



The winning Three Crowns team with Michael Madigan and Stephen Benwell of Cogence Search

## BOUTIQUE LAW FIRM OF THE YEAR

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### THREE CROWNS

#### Constantine Partasides QC

##### CHALLENGING THE STATUS QUO OF THE INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION MARKET

Three Crowns has been one of the most-talked-about disputes boutiques in recent years, after launching to much fanfare in 2014. Established by a trio of market-leading arbitration specialists from Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, the firm continues to challenge the status quo of the international arbitration market.

The calibre of the individuals on offer (notably its founding partners), a flexible approach to pricing and a proven track

record in some of the most high-profile global arbitrations has seen Three Crowns rapidly become one of the strongest international arbitration firms in the world, regularly taking work away from or appearing opposite the magic circle. Recent work includes representing ConocoPhillips in a \$20bn arbitration (until recently, the largest known ICC case) against the Venezuelan State-owned entity PDVSA and also representing an oil and gas major in a \$1bn arbitration with a former Soviet state.

### HIGHLY COMMENDED

#### CANDEY

##### Ashkhan Candey

Formed in 2009, this litigation boutique has become an established player in a highly competitive market. The firm has average fees per fee-earner of £700,000, and average profits per equity partner of £2.5m, a level of profitability achieved thanks to involvement in high-award cases on a contingency fee basis.

Bank of America Merrill Lynch, Centrica and Royal Bank of Canada.

record year as revenue climbed £3.1m to £26.8m. Profits rose by 15% from £13.6m to £15.3m.

#### POWELL GILBERT

##### Tim Powell; Penny Gilbert

Firmly established as the definitive IP boutique since its 2007 breakaway from Bristows, Powell Gilbert has rapidly grown, currently billing close to £12m with a profit margin of over 50% on the back of work for clients such as Huawei and Actavis.

#### SIGNATURE LITIGATION

##### Graham Huntley

Signature Litigation has seen revenue soar by 36% to £10.2m for the 2015/16 financial year, against a 50% profit margin. Recent highlights include acting in the ongoing £4bn shareholder group action against the Royal Bank of Scotland, as well as a major dispute against Credit Suisse on behalf of the investment fund of Georgian billionaire Bidzina Ivanishvili and his family.

#### HUMPHRIES KERSTETTER

##### Kristopher Kerstetter

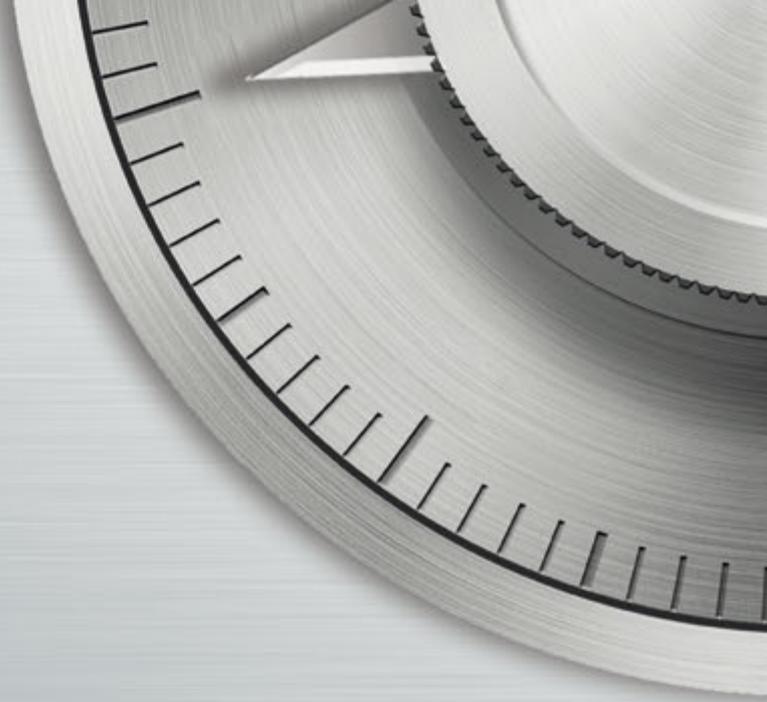
Another disputes boutique that has caught the eye acting on a number of the most high-profile cases, including representing Tesco in its interchange fee claim against Visa. An impressive client list includes WH Smith, UBS,

#### SACKER & PARTNERS

##### Ian Pittaway

A pioneering specialist law firm, Sackers celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2016. With clients that include Lloyds Banking Group, HSBC, John Lewis and ITV, the firm enjoyed a

# **International Arbitration**



## Intelligent legal recruitment.

**Congratulations to Three Crowns LLP,  
winners of the award for  
Boutique Firm of the Year**

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