PRINCE'S CHAMBERS

Thomas Yeon

BARRISTER

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PROFILE

Thomas is developing a broad civil and commercial practice (including urgent injunctive and interlocutory matters) and has experience across Chambers' areas of expertise, including cases involving cross-border elements and issues of conflict of laws. He accepts instructions both as sole counsel and as part of a larger counsel team. He is able to advise, draft, and conduct hearings in both English and Chinese (both Mandarin and Cantonese). He is ranked in the Legal 500 Asia Pacific Hong Kong Bar 2027 Guide's commercial disputes category as a Rising Star.

Thomas has also contributed to several practitioners' textbooks and academic papers in the fields of banking, commercial, conflict of laws, insolvency, international trade, shipping, and trusts.

Alongside his practice, Thomas also clerks as a Judicial Associate at the High Court on a part-time basis, assisting in drafting and research work in civil and commercial cases. Prior to commencing practice, Thomas clerked as a Judicial Assistant at the Court of Final Appeal.

Thomas is a Fellow of the Hong Kong Institute of Arbitrators and a Middle Temple Scholar.

ADMISSIONS

2022	Barrister, Hong Kong

EDUCATION

2020	Postgraduate Certificate in Laws, University of Hong Kong
2019	Master of Laws, London School of Economics and Political Science (Merit)
2018	Bachelor of Laws, University of Durham (First Class Honours)

RANKINGS

"*Thomas is excellent in legal analysis. His advocacy is also impressive.*" (Legal 500, 2027)

SELECTED CASES

Arbitration (tribunal work and court-related applications)

- Assisted a HKIAC tribunal on a 2-day hearing on an application for partial award based on breach of information and share covenants under an investment deed (Hong Kong law)
- Assisted a HKIAC tribunal on a 3-day hearing on a claim for outstanding sums due under a deed of settlement (Hong Kong law)
- Advised a Russian SOE on setting aside an HKIAC award based on the claimant's liquidators' lack of capacity to conduct proceedings and contravention of public international law as a result of unlawful confiscations in breach of EU sanctions measures (with Wing So)

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Banking, financial services, and securities

- *Yinggao Resources Limited & Anor v HSBC* [2024] HKCA 1130 — breach of banking mandate and negligence dispute arising from loss in metal trading contracts; application to amend pleadings to claim damages for lost investment opportunities (with Tanie Toh)
- *Xue Xiaoyun v Susan Yung and BOCI Securities Limited* [2025] 5 HKLRD 473 — 5-day trial on negligent misstatements by investment advisor on cross-border transactions and vicarious liability of securities firm (with Samuel Wong)
- *In the Matter of China Investment Fund Co Ltd and Smartac Group China Holdings Ltd* — 19-day trial before the Market Misconduct Tribunal on false trading, price rigging, stock market manipulation and assisting / conniving in market misconduct (judgment pending)
- Acted for an investor in an ICC arbitration against a trust management services company for default in periodical payments from trust fund and return of principal (Hong Kong law)

Bankruptcy and insolvency

- *In the Matter of Ta Yang Group Holdings Limited* HCCW 221/2026 — winding-up petition against a HKEx-listed company; capital reduction and rights issue exercises for restoring solvency (with Sebastian Hughes and Regina Lai)
- *In the Matter of Bloomyears Limited* [2026] HKCFI 1646 — winding-up petition against an SFC-licensed entity for failure to repay loans lent for meeting Financial Resources Rules requirements
- *In the Matter of China First Capital Group Limited* [2025] 2 HKLRD 750 — substitution application by supporting creditor based on an HKEx-listed company's failure to repay principal and interest on investment bonds
- Advised on the presentation of a proof of debt against a PRC property development company concurrent or alternative to arbitration proceedings for breach of investment agreements by the company and its former directors

Commercial, international trade, and shipping

- *XY, LLC v Jesse Zhu and Grand Network Technology Ltd* (with Phillip Rompotis):
  - HCA 3039/2016 — 6-day trial on enforcement of foreign judgment and recovery of assets from company under judgment debtor's control (judgment pending)
  - HCMP 869/2014 — resisted application to vary a Mareva injunction for payment of legal fees for trial
- *Stanford Swim School Company Limited v The Australian International School Foundation Limited* HCA 704/2025 — licensing dispute over use of school facilities; resisted *ex parte* on notice injunction (with Phillip Rompotis)
- Acting for an international logistics provider in an HKIAC arbitration against a carrier for loss of cryptocurrency mining equipment during delivery in the United States (Hong Kong and US law)
- Acted for a Hong Kong cosmetics and skincare products company in a 5-day hearing in an HKIAC arbitration for breaches of a joint venture agreement, damages over HK$300 million (Hong Kong law) (with Samuel Wong)
- Advised a US logistics conglomerate on loan recovery actions and breach of directors' duties actions in Hong Kong, the PRC and the United States (with Phillip Rompotis)

Company

- *In the Matter of East Asia Vacuum Plating Factory Limited* HCMP 1274/2024 — application under section 570 of the Companies Ordinance (Cap.622) to appoint directors for a company with no living directors or shareholders
- Advised a minority shareholder of an international resort developer on dissipation of substantial assets in the Middle East and Southeast Asia by the board and unfairly prejudicial conduct by majority shareholders and directors

Fraud and asset recovery

- *Michael Yap & Anor v Lai Yip Dyeing Factory Limited & Ors* HCA 1084/2011 — payment of judgment debt following oral examination of judgment debtors under a promissory note and deed of guarantee (with Samuel Wong)
- *Ng Hiu Ngai v Jan Dostal* DCCJ 2019/2025 — resisted *ex parte* on notice application for injunction by a victim of fraud over funds in a bank account subject to a garnishee order of the Court of First Instance

- Advised a victim of a sophisticated international fraud scheme on prospects of summary judgment applications and impacts of foreign illegality on the intended applications

Taxation and costs

- *Low Shiu Lun v Director of Legal Aid* HCMP 2700/2024 – Liability of the Director of Legal Aid to pay the costs payable by a legally aided person in ancillary relief proceedings (with Tanie Toh)
- *Hang Yue Engineering Limited & Anor v Tse King Yuen* [2025] 5 HKC 365 — 2-day trial on recovery of costs and compensation paid by employer to employee from tortfeasor
- *香港特別行政區 訴 秦錦釗* ([2024] 6 HKC 434 — review by Taxing Master; [2025] 4 HKC 524 — review by Judge) (with Wing So) — taxation of costs following acquittal in 97-day trial on conspiracy to export unmanifested cargo and money laundering in excess of HK$3 billion
- Advised a global shipping entity on the payment of indemnity and contribution for employees' contribution and personal injuries proceedings

Trusts, probate, and succession

- *In the Matter of the Estate of Li Wun Yee*:
  - HCA 1436/2023 — acting for the estate and a company against claims for breach of directors' duties and breach of trust (led by Ambrose Ho SC)
  - HCCA 5726/2023 — resisted passing-over application under section 36 of the Probate and Administration Ordinance (Cap.10) by a caveator
- *Gordon David Michael George Oldham, Administrator of the Estate of David Tang, deceased* HCMP 944/2024 —Beddoe Order in favour of the sale of company shares for estate administration and distributions
- Advised a director of a Cayman Islands company holding Hong Kong, PRC and offshore investments on defences against potential removal from directorship over alleged failure to manage and distribute assets to beneficiaries under family trusts

APPOINTMENTS AND MEMBERSHIPS

Appointments

- Judicial Associate (General), Court of Appeal (2026 – present)
- Member, Hong Kong Bar Association Standing Committee on International Practice (2023 – present); Practice Committees on Financial and Securities Law (2025 – present), Arbitration (2024 – present) and Companies Law (2023 – present)
- Lecturer (Non-Clinical), University of Hong Kong (2023; 2026 – present)
- Tutor, City University of Hong Kong (2024 – 2025)
- Judicial Assistant, Court of Final Appeal (2020 – 2021)

Memberships

- Fellow, Hong Kong Institute of Arbitrators (2024 – present)
- International Editor (Asia), Cambridge Law Review (2019 – 2020)
- Senior Editor, Hong Kong Journal of Legal Studies (2019 – 2020)

PUBLICATIONS AND SEMINARS

Book chapters

- *Chitty on Contracts: Hong Kong Specific Contracts* (8th edn), "Carriage by Sea" (with Edward Alder) and "Suretyship and Guarantees" (forthcoming)
- *Company Law in Hong Kong: Insolvency 2027*, "Winding-Up by the Court" (with Bronson Chan) (forthcoming)
- *Bullen & Leake & Jacob's Hong Kong Precedents of Pleadings* (4th edn), "Admiralty" (with Edward Alder); "Bankers" and "Bills of Sale" (with Kenneth Lee and Tanie Toh)
- *Tort Law and Practice in Hong Kong* (4th edn), "Vicarious Liability" and "Conflict of Laws"

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Academic papers

- "Taking 'Public Function' Seriously" (2021) 51(2) *Hong Kong Law Journal* 547–572 (with Gabriel Wan) (referred to in Chitty on Contracts – Hong Kong Specific Contracts (7th edn), §14-151)
- "Maintaining Constants amongst Variable Factors: The Challenge of Equitable Accounting in the Property Context" (2021) 27(8) *Trusts and Trustees* 761–770 (with Benny Chung)
- "*Xiamen Xinjingdi Group Ltd v Eton Properties Ltd*: Clarifying the Steps and Issues to Consider when Lodging a Trust Claim in Cross-Border Disputes" (2021) 27(3) *Trusts and Trustees* 246–263 (with Benny Chung)

Seminars

- "Enforcement of Foreign Judgments and Recovery of Assets", Professional Resources Development Centre (September 2026) (with Cyrus Lee)
- "Recognition / Enforcement of Arbitration Awards; Challenge to Enforcement, and Setting Aside of Arbitration Awards in Hong Kong", HKIArb Training Course for the Jiangsu Lawyers Association (October 2025) (with Sebastian Hughes)
- "UN Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (CISG): 'Love it or hate it, but NEVER leave it!'", HKIArb seminar (October 2023) (with Louise Barrington, Samuel Wong and Sherlin Tung)

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

- Middle Temple Scholarship for Advocacy Training (2025)
- Winner, 9th Hong Kong Human Rights Moot (2020)
- 3 Verulam Buildings Prize for Best Overall Submission, LSE Law Review (2020)
- Winner, Ambassador's Moot (2018)
- Clyde & Co Research Internship in Public Law and Human Rights, Durham Law School (2017)
- Letter of Commendation for Academic Excellence, Durham Law School (2016)