

## Dan Butler KC

## Gerard Brennan Chambers

Level 29, 32 Turbot Street  
Brisbane, Qld, 4000

Tel: + 61 7 3259 1610

Mob: + 61 419 505 341

Email: [dan.butler@qldbar.asn.au](mailto:dan.butler@qldbar.asn.au)

### OVERVIEW

---

Dan Butler KC acts as an arbitrator in Singapore, Australia and throughout Asia-Pacific.

He has extensive experience in disputes involving commodities, trade and shipping, but his experience also extends to disputes concerning mining and resources, oil and gas, infrastructure projects, joint ventures, banking and finance, corporate insolvency, insurance and reinsurance, trusts, equity, professional negligence, directors' duties and taxation.

Prior to being called to the bar, Dan completed a Master of Law degree at Cambridge University (Hons I) and worked as a disputes lawyer in Brisbane, London and Melbourne.

### EDUCATION

---

**2003            Master of Laws (Hons I), University of Cambridge**

Cambridge Commonwealth Trust Scholar  
St Edmund's College Prize for Academic Excellence  
First in class, Corporate Insolvency

**2000            Corporate Finance, Securities Institute of Australia**

**1998            Bachelor of Laws (Hons), University of Queensland**

**1996            Bachelor of Commerce, University of Queensland**

### CAREER SUMMARY

---

**2022**            Appointed King's Counsel

**2010 - present** Barrister in private practice

**2008 - 2009**    Litigation & Dispute Resolution, Blake Dawson, Melbourne

**2003 - 2007**    Litigation & Dispute Resolution, Mayer Brown, London

**1999 - 2002**    Litigation & Corporate Advisory, Phillips Fox & Blake Dawson, Brisbane

## **QUALIFICATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS**

---

Fellow of the Singapore Institute of Arbitrators (SIArb)

Panel arbitrator for the Singapore Chamber of Maritime Arbitrators (SCMA)

## **SELECTED DISPUTES**

---

### **Commodities, trade and shipping disputes**

Experience across the full range of commodities, including coal, iron ore, oil and gas, petroleum, nickel, metal commodity products, liquified natural gas, phosphate and agricultural products.

Claims relating to quality, quantity, delay, contractual default and payment obligations, financing and security, production sharing contracts, profit sharing contracts, derivative contracts, distribution agreements, force majeure, breach of long-term supply contracts, US trade sanctions, fraud, insolvency of counter-parties and retention of title claims.

Experience in shipping disputes, including charterparties (eg. time and voyage charters), bills of lading, cargo claims, carriage of goods and carrier's liability, contamination, demurrage, vessel repairs and storage, stevedoring claims, leasing disputes relating to ship building yards, letters of credit and trade finance, logistics - including port, rail and terminal access, storage and warehousing claims and liens, marine insurance, including damage to port infrastructure and equipment.

Some examples of significant cases include:

Acting for US company Fluor in an AUD\$1.5 billion oil and gas claim by Santos arising from the construction of a liquified natural gas plant. The hearing of this case was incredibly complex and ran for 5 months during 2021-2022.

Acting for Glencore in an AUD\$65 million pricing dispute concerning coal sales from Australia via its Singapore marketing and distribution arm. Central to this dispute was the market value of coal sold pursuant to transactions spanning a number of years valued at hundreds of millions of dollars.

Acting for Aquila Coal in an AUD\$500 million dispute with its joint venture partner Vale concerning access to port terminals and rail logistics for the sale of coal.

Acting for Aquila Coal in a claim worth tens of millions of dollars relating to a production sharing agreement concerning coal with its joint venture partner Vale.

Acting for Central Petroleum in a dispute valued at AUD\$60 million relating to the exploration and sale of petroleum. The dispute concerned an alleged claim to commission by a US company following the alleged introduction of Central Petroleum to French company 'Total' by way of a production sharing agreement entered into by those parties.

Acting for a joint venturer and shareholder, in a dispute valued at more than AUD\$180 million, relating to the development and sub-division of real estate. Acting in related Court proceedings to set aside arbitral awards and to resist enforcement.

Acting for Mount Isa Mines in a pricing dispute valued at AUD\$38 million concerning the market value of metal commodity products.

Acting in a claim against design engineers in a dispute valued at more than AUD\$400 million in relation to the construction of a motorway tunnel.

Acting for a group of commodity producers in a multi-million dollar arbitral dispute with an industry body relating to profit share.

Acting in relation to multi-million pound sale of goods disputes arising from the liquidation of a European company involved in international trade, including retention of title claims, disputes with warehousemen and liens.

Acting in claims between injured persons working aboard the 'Queen Mary' ship docked in California and liquidators based in England.