

## Michael Lok

BCL (Oxon), Distinction, St John's College  
LLB (LSE), First Class Honours, Top of Year  
Island School, Hong Kong  
Bar Scholarship  
Charles Ching Memorial Scholarship

---

Tel: +852 9619 8905

**Email Address:**

michael.lok@dvc.hk

**Year Of Call:**

2014 (Hong Kong)

Astana International Financial Centre Court (rights of audience)

**Practice Areas:** Administrative and Public Law, Arbitration, Mediation, Chancery, Commercial Law, Company Law and Insolvency, Competition Law, Employment and Anti-Discrimination, Land & Planning Law, Securities Law,



Michael Lok's practice spans all areas of commercial litigation and arbitration as well as public and administrative proceedings.

On the commercial front, Michael particularly focuses on bankruptcy, company and insolvency, regularly acting for financial and banking institutions, listed companies and professional clients.

In the public sphere, Michael has advised/appeared for a number of public bodies and government departments, in judicial review and related proceedings as well as death inquests before the Coroner's Court.

Michael has appeared for multiple times in the Court of Final Appeal as well as the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

Michael also regularly advises on/participates in arbitration proceedings (including HKIAC and ICC). He has given expert opinion on Hong Kong law for listing applications as well as proceedings in the Shanghai Court and the Singapore Court.

Amongst other academic and public responsibilities, he is the Co-Founder of the Company and Insolvency Law Society and a member of the Bar's Arbitration Committee. He also sat as Deputy Presiding Officer of the Labour Tribunal for certain periods in 2019-2022. He is a Contributing Editor of the Hong Kong Civil Procedure (the "White Book"), the Hong Kong Company Law

---

Cases, and Bullen & Leake & Jacob's Hong Kong Precedents of Pleadings.

Michael is noted in Chambers and Partners (Greater China Region) 2022 as a junior who "acts prominently on company law issues, maintaining a noted specialisation in the areas of insolvency and bankruptcy and regularly representing public authorities and agencies, including the Secretary for Justice and the SFC". Michael is further described as being "both "well experienced in general company law matters" and "very strong in insolvency," characterising him further as "a very practical, sensible and commercial guy who punches above his weight" and "a very smooth operator who's fantastic with clients."

Michael has also been ranked as a "Rising Star" by Legal 500 (Asia Pacific - Hong Kong Bar) in 2021 and 2022, being cited as "a source of responsive, solid and practical advice, he is a good advocate who thinks outside the box."

## **Notable Cases**

### **Bankruptcy, company and commercial**

Secretary for Justice v. Global Merchant Funding Limited (2016) 19 HKCFAR 192 (Court of Final Appeal) (led by Simon Westbrook SC and with Derek CL Chan, as he then was) (commercial)

Re Ocean Sino Limited [2020] UKPC 24; [2020] 1 WLR 4656 (Judicial Committee of the Privy Council) (led by Richard Hacker QC, John Carrington QC and William Wong SC, JP) (shareholders' disputes)

Re Convoy Global Holdings Ltd [2020] 3 HKC 403 (Court of Appeal) (led by William Wong SC, JP) (general company)

Lau Yu v. HSBC [2019] 2 HKC 18 (Court of Appeal) (led by Linda Chan SC, as she then was) (bankruptcy)

Chu Kong v. Wing Yan and Others [2019] 1 HKLRD 589 (Court of Appeal) (led by William Wong SC, JP) (shareholders' disputes)

Crane World Asia Pte Ltd v. Hontrade Engineering Ltd [2016] 3 HKLRD 640; [2016] 5 HKC 573 (Court of Appeal) (led by Gerard McCoy SC and Derek CL Chan, as he then was) (commercial)

Re Nanik Dayaram [2021] HKCA 939 (Court of Appeal) (bankruptcy)

Re GTI Holdings Ltd [2021] HKCFI 3647 (insolvency)

Re Wang Huimin [2021] HKCFI 3472 (led by Benjamin Yu SC) (bankruptcy)

A Co v. B Co. and Others [2021] HKCFI 1477 (arbitration)

---

Re China Greenfresh Group Col, Ltd [2021] HKCFI 1257 (insolvency)

Re Lamtex Holdings Ltd [2021] HKCFI 622 (insolvency)

Re Ando Credit Ltd [2020] HKCFI 2775 (cross-border insolvency)

Re Trinity (Management Services) Ltd [2021] HKCFI 2207 (insolvency)

Re National Arts Entertainment and Culture Group Ltd [2020] HKCFI 275 (scheme of arrangement)

Re Pearl Oriental Oil Ltd [2019] 3 HKLRD 715; [2018] 5 HKLRD 567 (led by William Wong SC, JP) (general company)

Canton Plus Enterprise Ltd and Another v. Tong Zhenjun and Others [2019] 6 HKC 173; [2018] 1 HKC 277 (led by William Wong SC, JP) (shareholders' disputes)

Re Li Wing Sang (ex p Credit Suisse AG, Hong Kong) [2019] HKCFI 924 (bankruptcy)

Re Cai Sui Rong (ex p HSBC) [2019] HKCFI 514 (led by Douglas Lam SC) (bankruptcy)

Re Enice Holding Co Ltd [2018] 4 HKLRD 736 (scheme of arrangement; privatisation; cross-border restructuring) (led by William Wong SC, JP)

The Joint Administrators of African Minerals Ltd (in administration) v. Madison Pacific Trust Ltd [2015] 4 HKC 215 (led by William Wong SC, JP) (cross-border insolvency)

Bay Capital Asia Fund, LP (in official liquidation) v. DBS Bank (Hong Kong) Ltd (HCMP 3104/2015, 2 Nov 2016) (cross-border insolvency)

Re Hong Kong Society of Congenital & Structural Heart Disease Ltd [2016] 5 HKLRD 117 (general company)

## **Land and property**

New Castle Investments Ltd v. WFC Holding Ltd and Others [2021] HKCFA 5 (Court of Final Appeal) (led by Edward Chan SC)

Cornhill Enterprises Ltd v. Leung Chun Sang and Others [2016] 2 HKLRD 1525 (Court of Appeal)

Polyline Development Ltd v. Ching Lin Chuen and Others [2021] HKCFI 483 (led by Horace Wong SC)

Yu Hing Tong Ltd v. Fung Hing Chiu Cyril [2016] 5 HKLRD 567; [2016] 6 HKC 289

Chan Sang v. Chan Kwok [2015] 3 HKLRD 131 (led by Jose Maurellet, as he then was)

---

## Public, administrative and regulatory

Tong Ying Kit v. Secretary for Justice [2021] 4 HKC 439 (Court of Appeal) (for Secretary for Justice, led by Jenkin Suen SC) (national security; judicial review)

Charteryard Industrial Ltd v. Appeal Tribunal (Buildings) [2021] HKCA 1164 (Court of Appeal) (for Building Authority) (judicial review)

803 Funds Ltd v. Secretary for Justice [2021] 6 HKC 731 (for 803 Funds Ltd, led by Douglas Lam SC) (judicial review)

Re Apple Daily Ltd [2021] HKCFI 1128 (for Commissioner of Police) (national security; search and seizure)

彭道力 訴 行政上訴委員會 [2021] HKCFI 230 (for Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data) (administrative)

Death Inquest re: Alex Chow-Tsz Lok CCDI-932/2019 (for Director of Fire Services)

Competition Commission v. Kam Kwong Engineering Company Ltd and Others [2020] HKCT 3 (Competition Tribunal)

## Directory Quotes:

Michael is "well experienced in general company law matters" and "very strong in insolvency," and lauded for being "a very practical, sensible and commercial guy who punches above his weight" and "a very smooth operator who's fantastic with clients."

He acts prominently on company law issues, maintaining a noted specialisation in the areas of insolvency and bankruptcy and regularly representing public authorities and agencies, including the Secretary for Justice and the SFC.

Chambers & Partners Greater China Region (2022)

"A source of responsive, solid and practical advice, he is a good advocate who thinks outside the box." Michael Lok is singled out as a Rising Star for Commercial Disputes.

Legal 500 Asia Pacific HK Bar (2021)

---

Michael Lok - Des Voeux Chambers “A source of responsive, solid and practical advice, he is a good advocate who thinks outside the box.”

Legal 500: Commercial Disputes (2021)

“Sarah Worthington would like to thank Michael Lok for his significant research assistance in the updating of particular parts of this edition; that he managed to provide this help while also conducting an increasingly busy and successful practice in Hong Kong is testament to his energy and organisation.”

Gower’s Principles of Modern Company Law (10th ed.)

“Michael Lok has once again provided unparalleled research assistance on all the areas addressed in this book, and managed to do that while conducting an increasingly busy and successful practice in Hong Kong.”

Sealy & Worthington’s Text, Cases, and Materials in Company Law (11th ed.)

## **Expertise:**

### **Scholarships and Prizes**

- Bar Scholarship
- Charles Ching Memorial Scholarship
- Sir Roy Goode Prize for BCL, St. John’s College, Oxford
- Slaughter & May Prize for Best Overall Degree, LSE
- Slaughter & May Prize for Best Performance in final year, LSE
- Hogan Lovells Prize in Business Associations, LSE

### **Membership and Appointments**

- Deputy Presiding Officer, Labour Tribunal (which exercises unlimited jurisdiction over employment disputes)
- Chairman, School Council, ESF Island School
- Co-Founder, Company and Insolvency Law Society
- Member, Executive Committee, Middle Temple Society in Hong Kong
- Member, Committee on Company Law, Hong Kong Bar Association
- Member, Committee on Arbitration, Hong Kong Bar Association
- Member, Standing Committee on Civic Education, Hong Kong Bar Association

- Former Honorary Secretary and Member, Standing Committee on China Practice Development, Hong Kong Bar Association
- Former Member, Standing Committee on Young Barristers' Committee, Hong Kong Bar Association
- Non-Clinical Lecturer, Faculty of Law, University of Hong Kong
- Former President, Island School Alumni Association
- Former Associate Editor, Oxford University Commonwealth Law Journal
- Former Head Boy, Island School

## **Publications, Lectures, Talks**

- Bullen & Leake & Jacob's Hong Kong Precedents of Pleadings, 3rd Edition - published in December 2020
- Contributing Editor to Hong Kong Company Law Cases (2008 - 2019) - published in 2020 by DVC in collaboration with Kluwer
- Contributing Editor of Hong Kong Civil Procedure (the "White Book") (Sweet & Maxwell)
- Research Assistant, 'Sealy and Worthington's Text, Cases and Materials on Company Law' and 'Gower and Davies' Principles of Modern Company Law'
- Guest Speaker at the 8th Lujiazia Legal Forum, delivering a lecture entitled "Internationalization of Legal Services: Cross-Border Arbitration in Hong Kong" (December 2016)
- Guest Speaker at International Disputes Resolution Along "Belt and Road" Initiative, Renmin University of China) (November 2016)
- Schemes of Arrangement under the Companies Ordinance: Recent Updates and Practical Pointers (CPD seminar, with Terrence Tai) (October 2018)
- Cross-border insolvency and Restructuring - Latest Developments (CPD seminar, with Jason Yu) (September 2018)
- Cross-border insolvency and related shareholders disputes' (CPD seminar, with Jose-Antonio Maurellet SC) (August 2017)
- Updates on Cross-Jurisdictional Company and Insolvency Litigation (CPD seminar, with Vincent Chiu and Stephanie Wong) (April 2017)
- Hong Kong Companies and Insolvency Law from Litigation Perspective - a lecture delivered to the Pudong Lawyers Association (with Alexander Tang and David Chen) (June 2016)
- 'Ring-fencing Domestic Property: Is there a solution?' (CPD seminar, with Martin Kok and Jacqueline Law) (December 2014)
- 'Demystifying the Law of Unjust Enrichment' (CPD seminar, with Martin Kok, Martin Ho and Jacqueline Law) (October 2014)