

# Biography



## Jessica Williams

Partner | Dispute Resolution | Cayman Islands

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### Expertise

Litigation & Insolvency, Trusts & Private Client Litigation, Probate & Letters of Administration, Restructuring, Family Office, Trusts

Jessica Williams is co-head of Litigation & Insolvency and Restructuring in the Cayman Islands. Her practice focuses on insolvency and restructuring, trust and estate litigation, shareholder disputes, and asset tracing and enforcement. Her clients include financial institutions, HNW individuals, insolvency practitioners, trustees, court appointed administrators, and other officeholders.

Before joining Harneys, Jessica spent four years at AO Hall (now Walkers) in Guernsey. Prior to that, she was a litigation lawyer at the Office of Fair Trading and was involved in the bank charges test case. She spent the first four years of her career as a commercial litigator in New Zealand.

Jessica is a member of ABI, INSOL, IWIRC, RISA, and STEP.

Jessica is a regular contributor to the Offshore Litigation Blog.

## Recommendations

Jessica is ranked for her Cayman Dispute Resolution expertise. Sources say:

- "Jessica Williams is a brilliant attorney who is incredibly dedicated to clients – she is great at gaining their trust and inspiring confidence."
- "Jessica is very bright, very thorough, shrewd, measured and calm."
- "Jessica is extremely professional, hard-working and knowledgeable."

– Chambers and Partners, 2024

Jessica is recognised in the global excellence category (2024), she was previously recognised as a rising leader (2022 – 2023).

– Legal Week – Private Client Global Elite, 2022 – 2024

Jessica has been recognised as a Global Leader in the Asset Recovery guide.

- Who's Who Legal, 2019 - 2023

Jessica is recommended in the Cayman Islands Dispute Resolution and Trusts/Private Client rankings.

- Legal 500, 2019

## Experience

Working closely with our corporate and funds teams to provide advice in distressed fund situations, including on redemptions, suspensions, director duties and wind downs.

Advising on a number of appraisal arbitration valuation (s.238) proceedings, including *In re Qunar Cayman Islands Ltd.*

Advising the provisional liquidators in relation to the Cayman Islands restructuring of over US\$1 billion in debts and liabilities of China Lumena New Materials Corp through schemes of arrangement in Hong Kong and the Cayman Islands.

Advising Kaisa Group Holdings Ltd in relation to the restructuring of US\$2.5 billion of offshore debts. Kaisa Group is one of the largest property developers in China and its restructuring involved schemes of arrangement in the Cayman Islands and Hong Kong, and recognition under Chapter 15 of the US Bankruptcy Code.

Acting for plaintiffs in their international efforts to locate and enforce against dissipated assets including the obtaining of freezing and disclosure orders.

Acting for a court appointed administrator of the estate of a HNW individual who died intestate.

Acting for a trustee seeking declaratory relief and directions from the Grand Court concerning steps the trustee wished to take under the *Re Beddoe* jurisdiction.

Acting for the liquidations of a group of Cayman Islands companies in a complex, cross-border insolvency, which required proceedings (recognition and substantive) in multiple jurisdictions.

## Bar Admissions

Cayman Islands  
2013

New Zealand  
2004

## Education

University of Otago (LLB)  
2004

University of Otago (BA (Hons))  
2004

Institute of Professional Legal Studies, New Zealand  
2004

*"...thorough, reliable and always prepared to go the extra mile to get the best for her clients."*

**Legal 500**