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## **CECIL ABRAHAM AND PARTNERS**

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Dispute resolution



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#### THE FIRM

Cecil Abraham & Partners acts in a broad range of civil, commercial and construction disputes. Its practice varies from court and arbitration appearances to advice – both strategic and preventative – in the areas of practice referred to above. The members of the firm have significant court and arbitration (including investment treaty) experience. In recent years, clients have come to the firm for assistance in a wide range of matters including those relating to commercial disputes, fraud litigation, extradition and mutual assistance in criminal matters.

#### **AREAS OF PRACTICE**

In 2019, the firm was involved in a number of major disputes. Particularly noteworthy, the firm successfully acted for Ireka Engineering & Consultants Sdn Bhd in landmark appeals before the Federal Court of Malaysia, that concerned the construction industry. The apex court in reversing several earlier decisions, ultimately held that the Construction Industry Payment and Adjudication Act 2012 ("CIPAA") is to be applied prospectively. This decision will have significant ramifications for the construction industry moving forward. In addition, the firm successfully represented Triumph City Development Sdn Bhd in enforcing and registering an arbitral award in excess of RM200 million against the Selangor State Government.

On going notable disputes that the firm is involved include acting for Petrochemical Commercial Company International Ltd in a large and complex commercial fraud claim in the region of USD\$76 million where monies misappropriated from Malaysia has so far been traced to various jurisdictions including United Kingdom, Canada, Singapore, Germany, Australia, Cyprus, Portugal and Iran. A worldwide freezing injunction was granted by the High Court of Malaya and has since been enforced in Canada, Cyprus and Australia and Bankers Trust Orders were issued in various jurisdictions including Canada, Australia, Cyprus, Singapore and Portugal in order to trace the missing funds. There are various interlocutory applications pending before the courts in Malaysia including applications to cross-examine defendants from Canada and Iran. The firm is presently acting for the Council of Regency of the State of Terengganu in opposing a claim by Tengku Abdul Halim in a constitutional matter relating to succession to the throne of the Sultan of Terengganu that is currently pending before the Federal Court of Malaysia. In addition, the firm is also presently acting for Dream Property Sdn Bhd in the continuing dispute with Atlas Housing Sdn Bhd, in which the Federal Court in a landmark decision laid down the principles relating to unjust enrichment. This dispute is now at the assessment of damages stage involving a claim of approximately RM400 million. On the environmental and public administrative law front, the firm is acting for Lynas Malaysia Sdn Bhd, one of the world's largest rare earth producers in respect of claims by several environmental activists seeking to quash the full operating licence granted to the company to operate its rare earth plant in Gebeng, Pahang. The firm is also acting for Memang Perkasa Sdn Bhd (a subsidiary of the Malton Group of Companies) in the much publicised judicial review proceedings filed by a residents' association to quash a perceived controversial development order granted to this developer.







Also to be noted, is the fact that the firm is acting for Raub Australian Gold Mining Sdn Bhd in opposing an appeal before the Federal Court of Malaysia brought by Mkini Dotcom Sdn Bhd, where the law relating to reportage will be visited for the first time in Malaysia.

The firm continues to advise MRCB George Kent Sdn Bhd, the main turnkey contractor in so far as the LRT 3 Project in Malaysia is concerned.

Finally, Tan Sri Dato' Cecil Abraham continues to be the only Malaysian to continue to sit as arbitrator in investment treaty claims.

#### MAIN CONTACTS

Administration and probate Administration and probate

Arbitration Arbitration

Banking and insurance Banking and insurance

Capital markets and securities disputes Capital markets and securities disputes

Defamation and media
Defamation and media

Contractual and commercial disputes Contractual and commercial disputes

Private breach of confidence Private breach of confidence

Clubs and unincorporated associations Clubs and unincorporated associations

Construction and infrastructure
Construction and infrastructure
Corporate and commercial
Corporate and commercial
Land and general property
Land and general property
Civil and commercial litigation

Civil and commercial litigation

Tan Sri Dato' Cecil Abraham

Dato' Sunil Abraham

Tan Sri Dato' Cecil Abraham

Aniz Ahmad Amirudin

Rishwant Singh

Dato' Sunil Abraham

Tan Sri Dato' Cecil Abraham

Rishwant Singh

Tan Sri Dato' Cecil Abraham

Rishwant Singh

Tan Sri Dato' Cecil Abraham

Dato' Sunil Abraham

Rishwant Singh

Dato' Sunil Abraham

Tan Sri Dato' Cecil Abraham Aniz Ahmad Amirudin

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Mutual assistance and extradition Mutual assistance and extradition Public and administrative law Public and administrative law White-collar and corporate governance White-collar and corporate governance Tan Sri Dato' Cecil Abraham Dato' Sunil Abraham Dato' Sunil Abraham Rishwant Singh Tan Sri Dato' Cecil Abraham Rishwant Singh

Contacts: Tan Sri Dato' Cecil W M Abraham

Contacts: Rishwant Singh Contacts: Dato' Sunil Abraham Contacts: Aniz Ahmad Amirudin

### **STAFF FIGURES**

Number of lawyers: 11

### **MEMBERSHIPS**

IBA (International Bar Association)
Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (FCIArb)
Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC)
ICCA
ICC
KLRCA
Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (HKIAC)



## **DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

commercial cases.

TIER 1

Tan Sri Dato' Cecil W. M. Abraham leads the dispute resolution team at boutique firm **Cecil Abraham And Partners**. Handling contractual claims, fraud litigation, defamation, public and administrative law as well as constitutional matters, it counts Herbert Smith Freehills as a key client. It attracts work from Fortune 500 companies, media conglomerates, and PLCs while maintaining a specialist focus on construction cases (Aniz Amirudin is the name to note here). In addition Sunil Abraham and Rishwant Singh are respective experts in environment law disputes and civil/

Hall of Fame

Cecil Abraham