



Chanakya Sethi

Partner

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Expertise
Dispute Resolution
Commercial Litigation
Competition Litigation
Class Actions
Financial Restructuring and
Insolvency
Public Law

Bar Admissions
British Columbia, 2023
District of Columbia, 2019
New York, 2013
Ontario, 2013

Clients turn to Chan when they are seeking counsel who have been battle tested in high-stakes trials and appeals.

Chan has helped to lead the defence of several bet-the-company, multibillion-dollar cases involving competition and class action claims, and has briefed or argued cutting-edge public law appeals. Chan's broad-based experience also includes international arbitrations, white collar investigations and intellectual property disputes.

As part of his commitment to pro bono work, Chan has represented national criminal defence groups, LGBT rights advocates and disability rights groups as amicus before the U.S. Supreme Court, including as lead counsel. He has published numerous articles on legal issues in academic and popular forums. In 2023, the Supreme Court of Canada favourably cited one of his academic papers in a constitutional case.

Before joining Davies, Chan practised at a U.S. trial boutique firm and at a litigation firm based in Washington, D.C. His trial experience included successfully defending against an antitrust challenge by the Federal Trade Commission to a \$12.8 billion minority investment and defending a senior corporate executive in a four-month jury trial involving a federal racketeering prosecution, after which the trial judge threw out the prosecution's principal charges. Chan's appellate experience included the successful defence of a U.S. federal district judge in landmark mandamus proceedings concerning the prosecution of former White House national security advisor Michael Flynn.

Chan clerked for Justice Michael J. Moldaver at the Supreme Court of Canada and Judge Ronnie Abrams of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York, and interned for Justice Dalveer Bhandari of the Supreme Court of India. Earlier in his career, Chan worked for a global investment bank in New York.

REPRESENTATIVE WORK

Shaw Communications Inc.

Successfully acted for Shaw Communications Inc. in a landmark trial before the Competition Tribunal and subsequent appeal before the Federal Court of Appeal challenging the company's C\$26-billion merger with Rogers Communications Inc. This was the largest case ever heard by the Tribunal and the first pre-closing merger challenge to go to trial before the Tribunal. This case won Commercial Litigation Team of the Year at the 2023 Canadian Law Awards and was named the #1 business decision of 2023 by *Law360 Canada*.

Insolvency Institute of Canada

Acting for the Insolvency Institute of Canada as an intervenor before the Supreme Court of Canada in *Aquino v. Ernst & Young Inc.* and *Scott v. Doyle Salewski Inc.*, two cases raising important questions about corporate attribution and set-off in the insolvency context.

DAVIES

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National Beef Packing Company

Acting for National Beef Packing Company in antitrust class actions commenced in Québec and British Columbia alleging a supply and price-fixing conspiracy in respect of cattle and beef.

Confidential client

Acting for the claimant in a C\$1.1-billion ICC arbitration regarding a major Canadian infrastructure project.

The Electric Reliability Council of Texas, Inc.

Acting as Canadian counsel for the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, Inc. in defence of an adversary proceeding under Chapter 15 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code relating to the historic February 2021 winter storm in Texas and the resulting extraordinary demands on the state's power grid.

McKesson Corporation and McKesson Canada Corporation

Acting for McKesson Corporation and McKesson Canada Corporation to defend a high-profile proposed class action brought by the Province of British Columbia on behalf of all Canadian provincial governments, as well as the Federal government, against manufacturers and distributors of opioids seeking to recover health care costs related to the opioid crisis. Also acting for McKesson in additional opioid-related proposed class actions.

FTI Consulting Canada Inc.

Acting for FTI Consulting Canada Inc. in its capacity as court-appointed monitor of Imperial Tobacco Canada Limited and its affiliated corporation, Imperial Tobacco Company Limited, in proceedings under the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act* and Chapter 15 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code.

RECOGNITIONS

Benchmark Litigation Canada Awards—Impact Case of the Year (2023)

The Canadian Law Awards—Commercial Litigation Team of the Year (2023)

Law360 Canada—Top Business Decision (2023)

National LGBT Bar Association—Best LGBTQ+ Lawyers Under 40 (2021)

EDUCATION

Yale Law School, LLM, 2014

Osgoode Hall Law School, JD (Gold Medallist), 2012

Princeton University, BA, 2007

Clerk, The Honourable Mr. Justice Michael J. Moldaver, Supreme Court of Canada

Clerk, The Honourable Ronnie Abrams, Judge, U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York

Judicial Intern, The Honourable Dalveer Bhandari, Supreme Court of India

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

The Advocates' Society

DAVIES

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Federation of Asian Canadian Lawyers
South Asian Bar Association

BOARD MEMBERSHIPS

The Daily Princetonian, trustee and secretary

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Ontario Bar Association, Civil Litigation Section Executive, former member
Osgoode Hall Law School, Laskin Moot Team, coach
Princeton University Summer Journalism Program, director
Upper Canada College Association Council