dispute between an employer and contractor arising from a FIDIC Client/Consultant Model Services Agreement for the construction of a mining facility in the Middle East
- Mediator in a £2m dispute between an employer and consulting engineer regarding defects in an industrial facility in the UK
- Mediator in two disputes (\$5m and \$15m respectively) between a main contractor and a design consultant arising out of a major infrastructure project in the Middle East
- Mediator in a high profile £15m dispute between a local authority and project managers in relation to disputes arising from the construction of an arts centre
- Mediator on an insurance coverage case following a fire in a block of flats in Central London
- Mediator in a dispute between sub-contractors relating to a major transport infrastructure project in Central London
- Mediator in a dispute between developer and contractor relating to a housing development
- Mediator in a multi-party dispute relating to alleged defects in an office development
- Mediator in a dispute between a firm of quantity surveyors and a former employee
- Mediator in a multi-party dispute relating to water ingress in an office development
- Mediator in a multi-party dispute regarding a flood at a university
- Mediator in a multi-party dispute relating to damage to seawall defences
- Mediator in a dispute between developer and tenant regarding additional costs incurred in a very substantial office development

- Mediator in a dispute between employer and contractor following the destruction by fire of a school
- Mediator in a dispute relating to construction defects in a school building
- Mediator in a multi-party dispute between employer, contractor, architect, services engineer and project manager relating to the construction of a large private residence
- Mediator in a dispute between a local authority and a waste management contractor relating to a landfill facility
- Mediator in a dispute between tenant and landlord of commercial premises relating to defects in heating/air conditioning equipment
- Mediator in a dispute between a housing association, contractor and architect relating to a housing development
- Mediator in a dispute between a housing association and architects relating to planning aspects of a substantial residential development
- Mediator in a dispute between a government department and engineers regarding a survey of contaminated land
- Mediator in a dispute between a developer and engineers relating to defects in a residential development
- Mediator in a dispute between a developer and a main contractor regarding defects and delay/expense claims arising from a mixed commercial/residential development
- Mediator in a dispute between a house owner and an insurance company relating to coverage issues following an escape of water
- Mediator in a dispute between contractor and employer regarding valuation of the Final Account
- Mediator in a substantial dispute between a contractor and a local authority relating to valuation of works and defects
- Mediator in a £600,000 dispute between a contractor and owners regarding the final account for refurbishment works to a large London private residence
- Mediator in a £500,000 dispute between a civils sub-contractor and building suppliers regarding alleged defective paving for a major London transport interchange

#### **EXPERIENCE AS COUNSEL**

Has acted as legal representative in numerous disputes for employers, contractors, sub-contractors, construction professionals, buyers and sellers, including the following:-

#### **POWER & UTILITIES**

- Advice to a German company on an EPC contract for the provision of a waste to energy facility in Kent, England; handling extensive disputes with major package contractors regarding quality and performance issues
- Advice relating to performance issues arising from a contract for the provision of a coal washing facility in South Wales
- Handling the contract negotiation and subsequent ICC arbitration proceedings relating to the provision of a tunnel boring machine for a mineral mine in Sardinia
- Advice regarding the contractual arrangements with a major supplier to a power generation company
- Advice on contractual issues arising from remediation works following construction of the Thames Barrier
- Dealing with contractual disputes arising out of the provision of an effluent treatment plant in Northern England
- Acting for the contractor in connection with disputes and later arbitration proceedings arising from the construction of power plants in the Middle East

# **MARINE**

- Representing a major sub-contractor in an ICC arbitration with the EPC contractor concerning the construction of an LNG terminal in South America
- Advising on several disputes relating to the provision of oil field services to North Sea platforms including equipment failure and contractual issues
- Acting for a sub-contractor in disputes with the EPC contractor relating to the construction of an LNG terminal in Wales
- Advice regarding contractual disputes arising from a fire and consequent production issues on a North Sea platform
- Advising a major international drilling corporation on issues arising from the construction of a semi-submersible drilling rig in the Middle East
- Handling several contractual claims, including arbitration and High Court proceedings, arising from the provision of heavy plant and machinery in the marine, propulsion technology and defence aerospace fields
- Initial advice to a US marine contracting corporation on potential arbitration proceedings in connection with a contract for the provision of floating accommodation to a project in Central Europe

#### TRANSPORT AND ROADS

Representing the Employer in an ICC Arbitration relating to claims by the Contractor on a road project in Poland

- Advice relating to the provision of engineering services for the Jubilee and Northern Lines upgrade project
- Carrying out a detailed review of the legal basis for removal of vehicles and loads from the strategic road network
- Review of the contractual provisions for the proposed A303 Stonehenge Tunnel project
- Representing the contractor in arbitration proceedings arising from the construction of a motorway in the South of England
- Dealing with disputes arising from the construction of a substantial transport interchange in the North of England

#### **PROCESS PLANTS**

- Advising on a DBO contract for the provision of a paint production facility in Saudi Arabia
- Conducting an ICC arbitration against a UK Design and Build contractor arising from the provision of a fertiliser plant in Latin America
- Representing the contractor in ICC arbitration proceedings arising from the construction of a cement factory in Nigeria
- Acting on behalf of turnkey contractors in substantial disputes relating to a block producing facility in the UK
- Representing the owner of a mineral and process handling plant in disputes with the turnkey contractor, including an arbitration on preliminary issues, involving issues of delay and defective design/workmanship
- Acting for an EPC contractor in disputes with the employer regarding the construction of a polyethylene plant

# **RETAIL**

- Handling litigation and adjudications on behalf of an employer arising from performance and quality issues on a contract for the refurbishment of a shopping centre near Birmingham, England
- Advice to a main contractor relating to cost overruns on the construction of a shopping centre in North London
- Contractual advice for a major package contractor regarding the construction of shopping centres in Glasgow, Scotland and Birmingham
- Dealing with litigation regarding a contract for the provision of fire protection at a shopping centre in Glasgow, Scotland

#### **HOSPITALS/MEDICAL**

- Dealing on behalf of a US corporation with the negotiation of contracts with the UK supplier for the design, manufacture and supply of equipment for hyperbaric chambers
- Acting for architects in disputes concerning the design of a hospital in Northern England
- Acting for a sub-contractor in a dispute with the main contractor under a PFI contract for the refurbishment of a central London hospital

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Representing the main contractor in disputes with an NHS trust regarding a PFI contract for the extension of a hospital in South East England

#### **DEFENCE PROJECTS**

Representation over a period in excess of 5 years on behalf of a US corporation in three large ad hoc arbitrations with the UK Government relating to the design, procurement, supply and installation of simulation equipment to be used for military training purposes.

# **COMMERCIAL/HOTELS**

- Representing sub-contractor in claims in arbitration against main contractor arising from the construction of a prison in the UK
- Representing main contractors in claims against a worldwide hotel operator arising from the refurbishment of a hotel in London
- Acting for a hotel operator in a dispute with the main contractor regarding the construction of a hotel in central London
- Handling a number of disputes for a sub-contractor relating to commercial buildings in the UK, mainly regarding quality and performance issues, including both adjudication and arbitration proceedings
- Representing an Irish contractor in a dispute with a main contractor regarding the construction of an office block on the Isle of Man
- Representing the owner of a large storage facility in multi party arbitration proceedings against the contractor and professional team relating to defects in the facility
- Representing a local authority in disputes with the contractor and the architect on a project for the refurbishment of a leisure centre
- Acting for contractors in a number of matters relating to commercial and residential developments, including disputes with developers and sub-contractors
- Representing developers in a dispute with sellers of land regarding overage payments
- Acting for property developers in disputes with sellers of land relating to work undertaken by statutory undertakers
- Representing developers in connection with arbitration proceedings against sellers regarding the terms of the Development Agreement

# **GENERAL**

- Acting for buyers and sellers of commodities (e.g. sugar, grain, metals) in several arbitrations arising from defects in quality and/or late delivery
- Representing property and adjoining owners in matters relating to the Party Wall Act and regarding rights of light issues

# **LECTURES AND PAPERS DELIVERED**

- Has delivered many conference papers on construction and arbitration topics, particularly regarding Dispute Boards, dispute avoidance and resolution
- > Has lectured extensively on the FIDIC forms of contract
- Currently Course Director for Dispute Board training with the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

- Mediation and Dispute Boards Institution of Civil Engineers Journal, 2009
- Introduction to new CIArb Guidelines Arbitration, May 2010
- How to choose a Mediator CIArb Resolver, November 2010
- Statutory Adjudication in the UK: Past, Present and Future Netherlands Mediation and Conflict Management Journal, December 2012
- Recent Developments in United Kingdom Adjudication: A Focus on Natural Justice Newsletter of the Malaysian Society of Adjudicators, Volume 1, issue 1, January-June 2014

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