



## Jerrie Qiu Lin Tan

### Counsel and Associate Director of K&L Gates Straits Law LLC

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## OVERVIEW

Jerrie Tan is a Counsel in the litigation and dispute resolution practice group. She has an active commercial and criminal litigation practice, with a focus on Mandarin-speaking clients. In 2018, Jerrie was one of the 100 lawyers around the world selected to attend at Tsinghua University for a Continuing Legal Education course.

Having harmonized both aspects of her commercial and criminal practice, she has acted and advised in complex corporate investigations. She is a consistent face in the Singapore Supreme Court and has acted as lead counsel in international arbitration proceedings with the Singapore International Arbitration Centre.

Jerrie regularly acts for accused persons facing death penalty charges on a pro bono basis. She is one of the youngest female lawyers that have been appointed to the Lead Counsel panel under the Legal Assistance Scheme for Capital Offences (LASCO) administered by the Supreme Court of Singapore.

Believing in empowering the next generation of lawyers, Jerrie is an Adjunct Fellow with the National University of Singapore, Centre for Pro Bono and Clinical Legal Education. She also teaches the Advocacy course for law students undergoing the bar exam.

## PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Prior to joining the firm, Jerrie started her legal practice in a boutique law firm specializing in criminal and commercial litigation, before joining one of the big four law firms in Singapore. She joined Straits Law Practice LLC as a senior associate in 2017. After the combination between Straits Law Practice LLC and K&L Gates LLP, she was promoted to Counsel in 2022.

## PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- Active volunteer under the Criminal Legal Aid Scheme (CLAS) and Legal Assistance Scheme for Capital Offences (LASCO)

## EDUCATION

- Certificate, Tsinghua University, 2018 (*Certificate of Completion, Continuing Legal Education*)
- LL.B., Singapore Management University, 2012

## ADMISSIONS

- Advocate and Solicitor, Singapore

## LANGUAGES

- Chinese (Mandarin)
- English

## MEDIA MENTIONS

- Mentioned, "Lawyer Eugene Thuraisingam fined \$4,000 for breaching a gag order," *The Straits Times*, 30 August 2022
- Mentioned, "Capital drug offender avoids gallows following retrial; jailed for 12 years," *The Straits Times*, 26 July 2021
- Quoted, "Court of Appeal clears Nigerian man of drug trafficking after 9-year legal saga," *The Straits Times*, 17 September 2020

## AREAS OF FOCUS

- Commercial Disputes
- Appellate Litigation
- International Arbitration
- Restructuring and Insolvency

## REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

### COMMERCIAL AND/OR CIVIL LITIGATION AND/OR ARBITRATION WORK IN 2021/2022

- Acting as lead counsel for a Singapore medical device company in an international arbitration proceeding to defend a claim brought by an international distributor for alleged repudiatory breach of contract.
- Acting as lead counsel for former employees of a company being sued for alleged breach of fiduciary duties and in particular, for allegedly accepting kickbacks from the subcontractor in the amount of approximately US\$3 million. This matter involves four different parties, and has related ongoing arbitration proceedings.

- Acted as lead counsel for two football coaches to successfully defend an injunction application brought against them to, among others, cease their training activities and/or refrain from using confidential information of the claimant in their possession.
- Acted as lead counsel for an individual who was accused of conspiring with another individual to cheat the claimant of secret profits to be earned in certain non-fungible token trades. This matter ended in a successful settlement among parties.

### **CRIMINAL DEFENCE WORK IN 2021/2022**

- Acting for various accused persons facing charges of cheating/criminal breach of trust involving amounts of more than US\$10 million.
- Acted as lead counsel for a senior lawyer in relation to a charge under the State Courts Act for breaching a gag order.
- Acted as lead counsel for various accused persons who were initially facing charges attracting the death penalty, and successfully managed to get these charges reduced to non-capital charges.
- Acted for an accused person who was sentenced to the death penalty in setting aside his conviction before the Court of Appeal on a capital drug trafficking charge. In the re-trial before the High Court, Jerrie cross-examined various material factual and expert witnesses, which eventually resulted in the court finding for the defence and holding that the confessions of the accused person be thrown out. This led to a successful plea bargain between the prosecution and the defence.

### **INVESTIGATIONS WORK IN 2021/2022**

- Acted for an events company to conduct investigations against an employee that had stolen monies from the company. Jerrie conducted the investigative interview against the employee.
- Acted as the Singapore counsel in a global team of lawyers for an American multinational corporation to investigate business ethics and compliance issues of its employees.
- Acted as lead counsel for an energy company to conduct investigations in relation to cyber-crime allegations raised by the US Homeland Security.
- Acted for an international law firm to investigate allegations raised about potential misconduct by one of its lawyers. Jerrie conducted the interviews of the relevant employees involved.

### **INSOLVENCY WORK IN 2021/2022**

- Acting for a creditor to resist proceedings brought by the foreign representative of an international airline to recognize a scheme sanctioned by a foreign court. This matter is before the Singapore International Commercial Court.
- Acted as lead counsel at the hearing for an Asian national oil company that had to deal with competing claims from creditors of Hin Leong Trading (Pte) Ltd, an oil trader that was undergoing judicial management in Singapore at the time with debts in excess of US\$3 billion.

- Acted as lead counsel in a Singapore High Court trial to get judgment on merits against the borrower and guarantors for non-payment of monies borrowed.