

PROFILE

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

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Qualifications

LL.B. (Magna Cum Laude), Singapore Management University
LL.M. (International Legal Studies), New York University
Advocate & Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Singapore (2018)

Language

English

AMBER ESTAD

ABOUT AMBER

Amber practices commercial litigation and arbitration and has handled a diverse range of disputes from the fallout of complex family trusts to disruptions in the construction and payment timelines for high-value development projects. Amber is adept at navigating the complexities inherent in cross-border commercial contracts and focuses her practice on international arbitration and multi-jurisdictional disputes.

She also prioritises the effective use of mediation and other alternative dispute resolution options to achieve constructive outcomes for her clients.

Amber was appointed as Young Independent Counsel to address novel issues of law arising in two separate appeals in 2023 and 2024 before a three-judge bench of the Singapore High Court.

She graduated *magna cum laude* from Singapore Management University in 2016 and pursued her interest in international legal issues and disputes by obtaining her LL.M. in International Legal Studies at New York University.

EXPERIENCE

- Acting in a dispute over a compulsory share transfer affecting the ownership of a Thai and Chinese joint venture company set up to oversee construction of an elevated expressway in Bangladesh with an estimated construction cost in excess of US\$1 billion.
- Acted for a Japanese manufacturer against an Indian engineering and construction company in a multi-million dollar arbitration over the supply of power transformers for a clean energy and

development project in Sri Lanka that was funded by the Asian Development Bank. The proceedings involved a successful emergency arbitration application to prevent a bank guarantee call.

- Acted for a Singapore-based investment firm in an international arbitration and concurrent Court proceedings against an Indonesian businessman and his *alter ego* holding companies. The dispute involved a claim for damages estimated in excess of US\$67 million arising from breaches of a loan agreement for financing for two green-field coal mines in the Kalimantan region of Indonesia.
- Acted for a Philippines' distributor in a Singapore-seated arbitration and related proceedings before the Singapore International Commercial Court against an American multinational confectionary conglomerate. The dispute involved *inter alia* complex factual disputes over more than 1,000 individual claims, the application of issues of Philippines law, and the circumstances in which a tribunal may grant additional awards under the SIAC rules.
- Acted for a Fortune Global 500 digital and technology company in a complex and document-heavy dispute over a US\$107 million project for the development and delivery of a customised software infrastructure system.
- Acted for the Republic of India in Court proceedings related to the Singapore-seated arbitration of the highly publicised tax dispute between the Indian Government and the Vedanta Group over tax assessment orders on US\$3.8 billion capital gains arising from the Cairn and Vedanta Groups' complex restructuring exercise of their Indian oil and gas assets.
- Acted for a financial advisory firm in an SIAC arbitration involving a payment dispute that turned on technical and linguistic issues in contractual interpretation.
- Acting in probate proceedings and related commercial claims by two estates to recover roughly US\$350 million which is alleged to have been misappropriated in breach of trust. Obtained proprietary injunctions and a worldwide Mareva injunction before the Singapore High court to preserve the assets in dispute.
- Acted for an investment firm to recover a US\$2 million investment in court proceedings where the defendant attempted to place itself into voluntary liquidation to evade its repayment obligations.
- Acted for a "Big 4" accounting firm to successfully resist a pre-action discovery applications seeking disclosure of its work product and its internal communications relating to the preparation of a Court-ordered non-speaking valuation for a highly contentious shareholder buyout.

APPOINTMENTS/MEMBERSHIPS

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