

Kennedys



Karnan Thirupathy

Partner

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Profile

Karnan is a Partner with Kennedys Legal Solutions and is qualified in both Singapore and in England and Wales.

Karnan specialises in shipping and international trade law. He speaks and reads Malay / Bahasa Indonesia and has extensive practical experience handling matters involving jurisdictions across South and South-East Asia including Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam, Thailand, Myanmar, India and Bangladesh.

His clients include vessel owners, charterers, trading houses, offshore energy contractors, P&I Clubs and marine insurers. He acts for and advises clients on a range of shipping and trade related matters including those involving charter parties, commodity sale contracts, marine insurance, shipping related derivatives contracts and shipping related fraud. Karnan also specialises in assisting clients in the shipping, trade and marine insurance sectors with trade sanctions compliance and related regulatory issues.

Karnan regularly represents clients in international arbitrations in London, Singapore and Hong Kong and also appears as Counsel in Singapore Court proceedings.

Karnan is a member of the Singapore Shipping Association (International Committee), Singapore Chamber of Maritime Arbitrators Procedure Committee and the Maritime Law Association of Singapore. In January 2020, the Singapore Academy of Law appointed Karnan as a Senior Accredited Specialist in Maritime and Shipping Law. This accreditation is given to senior Singapore lawyers who are recognised for their extensive expertise and experience in maritime and shipping law.

Karnan is also a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and is on the SIAC Reserve Panel of Arbitrators.

He has been consistently ranked as a leading individual by Chambers Global and clients describe him as someone who is noted for his “excellent understanding of the shipping industry and the complexities of doing business across the region”. In Chambers Asia Pacific 2020 Karnan is described by clients as being “very measured and a calm operator,” offers “helpful, practical advice” and is “willing to go the extra mile”. In addition, Legal 500 Asia Pacific has identified him as providing “clear and measured responses in difficult situations and under tight deadlines”.

He is straightforward and able to come up with effective case strategies. He provides clear advice and is always calm and gives you the comfort that things are always under control.
Chambers Asia Pacific 2020

Market recognition

- Global Leader for ‘Transport – Shipping’ (Singapore)

Who’s Who Legal Transport 2021

- A Recommended Lawyer for ‘Shipping: Foreign Firms (Singapore)’

The Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2020

- Karnan Thirupathy has an “Excellent understanding of the shipping industry and the complexities of doing business across the region”

Chambers Asia Pacific 2018

- Notable Practitioner for ‘Shipping international: Litigation (Singapore)’

“Karnan Thirupathy advises on a wide range of shipping disputes, including both wet and dry matters. One client reports: He is straightforward and able to come up with effective case strategies. He provides clear advice and is always calm and gives you the comfort that things are always under control.”

Chambers Asia Pacific 2020

- Karnan Thirupathy, has “a no-fuss and no drama approach to managing disputes, is thoughtful and measured...”

Chambers Asia Pacific 2019

- “Able to offer commercial and practical solutions to problems.”

Shipping international litigation, Chambers Asia Pacific 2018

Work highlights

- Acted for a Singapore based energy
- Acted for charterers in multiple

company and its insurers in relation to claims in the Singapore courts for damage caused by a vessel to pipelines and which involved the establishment of a limitation fund under LLMC 1976.

- Acted for New York listed shipowners in obtaining injunction orders against charterers to freeze over US\$60 m in assets in Singapore in aid of London arbitration and Court proceedings.
- Advised a leading producer and exporter of oleochemicals and biofuels on setting up its internal sanctions compliance procedures and in responding to investigations regarding specific transactions.

arbitration and court proceedings in London, Singapore, Mauritius, Indonesia and the US in disputes arising from the loading of an Indonesian nickel ore cargo and the vessel's 15 month detention in Indonesia following the implementation of a government restriction on the export of the cargo.

- Acted for an international commodities trader in the defence of a series of claims brought in Hong Kong arbitrations by Chinese buyers under coal supply contracts as well as in pursuing related claims against an ex-employee in Indonesia who had fraudulently misappropriated the employers' contracts and monies.

Services

- **Insurance and claims**
- **Regulatory and compliance**
- **International arbitration**
- **Marine**
- **Regulation**
- **International sanctions**

Sectors

- **Shipping and international trade**

- **Travel and tourism**