



JANE PLAYER



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Overview

Jane is a leading international mediator – formerly a partner at King & Spalding, co-head of the International dispute resolution group and head of London disputes team at Bird & Bird, and DLA Piper LLP respectively.

She advocates the use of mediation early in the business relationship if at all possible where legal costs are at a minimum and views are least entrenched. Her approach supports businesses in their desire to form long term strategic relationships. She has an engaging and energetic style and is often praised for her proactive, commercial approach.

TMT (Technology, Media and Telecoms)

- Jane has mediated a substantial TMT disputes between supplier and customer. She has good knowledge of the IT telecoms and media sectors following 20 years working with such clients as lawyer and adviser.

- She has been appointed directly by in house counsel at TMT organisations and assisted in creating a mediation process for a high profile merger in the telecoms world where the EU competition authorities demand third party protection measures to be mutually agreed.
- Jane has also acted as mediator in many high profile media disputes allowing media attention to be minimised and confidentiality of the deal preserved.

Cases

- IT/Telecommunications
- Interconnection agreement between large telecoms operator and service provider.
- Software licence disputes following formal tender process for the implementation of body shop management software for vehicle repair body shops.
- Breach of contract. Acting for the supplier and customer on turn key projects as well as design only and/or maintenance only projects in the telecommunications and IT sectors.
- Regulatory disputes involving licence fees.
- Professional negligence against other professionals to include solicitors and accountants and IT/Telecoms experts.
- UCTA case for communications parties to include allegations of EU dominant position in the market.

Software licence disputes and the valid transfer of software licences.

- Media/Entertainment
- High profile defamation claim against senior executive at a worldwide broadcasting organisation.
- Film finance disputes to include distributor disputes and producer/financier disputes. Also to include professional negligence against film solicitors who had incorrectly protected their client's position.
- Defamation actions to include breach of confidence within media and publishing industries as well as corporate defamation actions.

IP (Intellectual Property)

Jane has mediated many IP disputes as one of the leading mediators on the WIPO (World Intellectual Property Organisation) panel.

She understands the need to preserve confidentiality of certain IP assets, as well as the desire to commercialise where possible the know-how.

Jane has acted for many high-tech and Pharma companies who prize their IP highly. She has assisted many to reach highly sensitive but worthwhile settlements.

Using Mediation, innovative and creative settlements can be reached which judges and arbitrators who are pleadings or contract bound cannot achieve.

Cases

- Copyright and licensing disputes in the publishing, telecoms and IT industries. •

Media IP/IPR disputes.

- Banking disputes which involve the security taken over IPR rights.

Business and Contract Disputes

Jane has assisted many companies large and small who have entered into collaborations through consortia or joint ventures and where along the life of the venture there have been difficulties. Some companies want out with the least cost and some want to restore the status quo, restore relationships and renegotiate terms.

She has also mediated shareholder disputes either between shareholders themselves or against the company where it is felt the company is not acting in the best interests of the shareholders as a whole. It enables businesses, together with their lawyers, to reach a negotiated compromise that will almost always be better than long, drawn out proceedings with uncertain outcomes and only one winner.

Jane has mediated professional partnership disputes where owner managers fall out over the future of the business. These have been between law partners, accountants, surveyors, architects, dentists and doctors' practices amongst others.

The flexible process of mediation, gives business a quick and relatively inexpensive process to explore and vent their concerns in a safe confidential environment.