



LLB Hons, LLM Cantab, MCI Arb  
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## Unique perspective

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**Sarrah is a full-time commercial arbitrator and mediator. She has over 35 years of dispute resolution experience in a broad range of diverse sectors: banking & financial services, shipping/maritime, trade & commodities and general commercial disputes.**

- Years in Private Practice: 20 years.
- Years as in-house Counsel: 7+ years.
- Years as an Arbitrator: 7+ years.

### **Transactional/Advisory/Dispute Resolution - a unique perspective.**

Over the course of Sarrah's career in dispute resolution, she has also been a transactional and advisory lawyer, negotiating, drafting and advising on complex energy and finance contracts (physicals and derivatives). This breadth of experience gives her a unique perspective on disputes from the point of view of (1) a private practice lawyer; (2) in-house counsel; (3) the end-user client; (4) commercial arbitrator and (5) commercial mediator.

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## Career

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- **Arbitrator/mediator** since 2013. Full-time from 2015
  - **JPMorgan Chase & Co** (Investment Bank - 2008-2015):
    - Managing Director & Assistant General Counsel, Head of the EMEA Commodities Legal team.
    - Member of the EMEA Derivatives Legal Management team.
    - Member of the EMEA Commodities Business Management team.
    - Member of the Global Commodities Business Physical Risks Committee.
  - **Clifford Chance** - Maritime/Commodities dispute resolution team (1987-2007) (Very short time at Holman Fenwick Willan in 2008)
  - **English Solicitor** (since 1987)

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## About Sarrah

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- **Legal & Commercial:** Sarrah was a lawyer in private practice and was in-house counsel. The latter role gave her a commercial and business orientation.
  - **Roles of responsibility:** In her role as a Managing Director at JPMorgan, Sarrah worked with business leaders and on global and EMEA oversight committees.
  - **Practice Areas:** Please see below.

- **The "virtual" explosion and revolution:** Sarra has a particular interest in digital platforms; use of technology to support virtual meetings and hearings; and FinTech.
- **Charity:** Sarra supports a number of non-legal and legal charities. In relation to legal charities, Sarra is a member of the Steering Committee of the Commercial Litigators' Forum National Pro Bono Fund-Raising Project and its sub-committee, The Arbitrators' Directory Committee, of which she is Chair.
- **Personal:** Sarra is married, loves music and has twins. The latter help her mediation practice!

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## As an Arbitrator

- Over 950 arbitration appointments.
- Sarra is regularly appointed in relation to a very broad range of commercial disputes.
- Sole and party appointed, chair and umpire.
- Institutional and ad hoc appointments (e.g. LMAA, LCIA, LME, ICC, SCC).

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## As a Mediator

- Sarra offers herself as either a facilitative or evaluative mediator.

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## Experience in Banking & Financial Services

- Book sales & purchases (covering exchange-traded products; financial and physical transactions)
- Derivatives - financially and physically settled (listed derivatives; OTC under ISDA and other master agreements. Forward freight agreements. Mis-selling claims; repos)
- E-Commerce - e-platforms; GUI and API; valuations and market prices delivered electronically; ETF's;
- FinTech - smart contracts; digital assets (tokenisation of assets) and DLT (a blockchain). Latterly keeping up with new payment models and private forms of money, and DeFi.
- Futures exchanges (trading, hedging and clearing on exchange: LME, LIFFE, ICE Europe, CME, etc.)
- Hedging; Liquidity Providers/market makers (OTC derivatives and futures and options)
- Inventory financing and trade finance (providing working capital; taking security over plants/facilities/manufactured products at different stages)
- Insolvency issues (e.g. acceleration; assignment)
- Joint ventures (reps and warranties; allocation disputes of profit and expenses)

- Lending (multicurrency revolving facilities; asset-backed/secured lending)
- Mergers, Acquisitions and Divestments (shares and assets; experience of integrating and divesting global businesses; post-closing price adjustments; reps and warranties)
- Miscellaneous disputes ("fat finger"; appropriateness of trades; disputes under Sale & Purchase Agreements of global businesses; Master Agreement Confirmation issues)
- Regulatory investigations (e.g. USD payments through sanctioned countries; EU Competition investigations; alleged oil market squeezes)
- Security & collateral (e.g. letters of credit, guarantees, escrow funds); margin and collateral calls, including enforcement
- Structured finance - structured securities/notes, investment programmes for retail structured products

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## **Expertise in Commodities & Maritime, Construction & Energy**

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- Admiralty (general average etc.)
  - Bills of lading (including drafting terms and conditions)
  - Carriage of goods by road, rail, pipeline, air and sea
  - Chartering, including COAs (bareboat, time and voyage)
  - Commodities of all types, including:
    - Agricultural and softs (e.g. coffee, cocoa, grains, potatoes, soya beans, sugar etc.)
    - Bullion and PGMs (gold, silver, platinum, palladium)
    - Coal
    - Emissions and carbon credits
    - LNG, natural gas (UK and Continental Europe)
    - Metals (ferrous and non-ferrous. E.g. copper, aluminium, iron ore, steel etc.)
    - Oil (crude, products, refined, bio fuels)
    - Renewables (e.g. biomass - ethanol; weather derivatives)
  - Containerised and liner trading (VSAs, slot/cross space charters, consortia etc.)
  - CTL/ATL - mv DERBYSHIRE/KOWLOON BRIDGE/KATERINA P
  - Drilling platforms/rigs
  - Electronic trading (e-commerce)
  - Energy (see E&P below; global oil and coal; gas and power in UK/Conti Europe; offshore, pipeline, construction, floating storages (FPSO), drilling, rigs)

- Environmental and hazardous disasters (oil pollution, explosions etc.)
- Exploration & Production (JV's, PSA and JOA disputes; licensing, concessions etc.)
- Insurance (goods, ships, storage facilities and warehouses). Policy wording and claims.
- Marine/shipping (chartering; incidents; fires; cargo issues etc)
- Miscellaneous (e.g. bribery & corruption, cargo issues, demurrage, laycan, limitations, off hire, performance claims, Q&Q, repudiation, sanctions, seaworthiness, set-off, title, under-lifting etc.)
- Minerals & Mining
- Sale of goods (e.g. FOB, CIF and all other incoterms; payment by LC's; vessels' nominations and performance; final and binding provisions; etc.)
- Ship sale and purchase (Disputes under NSF 1987/1993)
- Shipyard disputes (shipbuilding/shiprepair disputes; refund guarantees; expert determination clauses; enforceability of liquidated damages for defaults; deposit; "milestones"; "permissible", "non-permissible" and "excluded" delays)
- Storage and related issues (oil and oil products - oil storage in over 50 locations)
- Title and other similar documents in all different contexts (e.g. holding certificates, warehouse warrants, etc.)
- Warehousing (responsibility for a warehousing business in over 15 jurisdictions covering ags, softs, metals and steel for a number of Exchanges)
- Vaulting (bullion and PGMs)

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## **Professional Memberships**

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- P.R.I.M.E. Finance Dispute Resolution Expert (WEF October 2020)
  - UK Incoterms 2020 re-drafting Group
  - Arbitrators' Club - Commodities Section; Financial Services Section, Oil & Gas Section
  - Baltic Exchange
  - Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (MCI Arb)
  - Federation of Oils, Seeds and Fats Association (FOSFA)
  - The Grain and Feed Trade Association (GAFTA)
  - International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)
  - ISDA Arbitration Working Group
  - London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA)
  - London Maritime Arbitrators Association (LMAA) - Full Member

- London Metal Exchange Arbitration Panel (LME) - Approved Arbitrator
- Trained with and Accredited by the London School of Mediation (LSM) who are accredited by the Civil Mediation Council (CMC)
- Solicitor of the English High Court
- Admitted to the Freedom of the Worshipful Company of Shipwrights
- Chair of Arbitration Steering Committee for the Commercial Litigators' Forum National Pro Bono Fund raising project

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## Education

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- Law degree (2.1) at Queens' College, Cambridge (LLM Cantab)
  - Law degree (2.1) at University College London (LLB Hons)

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## Terms and Conditions

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**Terms and Conditions available upon request.**