

Adrian J. Halkes
Barrister-at-Law
Liberty Chambers Hong Kong
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Adrian Halkes advises individuals, leading companies and major business entities in Hong Kong and overseas and appears as an advocate in matters from lobbying to managing the complex interaction of criminal and civil law in a commercial context.

He advises on the roles of Board members in relation to practical oversight and compliance and has represented in respect of matters concerning Securities and Futures related investigations, insurance matters and major MTR/Rail and road interfaces in Kowloon, the New Territories and Hong Kong Island. He has advised on the establishment of numerous commercial/business entities in Hong Kong and the region establishing the Australian operations of the Motion Picture Association of America (MPA); he works regionally from Hong Kong.

Adrian appears at Appellate level in the courts of Hong Kong and its Appeals Boards and overseas in relation to matters in China, Europe and the USA, from advising on regulatory laws to the obtaining of evidence overseas under mutual legal assistance treaty provisions, prosecutions for complex financial crime and other matters such as lobbying for legislative change.

Most recently Adrian acted as lead counsel in Asia Pacific for the Motion Picture Association of America when preparing for the World Trade Organization case against brought by the USA against China for non-compliance with WTO obligations.

Experience

August 2005 - Barrister-at-Law

Called to the Bar of the HKSAR

October 1997 – February 2005 - Solicitor

- Founding Partner of Halkes Dundon, Solicitors; formerly A J Halkes, Solicitors (now “Dundons”)

Established an award winning firm as Senior Partner with a highly focused regulatory and Government practice with its emphasis on problem solving and advocacy in the

regulatory arena, environmental, industrial, IPR and the food and beverage sectors.

Clients included category leading businesses and listed enterprises from Hong Kong, England, Holland, Germany, North America, and Singapore to Australia and Taiwan.

Representing several major companies in Hong Kong with a pro-active brief to advise at board level in regard to regulatory and other issues including directors' duties, corporate responsibility and criminal liability.

Lobbying Government, including the HK legislature at select committee level on intellectual property and advising on specific copyright strategy related matters, together with anti-piracy issues. Advising as an expert on legislation/regulatory change for the Business Services Promotion Unit of the HK government and in respect of the Internet in China for the Motion Picture Association of America as Special Counsel.

Acting as an advocate up to Appellate level in the High Court of the Hong Kong SAR, the District Court, Appeal Boards of the HKSAR, Magistrates Courts and Tribunals; on behalf of numerous corporate defendants and private individuals.

October 1992 – October 1997 - Solicitor

- Haldanes Solicitors & Notaries, Hong Kong

A highly reputed multi-disciplinary Hong Kong based law practice where the scope of work involved a focus on regulatory law, financial product control and authorization, Insurance authorization and related matters. Substantial advocacy work was involved generally appearance at the Magistrates Courts and Tribunals and Appeals together with criminal court trials including managing regulatory investigations and defence strategy in the context of corruption and misconduct, including international exposure.

September 1991 - September 1992

- Post Graduate Certificate in Laws, The University of Hong Kong

August 1984 - 1991

Founded a company to capture the un-developed security print markets in Asia, core projects included acting for the Hong Kong Government, Microsoft and IBM; becoming a well established category leader and DHL/SCMP awarded design/technology led company. Developed and matured the technical materials market for the manufacturing sector and expanded to encompass a range of technical substrates representing American, Canadian and European manufacturers including the security print division of De La Rue

September 1981 - July 1984

Full time Undergraduate Law Study - The University of Hull, England

Bachelor of Laws LLB (with honours); major elected options:

International Law

Labour Law

Maritime Law

Jurisprudence.

March 1976 - September 1981

- Senior Inspector - Royal Hong Kong Police Force, Hong Kong

Various leadership positions from directing small specialist units to conducting internal investigations at the Complaints Against Police Office.

Assigned to command a 130 person strong police station with responsibility for one third of the Hong Kong/China land border during the major immigration influx crisis.

July 1975 - March 1976

- British Government.

Professional / Speaking

Fellow of the Institute of Directors, UK since 1998

- January 2003 : Speaker - ICAC and Fraud Investigations, Hong Kong
- September 2003 : Speaker - ICAC Investigations, Hong Kong
- June 2004 : Speaker - ICAC Investigations and Prosecutions, Hong Kong
- October 2005 : China Internet Regulations Pre-legislation meeting hosted by National Copyright Administration of China (NCAC), Beijing, China. Lobbying for the Motion Picture Association of America.
- March 2006 : Speaker - APEC – ASEAN +3 Copyright Seminar, Tokyo, Japan
- September 2006 : Speaker - Seminar on Criminal Protection for Copyright & Trademarks, Shanghai, China
- October 2006 : Speaker – US – China Zhejiang Seminar on IP Protection & Encouragement, Zhejiang, China
- October 2006 : Speaker Continuing Professional Development – Law Society of HK approved seminar for the HKSAR, Criminal Law, one day seminar, Shenzhen, China
- March 2007 : Panel Moderator – “Digital Revolution” Hong Kong Filmart, a Hong Kong Trade Development Council event.
- October 2007 : “Market Access” Speaker for the Motion Picture Association of America – Ambassador’s Roundtable Discussions on IPR, Beijing, China during WTO case preparation.
- October 2007 : ‘LexisNexis’ Speaker at Corporate Trademark and Copyright Conference, Shanghai, China on the subject of “Regional Concerns facing the Motion Picture Industry”

Qualifications

- September 1981 - July 1984 : Bachelor of Laws LLB (with honours)
The University of Hull, England
- September 1991 – September 1992 : Post Graduate Certificate in Laws (PCLL)
The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

Experience

October 1992 – November 1994 : Trainee Solicitor
Haldanes Solicitors & Notaries, Hong Kong

12 November 1994 - 4 August 2005	: Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Hong Kong
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November 1994 – October 1997 : Solicitor
Haldanes Solicitors & Notaries, Hong Kong
(Overlap period in establishing A.J. Halkes Solicitors)

1 March 1995	: Solicitor of the Supreme Court of England & Wales
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August 1997 – September 1999 : Sole Practitioner
A.J. Halkes, Solicitors

June 2000 : A.J. Halkes Solicitors changes name to
Halkes ♦ Dundon Solicitors, A.J. Halkes, Senior
and Managing Partner

29 April 2002 to 6 October 2004	: Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Queensland
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February 2005 : Cessation of practice as a Solicitor of the
HKSAR and partner, to facilitate transfer to the
Bar

August 2005	: Called as a Barrister of the HKSAR
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Law Society Panel Member for Overseas Lawyers Qualification Examination
(Professional Practice) in the HKSAR

Languages

English (Native), Cantonese (fluent spoken), Mandarin (intermediate spoken).