

Contact

lishiong85@gmail.com

www.linkedin.com/in/leongshaun
(LinkedIn)

Top Skills

International Commercial Arbitration

International Commercial Litigation

International Commercial Mediation

Certifications

Advocate & Solicitor, Supreme Court
of Singapore

Accredited International Arbitrator
and Mediator, Representative
Neutral

Fellow, Chartered Institute of
Arbitrators

Ranked Singapore's most influential,
youngest international arbitration
specialist from a global firm

Publications

ABB Holdings Pte Ltd and others
v Sher Hock Guan Charles [2010]
SGHC 267

Planting the Seeds for an
International Rule of Law – The
Commercial Court of England and
Wales and the SICC, Practical Law,
6 May 2015

Chan Miu Yin v Philip Morris
Singapore [2011] SGHC 161

Surface Stone Pte Ltd v Tay Seng
Leon and another [2011] SGHC 223

The "Titan Unity" (No 2) [2014]
SGHCR 04

Shaun Leong, FCI Arb (梁立雄)

Cross-border dispute strategist | Arbitrator (仲裁人) | International Arbitration Lawyer of the Year Nominee (Benchmark Litigation, Law.com International) | Commercial | Sustainability | Energy | A.I. | Crypto
Singapore

Summary

- International Arbitration Lawyer of the Year Nominee (Law.com International Awards 2024)
- International Arbitration Lawyer of the Year Nominee (Benchmark Litigation Asia-Pacific Awards 2022)
- Ranked Leading Practitioner in Blockchain (Who's Who Legal 2024) (the only disputes lawyer ranked)
- Recognised for "particular expertise in cryptocurrency, AI and blockchain disputes" (Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2024)
- Digital Assets Lawyer of the Year Nominee (Law.com International Awards 2023)
- "Shaun Leong draws considerable praise from clients, who praise him for his ability to offer a 'masterclass in deploying commercially minded and effective cross border strategies in complex matters'" (Legal 500, 2025)
- "Shaun Leong is a star in the world of international arbitration. He has a brilliant tactical mind and has achieved outstanding successes in the most cutting-edge and complex disputes. Shaun is a highly creative problem-solver, and views issues from all sides. He is an effective practitioner and his ability to reconcile opposing views and deploy them in advancing our interest is one of his greatest strengths." (Benchmark Litigation Asia-Pacific 2024)

Upon graduating with First Class Honours, Shaun was sworn into a judicial role as a Magistrate and Assistant Registrar of the Supreme Court after serving a year as a Justices' Law Clerk to the Chief Justice and Judges of the Supreme Court. For 5 years in the Supreme Court, Shaun heard and decided many matters in a wide range of complex commercial disputes. Shaun's written decisions have been widely cited and endorsed. Shaun was the Head of the Court of Appeal Section in the Supreme Court Registry, and was

involved in the management of many complex commercial appeals, such as the arbitral dispute in PT First Media TBK v Astro Nusantara International BV. He was integrally involved in the establishment of the Singapore International Commercial Court (SICC) as Secretariat of the SICC Committee. His experience includes a placement with the Royal Courts of Justice in London.

Shaun practices as an international arbitration specialist, cross border commercial disputes lawyer and legal strategist, helping successful people and businesses in jurisdictions all around the world. He focuses on developing and employing successful strategies to achieve clients' objectives in cross jurisdictional disputes. Shaun is a contributing author to the leading arbitral text, Singapore International Arbitration Law and Practice (2nd Ed), and the Singapore Civil Procedure ("White Book").

Experience

HFW

Equity Partner

April 2025 - Present (3 months)

Global

SUSTAINABILITY & ENERGY DISPUTES:

- Shaun worked in a complex cross border dispute arising from defects found in power plants in an Asian country for failure to comply with sustainability standards on emissions, and claims for rectification works necessitated by alleged negligent designs of power generators that were non-compliant with nitrogen oxide levels restrictions set by an Asian Government.
- worked with a global energy giant on sustainability initiatives including on matters around carbon credits originations, clean power purchase agreements, and renewable energy certificates, aspects around the EU Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive as well as considerations around Article 6 of the Paris Agreement.
- acted for energy companies against an Asian Government over revisions in gas prices and amends to cost recovery provisions of production sharing contracts over offshore gas blocks off the coast of an Asian country.
- lead Partner for global pharma in a wastewater treatment facility project in Singapore.

- successfully represented global energy client in an SIAC arbitration for emergency relief to preserve the client's assets in a multi-million dollar energy dispute.
 - counsel in a substantial dispute over alleged delays in the supply of defective designs in relation to the manufacture of electrical houses, in particular pre-fabricated field auxiliary rooms, in support of a Middle Eastern power and oil refinery project.
 - ICC arbitration on defects in construction of emissions towers in power plants in a South East Asian country.
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- EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES DISPUTES: successfully represented a digital assets business in an arbitral dispute worth over USD 30 million that involved difficult issues around alleged liability arising from purported errors made by trading systems powered by artificial intelligence models and algorithms.

Singapore International Arbitration Centre

International Arbitrator

February 2021 - Present (4 years 5 months)

Global

KCAB INTERNATIONAL

International Arbitrator

June 2024 - Present (1 year 1 month)

South Korea

Japan Commercial Arbitration Association

International Arbitrator

June 2024 - Present (1 year 1 month)

Global

THAC Thailand Arbitration Center

5 years

Head of Academy

January 2024 - Present (1 year 6 months)

Global

International Arbitrator

2020 - Present (5 years)

Global

The Law Society of Singapore

Law Society Inquiry Panel
September 2022 - Present (2 years 10 months)
Singapore

Singapore International Mediation Centre (SIMC)
Specialist International Mediator
April 2024 - Present (1 year 3 months)
Global

Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIArb)
Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators
2019 - Present (6 years)

International Arbitration Institute (IAI)
Member (Working Group for arbitration rules)
April 2024 - Present (1 year 3 months)
Global

To assess the extent to which international rules that are specific to international arbitration exist, and promote the application of international rules specific to the arbitration process by judges, arbitrators, and practitioners.

Bali International Arbitration and Mediation Center (BIAMC)
International Arbitrator
2022 - Present (3 years)

Center for International Investment and Commercial Arbitration (CIICA)
International Arbitrator
2022 - Present (3 years)

Tashkent International Arbitration Centre
International Arbitrator
2020 - Present (5 years)
Global

Shaun is the first Singaporean to be appointed Arbitrator of Tashkent International Arbitration Centre, a strategic Belt & Road pivot along the Russian-China corridor.

BIMACC (Bangalore International Mediation, Arbitration and Conciliation Centre)
International Arbitrator

2019 - Present (6 years)

Global

Shaun receives arbitrator appointments in global technology and international commercial disputes as an Arbitrator with the Silicon Valley of South Asia.

Beihai Asia International Arbitration Centre, Singapore

International Arbitrator

2019 - Present (6 years)

Global

Horangi

Partner

2019 - Present (6 years)

Global

Digital security, Data security, Crypto security.

Legal Nodes

Panel Advisor, Legal Expert (Asia)

2019 - Present (6 years)

Global

Shaun is appointed on to the Panel of Advisers and separately as a Legal Expert of Legal Nodes. Legal Nodes is a global technology and innovative platform that assists start-ups and corporates to define their legal needs and project manage their legal issues, wherever they may be from worldwide. It has been identified by Forbes as a leader in using blockchain to mitigate inefficiencies in legal services worldwide.

Withersworldwide

Equity Partner

2020 - February 2025 (5 years)

Global

Ministry of Law, Singapore

Assessor

2020 - 2022 (2 years)

Shaun is appointed an Assessor by the Singapore Minister for Law, who must seek, amongst other purposes, to achieve an outcome that is just and equitable for cases affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

N.A

Ideator & principal drafter of the Covid-19 SIMC mediation protocol and BAIAC arbitration Protocol
May 2020 - May 2020 (1 month)

Shaun Leong was the Ideator and principal drafter of the COVID-19 SIMC mediation protocol (<http://simc.com.sg/blog/2020/05/18/new-mediation-protocol-for-global-businesses-to-manage-disputes-during-the-covid-19-pandemic/>) and the COVID-19 Beihai Asia International Arbitration protocol (<https://baiac.org/2020/05/01/covid-19-international-arbitration-protocol/>)

Eversheds Sutherland

Partner

2018 - 2020 (2 years)

Eversheds Sutherland's S'pore office de-merged with Harry Elias w.e.f 01/07/20

The Pharma Gorilla

Keynote Speaker (on Crisis Management)

June 2019 - June 2019 (1 month)

Global

Shaun was the Keynote Speaker for the inaugural Singapore edition of Pharma Gorilla in 2019, Le Meridien Singapore. Pharma Gorilla is a global Congress on the latest developments in Bio-technology, Life Sciences, Pharmaceuticals and Law, with editions in New York, Berlin, Dubai, New Delhi, Sydney and more. Shaun spoke on "Crisis Management in the Pharmaceutical & Life Science Sector - What you need to do in the first 72 Hours".

Linklaters

Managing Associate

2016 - 2018 (2 years)

Singapore, Hong Kong

Allen & Overy

Associate

2014 - 2016 (2 years)

Singapore, Hong Kong

Supreme Court of Singapore

5 years 1 month

Magistrate, Assistant Registrar

July 2010 - July 2014 (4 years 1 month)

Singapore

As a magistrate & registrar, Shaun presides over hearings in a full range of commercial cases which include areas such as contractual disputes, banking litigation, international commercial arbitration, admiralty and shipping, economic torts, and employment law. Shaun issued several notable decisions, including the following:

1. FirstLink Investments Corp Ltd v GT Payments [2014] SGHCR 12 – It was held that the law governing an arbitration agreement should ordinarily be the law of the seat where parties fail to expressly set out the law of the agreement. The decision is referred to in *Arbitration in Singapore: A Practical Guide* (Editor in Chief: The Honourable the Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon), and is highlighted as a notable decision by former Justice of the UK Supreme Court, Lord Collins of Mapesbury in *SALJ Special Issue, Conflicts of Laws in Arbitration*, (2014).

2. The “Titan Unity” [2013] SGHCR 28 - The decision sets the prima facie threshold to determine the existence of an arbitration agreement, in order to mandate a stay of court proceedings in favour of arbitration. It is cited with approval by the Singapore Court of Appeal in *Tomolugen Holdings v Silica Investors*, and referred to in leading texts such as David Foxton QC, *Singapore International Arbitration: Law & Practice* (LexisNexis 2014).

3. The “Titan Unity” (No 2) [2014] SGHCR 04 – The decision sets out the principles behind the court’s power to order a non-signatory to be joined to an existing arbitration. This decision is endorsed and relied upon in High Court Judgment in *Silica Investors Ltd v Tomolugen Holdings Ltd*, and is commented favourably in an article by a Supreme Court Judge, Justice Quentin Loh, *The Limits of Arbitration*, *McGrill Journal of Dispute Resolution*, Vol. 1, No. 1, 2014.

Justices' Law Clerk

July 2009 - July 2010 (1 year 1 month)

Singapore

Upon graduating with First Class Honours, Shaun served as a Justices’ Law Clerk to the Chief Justice and Judges of the Supreme Court in 2009. After a year of service, Shaun was sworn into a judicial role as an Assistant Registrar of the Supreme Court in July 2010. He obtained a further judicial appointment as a Magistrate in January 2011

Education

National University of Singapore

First Class Honours, Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.), Law · (2005 - 2009)