



Karina Hsiao

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Associate

Details

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Practice & Expertise

Corporate and Commercial Matters

Compliance & Corporate Governance

Civil Litigation

Languages

English

Mandarin

Cantonese

Biography

Karina is an Associate at CFN Lawyers LLP, where her practice is centred on advising listed companies on continuing obligations and regulatory compliance, as well as general commercial matters. Prior to joining the firm, she trained in civil litigation and financial services regulatory work, where she gained experience in complex multi-party fraud litigation, corporate disputes, and concurrent regulatory investigations by the Securities and Futures Commission, the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council, and the Independent Commission Against Corruption.

Representative Legal Matters

General Corporate and Commercial Advisory

- Advised a PRC company on its expansion into Hong Kong, including reviewing land-related licensing arrangements and advising on the licensing and regulatory compliance requirements applicable to its intended business operations in Hong Kong.
- Advised a Hong Kong listed company on Listing Rules compliance, including advising on compliance with the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited and drafting announcements.

Contentious Financial Services Regulatory Proceedings

- A prominent Certified Public Accountant in disciplinary proceedings brought concurrently by the Securities and Futures Commission (SFC), the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council (AFRC), and the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) concerning alleged disclosure of false or misleading information inducing transactions.
- A licensed corporation and its directors in concurrent investigations and search operations conducted by the SFC and the ICAC concerning alleged insider dealing.

Civil and Commercial Litigation and Arbitration

Pre-Action and Dispute Management

- A Hong Kong listed company in commencement of High Court proceedings against contractors for breach of contract arising from a construction and services dispute, and in advising on the exit arrangements and post-termination obligations of departing senior employees.
- A Chinese medicine healthcare group in relation to medical negligence claims.
- An individual in relation to a dispute arising from the validity of a will.

Interim Relief Applications

- A leading payment gateway in a High Court action for tracing and recovery of misappropriated virtual assets, including an ex parte application for a Mareva injunction and proprietary injunction prohibiting dissipation of the said assets pending the determination of the substantive claim, and associated relief in constructive trust and unjust enrichment.
- A group of minority shareholders in an application for injunctive relief and subsequent High Court action against the directors of the company for breaches of fiduciary duty and directors' duties arising from a series of connected transactions and the execution of guarantees in favour of third parties.

General Commercial Litigation and Arbitration

- A Company and director in High Court and Court of Appeal proceedings defending multi-party claims concerning an alleged Ponzi scheme involving over 1,100 victims and investments exceeding USD 200 million.
- A CPA firm in a High Court action concerning a professional negligence claim arising from the misappropriation of client funds.
- A PRC company in a High Court action concerning a loan agreement dispute and concurrent HKIAC arbitration proceedings.
- A major Hong Kong construction company in High Court proceedings defending claims in negligence, breach of statutory duty, and breach of contractual and common law duties of care arising from a personal injury incident occurring on managed premises.
- Various Hong Kong and PRC companies in resisting winding-up petitions.
- One of two director-shareholders of a private company in District Court proceedings against the other director-shareholder arising from a

corporate deadlock, for a declaration that land and property registered in the company's name is held on constructive trust for the plaintiff's sole benefit on the basis of common intention, detrimental reliance, and direct financial contribution.

- A director and a company in High Court proceedings defending an application for a declaration that statutory forms filed with the Companies Registry are null and void, and for rectification of the company's registered particulars.
- A property owner in a District Court action against a licensee for failure to deliver up vacant possession upon termination of the licence agreement, unlawful holding over, and damages for deprivation of use and enjoyment of the property.
- A licensed corporation in District Court proceedings to enforce a mortgage over property, seeking recovery of outstanding loan principal and accrued interest and an order for vacant possession of the mortgaged property upon the borrower's default.
- An individual in resisting a bankruptcy petition and an application for summary judgment in respect of an alleged breach of a loan agreement.

Non-Contentious Financial Services Regulatory Advice

- An SFC licence applicant in respect of its application for licences to carry out Type 4 and Type 9 regulated activities under the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap. 571) and its attendant ongoing compliance obligations.
- A licensed corporation in relation to its internal controls framework, regulatory reporting obligations, and compliance infrastructure under the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap. 571).

Professional Association and Appointments

- 2025 – present - Member - Law Society of Hong Kong

Admission

- 2025 - Hong Kong

Education

- 2022-2023 - The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Postgraduate Certificate in Laws
- 2020-2022 - The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Juris Doctor
- 2018-2019 - The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Master of Social Science
- 2014-2018 - The University of British Columbia, Bachelor of Arts

Work History/Credentials

- 2026 - present - Associate, CFN Lawyers LLP
- 2025 - 2026 - Associate, So, Lung and Associates Solicitors
- 2023 - 2025 - Trainee Solicitor, So, Lung and Associates Solicitors