

7 November 2008

Carey Olsen has received top tier rating from Chambers UK

Carey Olsen has been placed in band one (the highest rating given for a law firm) for three out of four categories in the Guernsey section of the Chambers UK 2009 guide.

The firm was placed in the top tier within the corporate and finance, trust, and investment funds categories, and second tier for dispute resolution, with several partners receiving individual rankings at the top level.

Carey Olsen is the largest law firm in the Channel Islands with more than 140 lawyers across offices in Guernsey and Jersey. Praised for its reputation for *'innovation and quality'* Chambers also acknowledged that Carey Olsen delivers *'breadth and depth of expertise across all areas of Guernsey and Jersey law'*.

Ranked in the top tier for investment funds the firm acted in the three largest listed transactions in Guernsey: KKR Private Equity Investors L.P, Marshall Wace MW TOPS Fund Limited and CMA Global Hedge PCC Limited. The firm advises on 52% of investment fund business on the island.

The Carey Olsen litigation team is held in high regard by Chambers with top rated partner John Greenfield *'deservedly regarded as one of the best litigators in Guernsey'*.

In corporate and finance Nigel Carey is acknowledged as *'the grand old man'* of Guernsey corporate law, whilst there is also recognition for Laila Arstall, whose *'star continues to rise'*.

In relation to fiduciary work, Carey Olsen is said to be *'without doubt the pre-eminent firm here [Guernsey]'* with Russell Clark a *'true leader'* on trust work.

Managing partner of Carey Olsen, John Greenfield, said; 'The Chambers UK ranking is a further endorsement of our market leading position in Guernsey, and highlights the high

quality work undertaken by the partners. Ranking highly with Chambers is important as the results are determined by the feedback of our clients, introducers and competitors, and gives a true reflection of the opinions of the legal community on our firm.’

Full ranking information is available from: www.chambersandpartners.com

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NOTES TO EDITOR:

A summary of the Carey Olsen content for Guernsey in the Chambers UK rankings 2009 is as follows:

The Firm

Carey Olsen is the largest law firm in the Channel Islands with over 140 lawyers in offices in Guernsey, Jersey and London. The firm delivers breadth and depth of expertise across all areas of Guernsey and Jersey law and prides itself on providing both institutional and individual clients with a responsive, high quality service. The firm acts for a significant number of institutional clients who are involved in large multi-jurisdictional transactions.

Corporate and Finance

Ranking: Band 1

The firm is one of the standout leaders in this field. “*With the amount of work it gets done, it is clearly among the top of the heap,*” sources say. The group’s continual flow of City instructions and pan-islands capabilities further underline its prestigious standing in the industry. **Nigel Carey** is “*the grand old man*” of Guernsey corporate law and wins strong praise for his leading work in the corporate and funds areas. **Ben Morgan** is earning more attention as he develops his banking and funds capabilities. “*He is a very active presence; he’s clued up and certainly very commercial,*” commentators say. **Laila Arstall**’s star continues to rise in the corporate, private client and tax fields.

Investment Funds

Ranking: Band 1

The team continues to enjoy a sizeable market share in Guernsey funds work, acting on more than half of those funds already established. The 16-strong team handles the full range of funds establishment and administration work. Listings work on AIM and the Channel Islands Stock Exchange is a feature of the workload, and the team also advises on using protected cell companies (PCC) as funds vehicles. The practice is widely praised as a leader in the field. **Nigel Carey** is one of Guernsey’s most experienced

advocates, with a workload divided between corporate and finance matters and funds work. **Graham Hall** is a vastly experienced practitioner. **Ben Morgan**'s expertise also spans the corporate and funds fields. A "hard-working and responsive" lawyer, he often handles real estate funds and listings work. **Tom Carey** is viewed as the future of the team by many commentators, and is "definitely making his name in corporate and funds work."

Trusts

Ranking: Band 1

The firm's long Guernsey history and pan-island capabilities ensure that its trusts and fiduciary services group is in a class of its own: "It is without doubt the pre-eminent firm here." **Russell Clark** is "excellent on trusts," say clients. "He is a true leader. He has put his stamp on trusts work and is definitely at the very top." **Paul Buckle** advises on the formation of trusts and pension schemes and on disputes, while **Mike Eades** has advised on private client and fiduciary matters for many years. His "continually impressive practice" covers much of the team's charitable trust work. **Konrad Friedlaender** is a specialist fiduciary lawyer, although interviewees praise the corporate nous he brings to his work.

Dispute Resolution

Ranking: Band 2

Held in high regard by market sources, Carey Olsen's sizeable litigation team benefits from the firm's pan-island capabilities, and continues to draw a good amount of work through City instructions and internationally. According to commentators, **John Greenfield** is "deservedly regarded as one of the best litigators in Guernsey." **Mark Dunster** leads many of the team's important cases and handles regulatory and compliance matters and trusts work. The "sensible and clear-thinking" **Karen Le Cras** divides her time between commercial and trusts litigation and is said to have a bright future ahead of her. Clients rate **Tim Corfield** as a highly experienced, excellent operator in banking and finance litigation.