

PROFILE

**Director, Dispute Resolution
Drew & Napier, Singapore**

woonyee.lea@drewnapier.com
T +65 6531 2443

Qualifications

LL.B (Hons) Singapore Management University (2014)
Advocate & Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Singapore (2015)

Language

English and Chinese

WOON YEE LEA

ABOUT WOON YEE

Woon Yee has successfully represented clients in both litigation and international arbitration proceedings.

She has represented multinational corporations, governments, and individuals at all levels of the Supreme Court of Singapore and in international arbitrations.

Woon Yee has acted for and advised clients on a variety of high value and complex cross-border matters, including disputes relating to commercial contracts, energy and infrastructure projects, shareholder agreements, banking and finance, equity and trusts, property law, company law, construction law, and probate.

She is also proficient in both spoken and written Mandarin Chinese.

EXPERIENCE

Some of the matters in which Woon Yee has worked on include:

Dispute concerning purchase of artwork valued at US\$2 billion

- Acting for an ultra-high net worth client as part of a global legal team in a high-profile art dispute with concurrent civil and criminal proceedings in Singapore, Switzerland, Monaco and New York. The dispute – dubbed ‘The Bouvier Affair’ – arose from the sale and purchase of US\$2 billion worth of artwork, and involved complex legal issues in multiple jurisdictions. A decision of the Court of Appeal

on the dispute is reported at *Rappo, Tania v Accent Delight International Ltd and another and another appeal* [2017] 2 SLR 265.

US\$1 billion arbitration relating to a top MMORPG game in Asia

- Acting for an international game developer in an ICC arbitration against a claim for more than US\$1 billion. The dispute arose from the licensing and distribution of one of the most popular massively multiplayer online role-playing games (MMORPG) in Asia. The relevant history of the parties' relationship span more than two decades and the dispute involves complex legal issues under the laws of Singapore, South Korea and the People's Republic of China.

US\$100 million arbitration involving purchase of steel plant

- Successfully represented a major Southeast-Asian steel producer against a global supplier of equipment and physical plants in a ICC arbitration for a claim in excess of US\$100 million. The dispute arose from the sale and purchase of a steel processing plant. The matter raises complex factual and expert evidence involving novel technology.

Mismanagement of public funds

- Successfully represented a town council in a high-profile and widely publicised dispute in *Aljunied-Hougang Town Council and another v Lim Swee Lian Sylvia and others and another suit* [2019] SGHC 241. The dispute arose from the town councillors' mismanagement of more than S\$30 million of public funds, and involved novel legal issues relating to, among other things, breach of fiduciary duties and breach of statutory duties under the Town Councils Act and the Town Council Financial Rules.

Dispute concerning construction of coal-based power plant in India

- Acting for several entities in an international arbitration governed by SIAC Rules concerning a dispute over the investment in and construction of a coal-based power generation plant in India. The value of parties' cross-claims exceeds US\$600 million.

Construction dispute involving the façade of Centennial Towers

- Successfully represented a real estate developer and building owner in court proceedings which span seven years. The dispute arose in connection with a contract to design and build, among other things, the external stone façade of Centennial Towers. The High Court has delivered its decision against, among others, the main contractor in *Millenia Pte Ltd v Dragages Singapore Pte Ltd and others* [2018] SGHC 193. The Court of Appeal has dismissed the main contractor's appeal.

Mismanagement of US\$1 billion fund

- Acted for an ultra-high net worth client in a multi-jurisdiction dispute against a global banking and financial services group. The dispute arose from the alleged mismanagement of a fund worth more than US\$1 billion, and involved issues relating to, among other things, breach of trust and misrepresentation.

Minority oppression and probate

- Acted for the estate of the founder of a renowned establishment in Singapore in two related high-profile disputes. The first involved a claim in minority oppression and the second involved a claim for breach of duties by the administrator of the estate.

Other matters

- Advised a foreign government on the application and enforcement of a multi-lateral trade agreement.
- Advised a foreign government on the completion of two aircraft worth more than US\$200 million each and the procurement of maintenance, operational and logistical support worth more than €160 million for a fleet of aircraft .

APPOINTMENTS/MEMBERSHIPS

- Member, Singapore Academy of Law
- Member, Law Society of Singapore