

Thio Shen Yi, SC
M.A. (Cantab), FSI Arb
Joint Managing Director



Shen Yi read law at St John's College, Cambridge University, graduating in 1991. He subsequently topped the English Bar Examinations, and was called to the Singapore bar in 1993. Since then, he has practiced exclusively in dispute resolution, primarily as counsel, and occasionally as arbitrator. He was appointed Senior Counsel in 2008 at 40.

Recognised as a leading commercial litigator, He is regularly briefed to represent clients in corporate litigation, financial disputes, construction and engineering law, technology project disputes, trust litigation, competition law and shareholder/boardroom disputes. Shen Yi chooses to practice a wide spectrum of corporate, financial and business law to keep his adrenaline pumping and neurons challenged. Insatiably curious and an avid reader, he believes that to fully understand the brief, a wide-ranging and eclectic knowledge of economics, history, business, finance, engineering, science and psychology is critical. Shen Yi is happiest when diving headfirst into a complex dispute, requiring both an in-depth forensic mind and the skills of a natural advocate. His submissions before the Court of Appeal are just as likely to include a line from Spiderman, the movie (Uncle Ben: "with great power comes great responsibility"), as a quotation from Shakespeare or Wilde.

Although he spends most of his waking hours solving his client's problems and bearing the legal weight of their burdens, Shen Yi is fully committed to the wider issue of the role of the legal community in Singapore's social and economic system. He currently serves as the President of the Law Society, and as Vice-President of the Senate of the Singapore Academy of Law. A firm believer that pro bono legal work is a debt that every lawyer owes, he also serves on the board of the Community Justice Centre, a registered charity.

Leading Lawyer/Key Individual:

Chambers Global - Dispute Resolution (2009 to 2015)
Chambers Asia Pacific - Dispute Resolution (2009 to 2015)
Who's Who Legal – Dispute Resolution (2013)
Legal 500 – Dispute Resolution (2015)

"a shining example of the younger generation coming through – he likes legal issues, thinks hard about the cases he has, approaches them carefully and won't rush off on something just to make an impact"

- Chambers Global 2010

"a formidable opponent in corporate disputes"

- Asialaw Profiles 2012

"imaginative strategy"

"excellent cross-examination"

- The Legal 500 2015

"receives praise from commentators and clients for his advocacy skills: 'In Court, he doesn't flinch from a tough fight, but at the same time he is not abrasive'"

- Chambers Global 2011