



CEDR Accreditation:	2016
CEDR Panel	2024
Languages:	English
Location:	United Kingdom

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Client Feedback

Nikki Edwards

Overview

Nikki has almost 20 years' experience of dealing with and resolving commercial disputes. An accomplished commercial mediator, she draws from her experience as a litigator working at top City and US law firms. Her priority is to understand the needs of her clients and work with them to find a solution. She is extremely commercial, tenacious and quick to get to grips with complex cases.

Her experience spans a wide range of commercial matters, with a focus on internal company disputes, breach of contract, fraud, negligence and financial services. She often works with international parties, as well as organisations based in the UK and her ability to understand the needs of individuals, as well as corporations, is invaluable at mediation.

Nikki is noted for her ability to read the room and quickly develop a rapport with all involved. Her thorough preparation and flexible approach to the mediation process ensures that each mediation is tailored to the needs of the parties. She can command the room in highly contentious meetings, whilst retaining a calm and professional demeanour.



In addition to mediation as part of a litigation process, Nikki embraces mediating with parties at the early stages of dispute, often with limited or no input from lawyers, successfully facilitating ongoing relationships or ensuring a quick and clean break where “no agreement seemed possible”.

Professional Background

Nikki is a partner in the Commercial Dispute Resolution team at London law firm, Howard Kennedy. She began her career as a litigation lawyer in 2005 and has previously worked at Quinn Emanuel, Kingsley Napley and Browne Jacobson.

In her litigation practice, her clients are generally multi-national corporations, family-owned businesses and high net worth individuals. She has particular experience of dealing with shareholder and internal company disputes, fraud and dishonesty, complex contractual disputes, negligence claims and enforcing foreign judgments. She is recognised as “a stand out commercial litigator” and “a truly talented lawyer” with “an incredibly quick legal mind”.

As a seasoned trial lawyer, Nikki has obtained victories for her clients at trials in the Commercial Court and Chancery Division of the High Court as well as the Court of Appeal. She understands what is involved and what is at stake if a case goes to trial. This experience, along with her role as a trusted advisor to many of her clients, is invaluable in her role as a mediator.

In addition to her work as a commercial mediator and litigator, Nikki assists the CEDR conciliation panel and volunteers as a community mediator, working with Calm Mediation, where she has recently been appointed a Trustee.

For many years Nikki has also been invited to judge at the ICC International Commercial Mediation Competition in Paris and take part in the International Mediation Roundtable, providing an annual opportunity to share ideas with and learn from leading mediators from around the globe.

As President of the London Solicitors Litigation Association (the LSLA), which has over 3500 members, Nikki helps to shape civil justice reform and promote best practice in litigation and Alternative Dispute Resolution in England and Wales.

Expertise

- Advertising and Marketing
- Banking and Finance
- Boardroom Disputes
- Commercial Contracts
- Commercial Fraud
- Company, Shareholder, Director.
- Education
- Franchises
- Funeral Services
- Insurance
- Neighbour Disputes
- Professional Negligence
- Reputation Management
- Sale of Goods and Services
- Transport and Logistics
- Workplace

Dispute Experience

Advertising and Marketing

- Contract dispute between a social media influencer, agent and PLC brand in relation to termination of a campaign.
- Dispute between marketing agency and client regarding privacy concerns and use of personal data.
- Dispute regarding failure to comply with ASA guidance.

Banking and Finance

- Dispute between multinational investment bank and hedge fund in relation to termination of a put option under an ISDA agreement.
- Breach of confidence and data protection claim brought against bank by business customer.
- Dispute regarding personal guarantee provided by retired partner.
- Various financial mis selling claims.

Commercial Contracts

- Multi-jurisdictional dispute regarding agreement for payment of contractual commission in oil and gas industry
- Dispute regarding personal loans, subject to personal guarantee, involving sanctions issues.

- Multi party claim brought by private hospital group for breach of contract and negligence.
- Claim brought against PLC for repudiatory breach of consultancy agreement.

Commercial Fraud

- Claim against a solicitor with allegations of dishonest assistance in relation to the promotion of tax avoidance schemes.
- Multi party deceit claim related to the sale of a substantial property.
- Claim against company director for breach of fiduciary duty, misappropriation of company funds and receipt of secret profits.

Company, Shareholder, Director

- Dispute between founder directors and shareholders, negotiating exit from business.
- Claim by minority shareholder for unfair prejudice, including allegations of fraud.
- Shareholder dispute regarding future running of a family business, following the death of a significant party.

Education

- Contractual dispute between academy school and IT supplier.
- Workplace grievance following change of leadership.
- Complaint against primary school regarding failure to follow internal policies, including allegations of racism.

Franchises

- Dispute regarding termination of franchise agreement.
- Claim for non-payment of franchise fees and counterclaim for misrepresentation.
- Claim for breach of terms of franchise agreement resulting in reputational concerns.

Funeral Services

- Dispute between funeral provider and clients in relation to allegations of misconduct.
- Dispute between funeral provider and clients in relation to allegations of professional negligence

Insurance

- Multi-million dollar claim against reinsurers in relation to an international aviation incident.
- Dispute between insurance company and policy holder regarding coverage.

Neighbour Disputes

- Dispute between neighbours regarding land allocation and rights of way.
- Various disputes between neighbouring families relating to noise disturbance and anti-social behaviour.
- Various disputes between neighbours involving allegations of intentional harassment made to the police, abusive remarks and threatening behaviour.

Professional Negligence

- Multi party professional negligence dispute concerning accountancy and tax advice.
- Dispute between interior architect and homeowner concerning allegations of professional negligence.

Reputation Management

- Dispute between premiership footballer and former employee.
- Dispute between private hospital and journalist.

Sales of Goods and Services

- Breach of contract and negligence claim regarding the installation of pipework in commercial premises, causing significant losses.

- Contractual dispute between multinational technology companies in relation to supply of goods and services.
- Dispute between large heating company and property developer regarding negligent installation of heating system in development.

Transport and Logistics

- Dispute between international parcel delivery business and corporate customer.
- Dispute between national; logistics solution business and e-commerce customer.

Workplace

- Multi party mediation involving allegations of racism.
- Inappropriate physical contact at a social event by a senior member of staff
- Senior solicitors at an international charity, unable to continue to work effectively together.
- Insubordination following the promotion of an individual to line manager. Complaints of micro-management and incompatible working styles
- Confrontation following a personal dispute resulted in a lack of respect or cooperation.
- Reintegration to team following a grievance procedure and long period of medical leave.

Feedback

- *“Nikki was calm and collected through a difficult mediation. She was supportive in the face of a difficult stance taken by the opposition and worked through our pros and cons with a calm and experienced approach. Many thanks for enabling the communication we had not managed for two years.” - Partner, City Law Firm*
- *“Nikki was very helpful in a difficult negotiation where no agreement seemed possible. She is incredibly friendly, likeable and brought a positive note to what was a dark and tricky time. Her process was easy, straightforward and well guided and I felt supported throughout the day. With Nikki’s help we were able to reach a fair agreement in a short time and move forward quickly. I highly recommend Nikki for any mediation needs.” – Lay client*
- *“Nikki mediated a commercial dispute with very strong feelings on both sides. I was thoroughly impressed by the way in which she helped the parties arrive at a resolution: she was clearly sensitive to the emotional aspects of the case, as well as the legal and practical realities of the situation, and her input was nuanced and well-judged. I would not hesitate to recommend her” – Counsel*
- *“Nikki was clear on the processes throughout. We had a hostile start to the mediation and Nikki managed that superbly, quickly identified the relevant issues and guided the parties*



*to focus on finding some common grounds and working towards a resolution.” – Solicitor,
Regional Firm*

Professional Skills

- 2005: Legal training contract, completing seats in Corporate, Insurance Litigation, Commercial Litigation and Health & Social care disputes.
- 2007: Admitted as a solicitor in England & Wales.
- 2016: Accredited as a Commercial mediator with CEDR.
- 2017: Accredited as Community Mediator with CALM.
- 2021: Accredited as a Workplace Mediator with London School of Mediation.

Memberships

- CEDR Conciliation Panel Member
- CMC Registered Commercial and Workplace Mediator
- Elected Committee Member and President of the London Solicitors Litigation Association
- Law Society

