

Douglas Grant

Call: 2018

'A very user-friendly and highly intelligent barrister who I would recommend for any litigation.'

Chambers UK Bar 2026



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Douglas Grant specialises in commercial litigation and arbitration, with a particular focus on insurance, shipping, commodities and energy.

Douglas' current and recent work includes:

- ***Nordic Power Partners v Rio Alto Energia***, acting as sole counsel for companies connected with the Danish climate investment fund in a dispute arising out of the sale of solar power projects in Brazil. Douglas successfully obtained interim injunctions to restrain the distribution of the sale proceeds until trial: [\[2025\] EWHC 2875 \(Comm\)](#).
- ***Russian Aircraft OP Claims***, acting for the lead group of claimants in the multi-billion-dollar Russian Aircraft Operator Policy claims, in which the claimants successfully resisted a jurisdiction challenge on the grounds that (among other things) they were unlikely to obtain a fair trial in Russia: [\[2024\] EWHC 734 \(Comm\)](#).
- ***Tyson International Company Ltd v Partner Re Insurance Europe SE*** [\[2023\] EWHC 3423 \(Comm\)](#); [\[2024\] EWCA Civ 363](#), acting for the successful defendant in obtaining a stay of English proceedings under s.9 of the Arbitration Act 1996 and resisting an appeal to the Court of Appeal, led by James Brocklebank KC.
- ***Technip Saudi Arabia v Mediterranean & Gulf Insurance and Reinsurance Co.*** [\[2023\] EWHC 1859 \(Comm\)](#); [\[2024\] EWCA Civ 481](#), acting for the successful defendant in a US\$31m claim under a policy of offshore construction all risks insurance and resisting an appeal to the Court of Appeal, led by James Brocklebank KC.
- ***R (Manchikalapati & Ors) v Financial Services Compensation Scheme*** [\[2022\] EWHC 2228 \(Admin\)](#); [\[2023\] EWCA Civ 1006](#), a judicial review of a decision by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme, led by James Drake KC.
- ***Greggs Plc v Zurich Insurance Plc*** [\[2022\] EWHC 2545 \(Comm\)](#), a preliminary issues trial concerning the aggregation of Covid-19 business interruption losses and deductions for government support, led by Peter MacDonald Eggers KC and Sandra Healy.
- ***FCA v Arch*** [\[2021\] UKSC 1](#), a leapfrog appeal to the Supreme Court concerning insurance cover for business interruption losses arising out of the Covid-19 pandemic, led by Jonathan Gaisman KC and Adam Fenton KC.

In addition to the reported cases above, Douglas' recent work includes a range of confidential arbitrations, including:

- A £50m+ arbitration involving allegations of fraudulent non-disclosure, led by Peter MacDonald Eggers KC.

- Acting as sole counsel in multiple commodities arbitrations under GAFTA and FOSFA rules.
- Acting as sole counsel in multiple shipping arbitrations under LMAA and other institutional rules.
- A Bermuda Form arbitration concerning defective products sold in the US market, led by Gavin Kealey KC and Sushma Ananda.

Before coming to the Bar, Douglas graduated from the University of Oxford with a First Class degree in Modern Languages. He speaks French, German and Swedish.

Expertise

International Arbitration

- ***Nordic Power Partners v Rio Alto Energia*** [2025] EWHC 2875 (Comm), obtaining interim injunctions to restrain the distribution of proceeds from the sale of solar power projects in Brazil pending the outcome of an ICC arbitration.
- A £50m+ arbitration involving allegations of fraudulent non-disclosure, led by Peter MacDonald Eggers KC.
- ***Tyson International Company Ltd v Partner Re Insurance Europe SE*** [2023] EWHC 3423 (Comm); [2024] EWCA Civ 363, acting for the successful defendant in obtaining a stay of English proceedings under s.9 of the Arbitration Act 1996 and resisting an appeal to the Court of Appeal, led by James Brocklebank KC.
- An arbitration concerning insurance cover for corporate liabilities arising out of a large-scale fraud in the US, led by Rebecca Sabben-Clare KC.
- A Bermuda Form arbitration concerning defective products sold in the US market, led by Gavin Kealey KC and Sushma Ananda.
- Acting as sole counsel in numerous shipping and commodities arbitrations, including under LCIA, LMAA, GAFTA and FOSFA rules and appeals to the GAFTA and FOSFA Boards of Appeal.

Commercial Litigation

- ***Nordic Power Partners v Rio Alto Energia***, acting as sole counsel for companies connected with the Danish climate investment fund in a dispute arising out of the sale of solar power projects in Brazil, successfully obtaining interim injunctions to restrain the distribution of the sale proceeds until trial: [2025] EWHC 2875 (Comm).
- ***Russian Aircraft OP Claims***, acting for the lead group of claimants in the multi-billion-dollar Russian Aircraft Operator Policy claims, in which the claimants successfully resisted a jurisdiction challenge on the grounds that (among other things) they were unlikely to obtain a fair trial in Russia: [2024] EWHC 734 (Comm).
- A €30m claim relating to damage to crops as a result of contaminated pesticide, led by James Brocklebank KC.
- ***57 Whitehall SARL v Aon UK Limited***, a £25m Commercial Court claim in which it is alleged that the defendant broker failed to obtain sufficient cover for Covid-19 losses in respect of the redevelopment of the Old War Office, led by Rebecca Sabben-Clare KC.
- ***Tyson International Company Ltd v Partner Re Insurance Europe SE*** [2023] EWHC 3423 (Comm); [2024] EWCA Civ 363, acting for the successful defendant in obtaining a stay of English proceedings under s.9 of the Arbitration Act 1996 and resisting an appeal

to the Court of Appeal, led by James Brocklebank KC.

- **Technip Saudi Arabia v Mediterranean & Gulf Insurance and Reinsurance Co.** [2023] EWHC 1859 (Comm); [2024] EWCA Civ 481, acting for the successful defendant in a US\$31m claim under a policy of offshore construction all risks insurance and resisting an appeal to the Court of Appeal, led by James Brocklebank KC.
- **Greggs Plc v Zurich Insurance Plc** [2022] EWHC 2545 (Comm), a preliminary issues trial concerning the aggregation of Covid-19 business interruption losses and deductions for government support, led by Peter MacDonald Eggers KC and Sandra Healy.
- **FCA v Arch** [2021] UKSC 1, a leapfrog appeal to the Supreme Court concerning insurance cover for business interruption losses arising out of the Covid-19 pandemic, led by Jonathan Gaisman KC and Adam Fenton KC.
- Acting, as sole counsel, for the Defendant in a multi-million pound breach of warranty claim arising out of the sale of shares in a professional services firm.

Insurance & Reinsurance

- **Russian Aircraft OP Claims**, acting for the lead group of claimants in the multi-billion-dollar Russian Aircraft Operator Policy claims, in which the claimants successfully resisted a jurisdiction challenge on the grounds that (among other things) they were unlikely to obtain a fair trial in Russia: [2024] EWHC 734 (Comm).
- A £50m+ arbitration involving allegations of fraudulent non-disclosure, led by Peter MacDonald Eggers KC.
- **57 Whitehall SARL v Aon UK Limited**, a £25m Commercial Court claim in which it is alleged that the defendant broker failed to obtain sufficient cover for Covid-19 losses in respect of the redevelopment of the Old War Office, led by Rebecca Sabben-Clare KC.
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- **FCA v Arch** [2021] UKSC 1, a leapfrog appeal to the Supreme Court concerning insurance cover for business interruption losses arising out of the Covid-19 pandemic, led by Jonathan Gaisman KC and Adam Fenton KC.

Commodities

- Acting as sole counsel for the claimant in a c.US\$3.5m Commercial Court claim for refusal to take delivery of a cargo of gasoil.

- Acting in a €30m Commercial Court claim relating to damage to crops as a result of contaminated pesticide, led by James Brocklebank KC.
- Acting as sole counsel in a US\$1.5m GAFTA arbitration appeal.
- Acting for the sellers in a claim under a dishonoured letter of credit.
- Acting as sole counsel in a GAFTA arbitration, including a successful appeal to the GAFTA Board of Appeal.
- Acting as sole counsel in a multi-million-dollar commodities arbitration concerning the effect of a certificate final clause.
- Acting as sole counsel in a multi-million-dollar commodities arbitration involving a dispute as to whether a binding contract had been concluded.

Shipping & Transport

Douglas has experience of acting in and advising on a wide range of shipping disputes, and has spent six months on secondment at a leading shipping firm. Current and recent work includes:

- Acting as sole counsel in a €4m High Court claim relating to the purchase of a luxury yachts.
- Acting as sole counsel in a Hong Kong arbitration in relation to damage to the cargo and vessel as a result of overloading.
- Successfully obtaining summary judgment in a claim for unpaid freight.
- Acting as sole counsel in a Hong Kong arbitration in relation to non-performance of a ship sale and purchase contract.
- Acting as sole counsel for the carrier in a claim regarding the damage of a perishable cargo.
- Acting in a LMAA arbitration concerning an agreement for the sale and purchase of a ship terminated during the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Professional Negligence

- **57 Whitehall SARL v Aon UK Limited**, a £25m Commercial Court claim in which it is alleged that the defendant broker failed to obtain sufficient cover for Covid-19 losses in respect of the redevelopment of the Old War Office, led by Rebecca Sabben-Clare KC.
- Acting as sole counsel in a professional negligence claim against accountants for allegedly negligent tax advice.
- Acting as sole counsel for the insured in a £800,000 broker's negligence claim.
- Acting for the Financial Reporting Council in an investigation into the audits of a FTSE 100 company, led by Noel Casey.

Education

Bar Professional Training Course, City University, London: Very Competent (2018)

Graduate Diploma in Law, City University, London: Distinction (1st in year) (2017)

BA Modern Languages, University of Oxford: First Class (2015)

Scholarships & Awards

Winner, City University Senior Moot (2018)

Winning team, Lincoln's Inn Inter-Provider Mooting Competition (2018)

Winning team, European Law Moot Competition (2017)

Winning team, QUB/HSF Corporate Law Moot (2017)

3 Verulam Buildings Prize for Best Overall Performance on the GDL (2017)

Jean Monnet Prize for Best Performance in EU Law (shared) (2017)

Denning, Haldane and Hardwicke Scholarships (Lincoln's Inn)

Languages

French, German, Swedish