

David Stern

Call: 1989
Education: LLB (London); LLM (Cantab)
ADR Group Accredited Mediator
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David specialises in the resolution of domestic and international commercial disputes through highly developed negotiation and mediation strategies.

Founder of Settlement Counsel in 2000, he has acted in some of the most prominent domestic and international insurance coverage matters of recent times.

David regularly leads international teams of multi-disciplinary professionals tasked to negotiate settlement of high-value and complex commercial disputes.

An expert on the London Insurance Market, his understanding of commercial realities have led to commercial settlements totalling over £1 billion.

“Working with David is a pleasure because he combines an ability to master almost any problem and an impressive talent for hard work and analysing minutiae without losing sight of the larger picture. He is a great asset to any team who wants to get it right from the start”.

Richard Cornthwaite, Garstangs

Insurance

David handles coverage disputes including business interruption, environmental pollution, fidelity, property damage, products liability and terrorism. He is also experienced in the area of broker liability.

In addition, he regularly advises on London Market custom and practice, insurance insolvency and schemes of arrangement, regulatory compliance and legislative reform.

He is regularly asked to author and present keynote speeches for several international organisations, including the American Bar Association.

Mediation

After more than a decade using ADR techniques to solve disputes, David is an accredited commercial mediator with the ADR Group. While his specialist knowledge relates to insurance, underlying cases and financial services, his strengths derive from his corporate experience, understanding of commercial realities, an ability to relate to people and a solution-orientated approach. This makes him suitable for a wide range of mediations.

Sample Disputes Include:

Settlements

International mining corporation and various London and foreign insurers

Retained to co-ordinate a multi-disciplined international team formed to release historic insurance coverage assets of a major North American corporation. Project entailed ground-up analysis of corporate history, insurance archaeology, environmental audits, claim valuation, mastery of local and federal legislation

US forestry company and various London and foreign insurers

Retained to conduct strategic settlement negotiations involving environmental pollution claims

Mediation

International mining corporation and various London and foreign insurers

Commercial mediation between policyholder and excess insurer in cross-border environmental pollution coverage matter

Arbitration

Multi-national petroleum company and European insurance company

Retained to advise in respect of US litigation and to conduct arbitration proceedings in London under a commercial lines' business interruption insurance policy leading to a high value negotiated settlement of both actions

Litigation

US property holding company v London and European insurers

Retained to advise in respect of litigation arising out of the world's largest terrorist event

International mining corporation and various London and foreign insurers

Retained to advise on environmental and insurance litigation arising out of cross-border pollution between Canada and the USA

US oil and gas company v multi-national insurance broker and others

Leading authority on the scope of the duties of Lloyd's brokers to policyholders.