

Biography



John O'Driscoll

Partner | Dispute Resolution | London

📞 +44 203 752 3693

✉️ john.odriscoll@harneys.com

Expertise

Digital Assets & Blockchain , Litigation & Insolvency ,
Restructuring

John O'Driscoll leads our Litigation, Insolvency & Restructuring practice in London.

John advises creditors, debtors, private equity funds, hedge funds, and other stakeholders on BVI and Cayman Islands law. He frequently advises on matters relating to crypto-currency, NFTs, and digital assets. He has significant experience in cross-border litigation matters involving the United Kingdom, Europe, India, Kazakhstan, the Middle East, Africa, and South America.

Before joining Harneys, John led the Insolvency and Dispute Resolution practice at another leading offshore law firm in London for 10 years.

John is a co-founder of RAIIDAR International and is on the editorial board of International Corporate Rescue.

Memberships include:

- The American Bankruptcy Institute
- INSOL International
- RAIIDAR International

Recommendations

John is recognised as a "leading partner".

- Legal 500, 2025

John is recognised as a global leader & a thought leader in the Restructuring & Insolvency guide.

- Who's Who Legal, 2021, 2022, 2023

John is recognised as a "leading lawyer".

- Legal 500, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023

John is ranked for his Cayman Islands expertise.

Clients say:

- "very bright, switched-on, commercial, and user-friendly" and "very well networked, good on strategy, commercial, and pragmatic."
- "John leads a strong team and, via his vast international network, can always bring an appropriate service provider into engagements if required." (2025 guide)
- "John is my go-to BVI lawyer for contentious mandates." (2025 guide)

- Chambers and Partners, 2019-2025

Experience

Advising on aspects of the high profile crypto liquidation, Three Arrows Capital

Advising a board of directors of a shopping centre in the INTU portfolio

Advising on a multi-jurisdictional default in relation to bonds worth over euro 300 million and the movement of assets beyond the reach of creditors

Acting as BVI counsel for the joint liquidators on the restructuring of a high value multi-national shipping group

Acting for the shareholders of the Washington Special Opportunity Fund in highly contested winding up proceedings in the Cayman Islands

Advising the liquidators of an international hotels and resorts group across 17 different jurisdictions

Advising on a shareholder dispute litigated by way of a BVI arbitration

Acting for a US bank on the winding up of two Cayman funds

Advising on the high profile restructuring of General Healthcare Group, UK's largest private hospital group, which includes 35 hospitals and debt of circa £2.1 billion

Advising on two complex and contentious European bank insolvencies with interests in the Cayman Islands

Bar Admissions

British Virgin Islands
2013

Cayman Islands
2012

England & Wales
2008

Ireland
2005

New York
2005

Education

Trinity College (LLB)
2000

