



Jessica van der Kamp

Senior Associate

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Overview

Jessica van der Kamp is a senior associate practicing arbitration, litigation and dispute resolution at JSM. She is also a Solicitor Advocate granted Higher Rights of Audience in civil proceedings in Hong Kong. Jessica is noted for her experience in high-stakes and high-value disputes. Her international arbitration practice covers complex, multi-party construction, infrastructure, high-tech and other commercial disputes. She also has acted in high-profile judicial reviews and public law disputes at the forefront of environmental, town planning and constitutional law in Hong Kong.

Jessica's arbitration experience extends to acting for clients in arbitration-related court proceedings, including set-aside applications, injunctions, and consolidation proceedings. Notably, Jessica acted for the respondent in *P v M* (2018 and 2019) where the claimant's award was partially set aside twice on grounds of serious irregularity and procedural unfairness. Jessica also represents clients before statutory tribunals and at all levels of the Hong Kong court. She recently successfully acted for the Hong Kong Golf Club in a high-profile judicial review concerning the environmental impact of a proposed development at an ecologically sensitive site with significant cultural heritage value (*Hong Kong Golf Club v Director of Environmental Protection*). She has also acted for the Appellants in a successful town planning appeal concerning the development and conservation of Nam Sang Wai and Lut Chau, an area of high-ecological value protected under the Ramsar Convention (*Nam Sang Wai Development Company Ltd & Others v Town Planning Board*). Jessica was also part of the team acting for the successful Appellant in the landmark Court of Final Appeal case *Hysan Development Co Ltd & Others v Town Planning Board*. Jessica also has experience advising on contentious and non-contentious matters relating to insolvency, intellectual property, and competition/antitrust issues.

Experience

She has advised or acted or is advising or acting for:

- A prominent multi-national contractor in a mediation against a sub-contractor on issues concerning delay and supply of services in relation to the construction of a Singaporean multi-million-dollar rail infrastructure project.
- A claimant distributor based in the Middle East in an ad-hoc Hong Kong seated international arbitration concerning a breach of a distribution agreement.
- A data centre in multi-million-dollar supply dispute concerning underperforming thermal cooling towers.
- A respondent employer in a consolidated arbitration proceeding under the HKIAC Domestic Arbitration Rules against main contractor in relation to a final account dispute. The Arbitrator's final award was successfully setting aside twice on grounds of serious irregularity and procedural unfairness (*P v M* [2018] HKCFI 2280 and *P v M* [2019] HKCFI 1864).
- A university in an arbitration against leading professional consultancy firms in relation to defective cladding works of a flagship campus building.
- An international joint venture main contractor in a Hong Kong-seated international arbitration concerning the construction of an overseas military base in East Africa. The final account dispute covered a wide range of construction issues including variation, prolongation, acceleration and disruption claims.
- A claimant international joint venture main contractor in an arbitration under the HKIAC Domestic Arbitration Rules in a final account dispute relating to a mega-infrastructure project in Hong Kong.
- A private golf club in a successful judicial review challenging the Director of Environmental Protection's decision approving an environmental impact assessment report concerning the proposed development of public housing in an ecologically-sensitive area with significant cultural heritage value. The decision is currently under appeal (*Hong Kong Golf Club v Director Environmental Protection & Another* [2024] HKCFI 1279, [2023] HKCFI 1946; [2023] HKCFI 2915).
- A developer in a judicial review challenging the Director of Environmental Protection's decision approving an environmental impact assessment report and the granting of an environmental permit. (*Join Smart Ltd v Town Planning Board* [2021] 4 HKLRD 645, [2021] HKCFI 2726).
- A developer in a judicial review challenging the Town Planning Board's refusal to rezone an area into a high-density residential zone to facilitate an approved residential development proposal. (*Join Smart Ltd v Director of Environmental Protection* [2022] 1 HKLRD 1110, [2022] HKCFI 457).
- Developers in a successful town planning appeal concerning a proposal to convert a network of abandoned and commercial fishponds into a residential development and a nature reserve for wetland conservation at Nam Sang Wai and Lut Chau, an area of ecological importance and a site of special scientific interest protected under the Ramsar Convention (*Nam Sang Wai Development Company Ltd & Others v Town Planning Board*, Town Planning Appeal No. 1 of 2017 and 3 of 2014)
- A developer in a successful judicial review challenge (and successfully defeated an appeal) concerning the proposed rezoning of an area into a low-rise low density residential zone (*Hong Kong Resorts v Town Planning Board* [2021] HKCA

1313 and *Hong Kong Resorts v Town Planning Board* [2020] 4 HKLRD 298, [2020] HKCFI 1956).

- A developer in the landmark appeal before the Court of Final Appeal concerning a judicial review challenge to the Town Planning Board's decision imposing restrictions on their land (*Hysan Development Co Ltd & Others v Town Planning Board* (2016) 19 HKCFAR 372).
- The Real Estate Developers Association in an appeal before the Court of Final Appeal concerning a judicial review challenge to the decision of the Building Authority requiring applicants of building plan submission to provide proof of ownership or realistic prospect of control of a site (*Real Estate Developers Association of Hong Kong v Building Authority* (2016) 19 HKCFAR 243).
- Owners of a hotel and office block in a judicial review challenging the Town Planning Board's decision approving a proposal to construct of a series of buildings and structures in an iconic harbourfront location zoned as Open Space.
- A developer in a town planning appeal against the Town Planning Board's decision refusing planning permission for a proposed minor relaxation of a building height restriction in a medium-density residential zone with commercial uses serving the neighbourhood (*Town Planning Appeal No. 1 of 2022*).
- A charitable institution in a town planning appeal against the Town Planning Board's decision refusing planning permission for a columbarium in a Government, Institution or Community zone (*Town Planning Appeal No. 5 of 2021*).
- Various developers in multiple town planning appeal against the Town Planning Board's decision refusing planning permission for proposed office developments in high-density residential zones with commercial uses (*Town Planning Appeal No. 4 of 2019* and *Town Planning Appeal No. 3 of 2020*).
- Advised a statutory authority on objections to sections 16 and 17 applications to the Town Planning Board and a subsequent town planning appeal concerning a proposed columbarium development.
- A substantiated torture claimant and refugee in securing one of the first permissions for employment from the Director of Immigration. The success of this early experience led to the development of a more extensive pro bono employment permission programme that brought in the involvement of other members of Hong Kong's legal community. This initiative also went on to win the 2019 "Asia Pro Bono Initiative of the Year Award" from Asia Legal Awards (2019) and the firm's Pro Bono Project of the Year (2019).
- A developer of a luxury residential development on contentious matters arising from the insolvency of the main contractor and the appointment of a provisional liquidator.
- A statutory body concerning contractual and statutory liabilities of various parties arising from a fatal tower crane accident, and other consequential contractual and regulatory issues.
- Advising receivers of distressed assets on contentious intellectual property issues connected with the distressed asset.
- A contractor in the Commission of Inquiry on excess lead found in drinking water.
- A university in relation to the collapse of a roof structure on one of its campus buildings.

- A respondent Incorporated Owners relating to liability arising from water damage, including related mediation and Lands Tribunal disputes and other ancillary issues including warranties and defective works.
- A multinational public utilities company on a draft subcontract agreement for the operation and maintenance of a sewage treatment facility.
- A multinational public utilities company on its partnership agreement with a local utilities company for the operation and maintenance of an overseas solid waste incineration plant.
- A statutory body on the recovery of a claim against an insolvent overseas supplier under an overseas bank guarantee.

Recognition

- Future Star – Construction, Hong Kong – *Benchmark Litigation Asia-Pacific*
- Recommended – Dispute Resolution: International Arbitration, Hong Kong – *The Legal 500 Asia Pacific*
- Recommended – Construction, Hong Kong – *The Legal 500 Asia Pacific*

Qualifications

Education

- The University of Hong Kong, PCLL
- The University of Hong Kong, JD
- London School of Economics and Political Science, LLM
- Utrecht University, BA

Admissions

- Hong Kong
- Court: Hong Kong Higher Rights of Audience (Civil Proceedings)

Languages

- Cantonese
- English
- Mandarin

Professional & community involvement

- Committee Member, HK45 (2023-2024)
- Group Advisor, Young ICCA Mentoring Programme (2024-Present)
- Ambassador, Delos Dispute Resolution Remote Oral Advocacy Programme (Asia) (2025)
- Member, ArbitralWomen
- Arbitrator, Willem C. Vis Arbitration Moot
- Arbitrator, FDI Arbitration Moot
- Committee Member, Land Use, Planning and Environmental Law Committee, Hong Kong Law Society (2023 – Present)

Related content

- JSM lawyers and practices ranked in Benchmark Litigation Asia Pacific 2026, 5 May 2026
- JSM International Arbitration newsletter: Fourth issue, 11 February 2026
- Arbitration in Hong Kong: From foundations to frontiers, 23 October 2025
- JSM International Arbitration newsletter: Third issue, 22 October 2025
- Ciarb's 2025 Guideline on Third-Party Funding in international arbitration, 21 October 2025
- JSM International Arbitration newsletter: Second issue, 25 August 2025
- Hong Kong court refuses application for anti-suit injunction restraining Cayman Islands winding-up petition, 22 August 2025
- JSM International Arbitration newsletter, 14 July 2025