

The
LEGAL
500
JOHN PRITCHARD

The Legal 500 recommends

Ogier

2009 edition

This PDF is an extract of the full recommendations for the firm in the 2009 edition of The UK Legal 500.

The attached pages contain all the recommendations for the firm. This document relates to your firm only, to see how your firm has performed against your peers and our full editorial analysis please go to www.legal500.com or refer to the printed book.

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Offshore

Appleby BVI, Bermuda, Cayman Islands, Hong Kong, Jersey, Mauritius, Seychelles
Arias, Fábrega & Fábrega BVI, Hong Kong, Luxembourg, Panama
Bedell Cristin Guernsey, Jersey
Cains Isle of Man
Carey Olsen Guernsey, Jersey
Conyers Dill & Pearman Anguilla, BVI, Bermuda, Cayman Islands, Dubai, Hong Kong, Singapore
Dickinson Cruickshank Isle of Man
Harney Westwood & Riegels LLP Anguilla, BVI, Hong Kong
Lennox Paton Bahamas
Maples and Calder BVI, Cayman Islands, Dubai, Dublin, Hong Kong, Jersey
Ogier BVI, Cayman Islands, Guernsey, Hong Kong, Ireland, Jersey, Montevideo, New Zealand
Patton, Moreno & Asvat Panama
Quijano & Associates Panama
Vallarino, Vallarino & Garcia-Maritano Panama
Walkers BVI, Cayman Islands, Dubai, Hong Kong, Jersey

1

Firms are listed A-Z within tiers

One of the most successful offshore firms in London, Maples and Calder established a UK office more than a decade ago to better represent European clients who wanted Cayman and BVI law advice in a similar time zone. Its London team is among the largest of the offshore firms, numbering 24 lawyers, including seven partners. The firm has acted on a number of major hedge fund restructurings, fund listings and the launches of distressed credit funds. The London team's best-known specialists are Shaun Denton(finance and capital markets), Paul Govier(head of the investment funds group), Chris Mckenzie(head of the BVI law practice) and Tony Pursall(trusts).

One of the best-reputed offshore firms **Ogier** has established an admirable practice in London, from where it offers its European clients legal advice on Cayman and BVI law. The firm is particularly strong on corporate and finance advice, and has well-regarded practices in investment funds, banking, private equity and tax. Gray Smith is the London managing partner.

Patton, Moreno & Asvat's London branch is one of the oldest of the offshore firms in London, dating back to 1986. It stands out for its ship finance expertise, and has an impressive roster of private clients. Name partner Brett Patton heads the office.

Guernsey - Commercial and banking

CAREY OLSEN OGIER OZANNES	1
Babbé Bedell Cristin Collas Day	2
AO HALL Mourant du Feu & Jeune	3

Firms are listed A-Z within tiers

Carey Olsen's corporate practice offers '*consistently excellent service*'. The '*excellent*' Tom Carey advised Resolution Ltd on its highly publicised flotation on the LSE. New head of corporate and finance Graham Hall is highly rated in the market, while Ben Morgan is '*very experienced in the private equity fund arena*'.

Ogier is a '*leading player*', with a large commercial team in Guernsey. It was appointed by the liquidators of offshore marketing and advertising agency Wallace Barnaby & Associates, the largest liquidation matter in Guernsey in 2008. Marcus Leese is held in high regard, and newly appointed partner Caroline Chan gives '*high-quality advice and really helps you get the deals done*'. Nick Gamble focuses on banking and structured finance.

Ozannes fielded a team across its Guernsey and Jersey offices to advise Dresdner Bank AG, Commerzbank AG and Allianz SE on the Guernsey and Jersey legal and regulatory aspects of Commerzbank's proposed acquisition of Dresdner from Allianz. The '*exceptionally talented*' David Moore is now head of corporate. Jeremy Wessels has a '*pragmatic approach*' and is active in restructuring and insolvency.

Guernsey - Dispute resolution

CAREY OLSEN
OZANNES

1

AO HALL
Babbé
Ogier

2

AFR Advocates
Ashton Barnes Tee
Collas Day

3

Firms are listed A-Z within tiers

Babbé's Ian Swan is held in very high regard; for some clients he is the *'best in Guernsey'*. His focus is on financial, internationally oriented work.

Ogier has recruited a specialist insolvency litigation associate from the Manchester office of DLA Piper UK LLP. Litigation partner Simon Davies is *'very competent'* and has been acting for the government of Indonesia in successfully freezing over €36m beneficially owned by Tommy Suharto. The case is currently being appealed.

AFR Advocates' Mark Ferbrache is an *'outstanding advocate who always goes the extra mile to deliver'*. Clients include Fortis and Cable & Wireless.

Guernsey - Employment

AO HALL OZANNES	1
Ashton Barnes Tee Carey Olsen	2
AFR Advocates Babbé Collas Day Ogier	3
<small>Firms are listed A-Z within tiers</small>	

Collas Day has a strong contentious employment practice, and has been involved in two of the highest-profile pieces of employment litigation to come before Guernsey's Royal Court in recent years.

Ogier handles employment law across the Channel Islands, and is particularly strong on employment in Jersey. Its Guernsey practice is run by litigation head Simon Davies, who acted for Sandpiper CI in a high-profile unfair dismissal claim.

Guernsey - Investment funds

CAREY OLSEN
OZANNES

1

Ogier

2

Babbé
Bedell Cristin
Collas Day
Mourant du Feu & Jeune

3

AO HALL

Firms are listed A-Z within tiers

Ozannes is *'responsive and creative'*, and acted as principal legal adviser to Curzon Capital PCC II Ltd on the establishment and launch of a new open-ended Class B investment fund, with the team led by the *'knowledgeable, plugged-in'* Gavin Farrell. Corporate head David Moore advised HSBC Infrastructure Company Ltd on the placing and offer of shares worth £145m. Peter Harwood is *'well connected'*.

Ogier now has a substantial share of the funds market, and has been advising some innovative clients. William Simpson is *'very approachable and practical'*, and advised the first fund to list on the LSE's new Specialist Fund Market. Newly appointed partner Caroline Chan is *'first rate'*.

Babbé wins its higher ranking due to the growth of its *'excellent'* funds practice, which is active on hedge fund, property fund and private equity fund work and is noted for its strength in depth. Clients include the Dubai Property Fund.

Guernsey - Private client, trusts and tax

CAREY OLSEN
OZANNES

1

AFR Advocates
Ashton Barnes Tee
Babbé
Collas Day
Ogier

2

Firms are listed A-Z within tiers

Collas Day's institutional clients include Trident Trust, the Louvre Group and Savills. Patrick Palmer heads the private client practice.

Ogier focuses on highly complex commercial trusts work, often involving multiple jurisdictions, and frequently cooperation between the firm's Jersey, Cayman Islands and BVI offices. It has *'first-rate knowledge of international structuring for global families'*.

Jersey - Banking and finance

BEDELL CRISTIN CAREY OLSEN MOURANT DU FEU & JEUNE OGIER	1
Appleby	2
BakerPlatt Crill Canavan Ozannes Walkers Voisin	3

Firms are listed A-Z within tiers

Mourant du Feu & Jeune has 'a deep understanding of the relevant business issues coupled with legal advice that is practical and profound'. James Ruane led a team advising a major UK financial institution on its participation as lender in the restructuring of loans worth about £1bn. Jonathan Walker is strong on insolvency and Jonathan Rigby on restructuring, and newly appointed partner Michael Williams is 'very impressive'.

Ogier has a large team, in which Chris Byrne is particularly highly rated, and provides 'excellent service'. It has been pioneering the development of 'cash box' transactions via Jersey; Marc Yates has advised RBS, Lloyds TSB and HBOS on the establishment of 'cash box' companies. Matthew Swan acted on one of the first club deals in Jersey, and Nicholas Ward is 'extremely committed and hardworking'.

Appleby has a 'quality' practice led by Wendy Benjamin, whose team has grown through the addition of Mark Estella, who is dual qualified in England and Gibraltar and is highly rated by clients. Clients include Standard Chartered Bank, which the firm recently advised on several initiatives including Korean and Malaysian investments.

Jersey - Commercial property

APPLEBY OGIER	1
Carey Olsen	2
Bedell Cristin Crill Canavan Mourant du Feu & Jeune Walkers	3
Viberts	Voisin
Firms are listed A-Z within tiers	

Appleby's team - led by the 'very good' Tim Hart- has 'consistently delivered a high-quality service over many years'. Hart is advising major developer the Dandara Group in relation to the Waterfront development. Group chair John Bisson is 'extremely commercial and a very able advocate on difficult matters'. He acted for new client Hotbed Ltd, an investment company, on one of the only investment acquisitions in 2008.

Ogier's highly regarded Chris Renouf is acting for Harcourt in relation to the Waterfront development. The 'great department' also won the mandate to act for Scarborough Channel Islands Ltd in respect of mortgage work in Jersey. Peter Bertram is also well regarded at this 'top firm'.

Carey Olsen's team - which 'rapidly gets to grips with complex structures' - is headed by newly promoted partner Christopher Philpott, who has a property litigation background. Alex Ohlsson advises Jersey's Waterfront Enterprise Board Ltd, a key new client won following a competitive pitch. Nicholas Crocker is highly regarded for property financing.

Jersey - Corporate and commercial

BEDELL CRISTIN CAREY OLSEN MOURANT DU FEU & JEUNE OGIER	1
Appleby Ozannes	2
Crill Canavan Voisin Walkers	3
BakerPlatt	VerrasLaw
<small>Firms are listed A-Z within tiers</small>	

The *'very knowledgeable'* lawyers at Mourant du Feu & Jeune are arguably the island's strongest corporate team. They have handled the bulk of the migration transactions to take place through Jersey recently, including the redomiciliations of Shire plc and WPP plc, Charter International plc and Regus plc; Robert Hickling was the lead partner. Corporate finance partner James Ruane- who is *'very responsive and reliable'* - advised Heritage Oil on its LSE listing.

Ogier's corporate practice *'would compare favourably with any firm, including Magic Circle'*. Marc Yates is *'experienced, commercially astute, responsive and a pleasure to work with'*. His team advised Tarsus Group plc on its migration. Clive Chaplin is also recommended.

Appleby's Andrew Weaver is a *'first choice for corporate and funds work in Jersey'*, while Mark Lewis also attracts favourable feedback. Established corporate clients include the SUN Group and Barclays Private Bank and Trust. The team is active in private equity and benefits from the firm's presence in other offshore centres.

Jersey - Dispute resolution

APPLEBY BEDELL CRISTIN CAREY OLSEN CRILL CANAVAN MOURANT DU FEU & JEUNE OGIER	1
BakerPlatt Voisin Walkers	2
Hanson Renouf Ozannes Sinels	3
Bois Bois	

Firms are listed A-Z within tiers

Mourant du Feu & Jeune's Jonathan Speck is 'exceptional', a 'brilliant wordsmith', 'very measured, well organised, effective and persuasive', and has a 'strong team' with 'top-class advocates'. He has been heavily involved in the Alhamrani litigation, where he advised JP Morgan on the issue of whether the costs of a neutral trustee should automatically be subject to taxation.

Ogier's 'excellent' team is headed by the 'impressive' Kerry Lawrence, who advised the Brunei government, through the Brunei Investment Agency, on successfully securing the return of misappropriated assets worth several million pounds. Matthew Thompson is 'extremely supportive'.

BakerPlatt is an 'excellent' litigation boutique with a market-leading reputation for criminal work, including fraud, and a 'particularly strong' regulatory, fiduciary and insolvency disputes practice. Stephen Baker advised the R2R Fund on proceedings that led to the Jersey Financial Services Commission (FJSC) reversing its position. Simon Franckel has now left the firm.

Jersey - Employment

CAREY OLSEN OGIER	1
Bedell Cristin Mourant du Feu & Jeune	2
Crill Canavan	3
Voisin	Walkers
Firms are listed A-Z within tiers	

Litigator John Kelleher heads Carey Olsen's employment team, which advised SandpiperCI Ltd on its defence of an unfair dismissal claim. It also handles non-contentious work, including a significant amount of pensions-related advice, and delivers the *'highest standards of service throughout'*.

Ogier's pan Channel Islands team, whose *'strength is its pragmatic approach'*, advised Sandpiper on a separate matter, involving a claim for unfair dismissal by a CEO. Matthew Thompson heads the team.

Bedell Cristin's employment litigators have been acting in *CI Fire & Security v Browning*, a groundbreaking case which has dramatically changed the way in which the Jersey Employment Tribunal operates. Clients describe an *'excellent level of service'*.

Jersey - Investment funds

BEDELL CRISTIN CAREY OLSEN MOURANT DU FEU & JEUNE OGIER	1
Appleby Ozannes Voisin	2
Crill Canavan VerrasLaw Walkers	3

Firms are listed A-Z within tiers

Mourant du Feu & Jeune has one of the largest specialist funds team, recently boosted by the appointment of two new partners. Ben Robins has a focus on private equity funds, and has taken over as practice head. Jacqueline Richomme- who advised key hedge fund client CVC Capital Partners on the establishment of a private equity mega fund - is highly regarded, as is Nigel Weston for real estate funds.

Ogier attracts praise for its *'knowledge of market practices and creativity'*. Richard Thomas heads the team and is active in private equity in emerging markets. Nigel Kershaw *'rates highly compared to competitors'*. The practice is supported by the firm's offices in Dublin, the BVI and the Cayman Islands, and clients note that this *'breadth of experience makes a difference when shopping for jurisdictions'*.

Appleby is *'efficient and friendly'*, with Andrew Weaver noted as *'approachable and willing to get involved in the detail of transactions'*. Mark Lewis has been acting for real estate investor Meinl European Land Ltd on a major restructuring, while Weaver acted for Meinl Bank on the same transaction.

Jersey - Private clients, trusts and tax

BEDELL CRISTIN CAREY OLSEN OGIER	1
Mourant Du Feu & Jeune	2
Appleby Crill Canavan Voisin	3
BakerPlatt Sinels	Walkers
<small>Firms are listed A-Z within tiers</small>	

Carey Olsen's 'excellent' head of trusts Paul Matthams has great stature in the market. The 'first-class' team - which also handles major international probate work - won a tender to become legal adviser to the board of trustees of a significant public sector pension scheme. Robert MacRae is active in trust litigation.

Ogier has a large team which acts for many of the leading trust players on a cross-jurisdictional basis. Both Steve Meiklejohn, who is 'very good on "big picture" international planning issues', and Phil Le Cornu, who has 'expertise and knowledge coupled with a very natural ability to treat clients with great respect', are dual qualified in the BVI. The firm is also strong on trust litigation, and clients include Barclays Private Bank & Trust Ltd.

Mourant du Feu & Jeune's Alan Binnington has left to work with the firm's recently spun off private wealth business, though he will continue as a consultant to the firm. Giles Corbin is 'very knowledgeable and practical' and 'manages the team very well'. The firm has been acting for JP Morgan Trust Company (Jersey) Ltd in relation to a major reorganisation of an entire book of trust business previously administered in Jersey.

Jersey - Structured finance and securitisation

BEDELL CRISTIN CAREY OLSEN MOURANT DU FEU & JEUNE OGIER	1
Appleby Walkers	2
Voisin	3
Firms are listed A-Z within tiers	

Mourant du Feu & Jeune is active on structured product work. James Ruane has been advising on a number of 'cash box' transactions, while Jonathan Walker advised on the first public securitisation for Volkswagen Financial Services (UK) in the UK.

Ogier has a strong investment bank client base, and '*excellent financial industry knowledge*'. The highly regarded Chris Byrne heads the team, and advised Lloyds TSB on a balance sheet synthetic CLO transaction which involved the issuance of approximately €125m of debt securities by a Jersey SPV.

Appleby has been advising Morgan Stanley in connection with the first listing of Delaware preference shares on the CISX.