



O'Neal
Webster



OVERVIEW

O'Neal Webster holds a decidedly unique position among all British Virgin Islands law firms, being among the first to establish exclusively in the BVI to serve onshore and offshore corporate and finance, banking, business, funds, real estate and trust and estate clients.

The firm is known for its efficient handling of transactional, regulatory, and adversarial matters.

"THE WORK ETHIC OF THE FIRM, ESPECIALLY IN TERMS OF TURNAROUND TIMES, IS EXEMPLARY."

Client



TEAM WORK

The firm maintains a sophisticated yet accessible and collegial culture, adept at collaborating with clients to meet their goals.

SERVICE STANDARDS

Practitioners are committed to offering sound and practical advice and attentive and personalized service.

TRUSTED SINCE 1989

The practice is particularly noted by clients and peers for its talent and quality, consistently exceeding expectations in both local and international markets.

The firm's global footprint is augmented by its London office and through membership as the exclusive BVI law firm in Lex Mundi, the world's leading network of independent law firms, and World Services Group, a globally recognized resource for professionals and their clients in legal, investment banking and accounting.

International clients include major banks, financial services companies, high net worth individuals, investment funds, and law firms. Domestic clients include banks, public utilities, communications companies, statutory corporations, individuals and tourism sector businesses, including five-star BVI resorts.

"LISTENS TO CLIENTS' NEEDS, IS FLEXIBLE AND REASONABLE, AND RESOLVES ISSUES IN A TIMELY MANNER."

Legal500

DEPARTMENTS

O'NEAL WEBSTER IS DEDICATED
TO THE EFFICIENT DELIVERY OF
SERVICES TO OUR CLIENTS

The firm's practice is structured through five primary departments: **Corporate and Commercial; Commercial Litigation and Insolvency; Investment Funds, Regulatory and Digital Assets; Property and Business** and **Trusts and Estates**. Organization along departmental lines lends efficiency to operations and practice. To ensure that clients receive the most appropriate level of service, each department works in support of the others and often employs a cross disciplinary team approach. However, many individual attorneys have multi-faceted expertise and can handle all aspects of certain matters, which can save time and other valuable client resources.

CORPORATE / COMMERCIAL

Corporate and Commercial Department attorneys have deep roots in the BVI, having accrued significant experience in navigating local governing bodies, courts, administrative offices, and enforcement regimes. Over the years, the firm has worked closely with the BVI government and others in the development of the offshore finance industry in the Territory. Several current and past members of the firm continue to hold prominent roles in the advisement and drafting of various aspects of BVI legislation, as well as in promoting the benefits of the jurisdiction for many types of businesses in the financial services sector. The Department counts major international banks and trust companies among its prestigious client base. Offering seamless comprehensive capabilities, clients engage the firm for cross border transactions, including stock exchange listings, private equity transactions, joint ventures, redomiciliations, corporate arrangements, mergers, acquisitions, partnerships, corporate restructuring, financing and related aspects. O'Neal Webster is a registered BVI Trademark Agent. Contact Christopher Simpson: csimpson@onealwebster.com.

LITIGATION / INSOLVENCY

The Litigation Department handles an array of contentious commercial matters in courts and arbitrations, including resolving cross border contract and insolvency disputes. The firm's litigators are particularly experienced in matters of distressed funds; debt restructuring and rescheduling; schemes of arrangement; tracing and recovery actions; fund liquidations; and appointment and removal of liquidators, receivers and corporate trustees, as well as complex shareholder disputes, probate cases and general commercial litigation and arbitration. Contact Paul Dennis, KC : pdennis@onealwebster.com.

CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS NOTES THE O'NEAL WEBSTER LITIGATION TEAM'S
"IN-DEPTH KNOWLEDGE," DESCRIBING THE DEPARTMENT'S LAWYERS AS
"METICULOUSLY DETAILED AND SHARP IN THEIR ARGUMENT."

TRUSTS / ESTATES

The Trusts & Estates Department provides practical commercial and individual private client advice on all aspects of relevant BVI law. Whether clients are seeking to take advantage of cutting-edge legislation by utilizing a VISTA trust, or simply wish to adopt a more standard structure, our highly experienced attorneys advise individuals, corporations, trustees and beneficiaries on the full complement of issues related to wealth preservation, asset protection, probate and trust creation, administration, and termination. They also litigate trust and probate disputes, employing the highest professional standards to ensure effective counsel, representation and service. Contact Chris McKenzie: cmckenzie@onealwebster.com.

"SOURCES PRAISE THE TECHNICAL AND ACADEMIC PROWESS OF BVI
PRIVATE CLIENT CHIEF CHRISTOPHER MCKENZIE."
-CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS



FUNDS / REGULATORY

**"STRONG WORKING RELATIONSHIPS
WITH REGULATORY AND GOVERNMENT
BODIES AND IMPRESSIVE KNOWLEDGE
OF THE REGULATORY LANDSCAPE."
- CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS**

Offshore funds in the BVI enjoy modern and favourable company and tax laws, various types of funds and a regulatory framework specifically designed and maintained to attract funds and investors. Our Funds and Regulatory Department handles the structuring and restructuring of BVI funds and respective regulatory and compliance matters, including those related to digital assets. Attorneys are deeply experienced in the initial structuring of investment vehicles or amendments to investment vehicles, and often provide continuing legal advice and support throughout fund operations. Clients include U.S.- and EU-based fund managers, closed-ended funds, open-ended funds, public funds and segregated portfolio company funds. BVI funds can be adapted to a variety of needs and customized to suit a particular investment style, strategy or target investor class, and are not limited in the type of assets they may hold or in which they may invest. Contact Kerry Anderson: kanderson@onealwebster.com.

DIGITAL ASSETS

**"KERRY IS AN ABSOLUTE PLEASURE
TO WORK WITH." -CLIENT**

O'Neal Webster's digital assets practice attorneys have a wide breadth of experience in the virtual assets space. The team has helped clients navigate the growing and dynamic world of setting up and issuing tokens, including several ICOs, and has assisted various investment managers with the launch of various crypto-focused funds. The team is known for providing valuable and actionable advice on the BVI's legislative and regulatory landscape, including the recent virtual assets service providers legislation. The team also works closely with our dispute resolution team on contentious fintech matters. Contact: kanderson@onealwebster.com.

COMPLIANCE

O'Neal Webster recognises that compliance is an area of growing importance across the financial services sector. Our team helps our regulated clients navigate anti-money laundering (including counter-terrorist and counter proliferation) financing as well as sanctions regulations. We provide practical advice to clients advising them of relevant risk where appropriate and provide training where needed. In addition, we also advise clients regulated under different financial services legislation on their obligations and rights. We enjoy a good relationship with the regulators and can effectively advocate for clients where needed. Contact Vanessa King: vking@onealwebster.com

PROPERTY / BUSINESS

The firm's long-standing Property and Business Department is often the first choice for companies, trusts and individuals when seeking counsel and representation on real estate, yacht acquisition and business financing in the BVI. The team counts among its successes major commercial transactions and public and private development projects in the BVI, including five-star resorts. The Department's client base includes high-net-worth home purchasers and sellers, retailers, restaurants and bars, foreign investors, families, trusts and BVI-registered companies. Our attorneys guide clients through all phases of property matters, for example: title verification, planning and design approval, corporate structuring, mortgage, tax, regulatory and succession planning or other exit strategies. The Department also acts in complex real estate disputes involving insurance, leases and construction and assists businesses in employment matters and immigration. Contact Jenelle Archer: jarcher@onealwebster.com.



PARTNERS

KERRY ANDERSON

Head, Funds/Regulatory



Mr. Anderson advises international and domestic clients in complex, multi-jurisdictional corporate, commercial and regulatory matters. He focuses on advising clients in the initial structuring of investment vehicles or amendments to investment vehicles, and provides continuous support with timely and practical legal advice throughout their operation. Key clients are U.S. and EU-based fund managers, closed-ended funds, open-ended funds, public funds, and segregated portfolio company funds. He also advises on joint venture deals and acquisitions involving international private and public corporations in industries including food, technology and shipping.

PAUL DENNIS, KC

Head, Litigation/Insolvency

Mr. Dennis focuses on commercial litigation, corporate insolvency, and shipping and admiralty law. He has appeared in many leading international commercial cases at all levels of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court and before the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in London – the BVI's highest appellate court. In recognition of his outstanding accomplishments as an advocate, he was appointed one of His Majesty's Counsel on March 18, 2013. A former Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court judge on temporary assignment, Mr. Dennis currently serves as an arbitration panel member of the BVI International Arbitration Centre and Chairperson of the Disciplinary Tribunal pursuant to Section 27 (2) (a) of the Legal Profession Act of the Virgin Islands, 2015.

**PAUL WEBSTER, KC**

Consultant, Commercial Litigation

Paul Webster KC is a distinguished BVI practitioner with more than 40 years' experience in civil and commercial litigation. He was admitted to practice in 1980 and later founded O'Neal Webster, where he focused on company law, corporate insolvency, and cross-border disputes. He has appeared before courts across the Eastern Caribbean, including the Privy Council, and was appointed King's Counsel in 2003. Paul served as a judge of the Court of Appeal (2015–2023) and the BVI Commercial Court (2024), returning to O'Neal Webster in 2025 as a legal consultant. He co-chaired the Rules Revision Committee that produced the Eastern Caribbean Civil Procedure Rules (Revised Edition) 2023. He is a past president of the BVI Bar Association and current member of the BVI Insolvency Committee.

**VANESSA KING**

Managing Partner, Corporate/Commercial



Ms. King advises on banking, finance, corporate and commercial, intellectual property, mergers and acquisitions and BVI trusts law. Her clients include domestic and international financial institutions, BVI Companies, law firms, trust companies and private clients from across the major financial centres of the world. She is highly experienced in establishing and amending complex BVI trusts and various forms of corporate finance, such as bilateral and syndicated loans, project finance, property finance, and restructuring.

PARTNERS



CHRIS MCKENZIE

Partner, Head, Trusts & Estates

Mr. McKenzie advises on all aspects of BVI law in trusts, wills, and estates. Highly recommended by clients, peers and industry ranking bodies alike, he is a sought-after speaker and delegate to international trust and estate conferences and seminars and a prolific writer on all things BVI Trusts & Estates. He was founding chair of the BVI branch of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners and chaired the committee that led to the enactment of the Virgin Islands Special Trusts Act, 2003 (VISTA), the Trustee (Amendment) Act, 2003, the Property (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 2003, and the BVI's regulations establishing exempt private trust companies.

CHRISTOPHER SIMPSON

Partner, Head Corporate/Commercial

Mr. Simpson advises leading corporations, financial institutions and international law firms on all aspects of corporate finance, joint ventures, IPOs, private placements, mergers, arrangements, restructurings, bilateral and syndicated loans, bond issues, project finance, special purpose vehicles, and investment funds. He is instructed on general commercial and regulatory matters, as well as high value corporate, banking and funds transactions, including digital assets. Mr. Simpson has been involved IPOs, including those on AIM, TSX, NASDAQ, SGX and the LSE. He has also handled ground breaking deals, including the first court approved corporate arrangement schemes in the BVI and one of the largest single asset real estate financings in China.



JENELLE ARCHER

Partner, Head, Property/Business

Ms. Archer advises on an extensive range of British Virgin Islands property, business, and estate succession matters, such as the acquisition, ownership, and disposal of real estate, property development and financing, corporate and tax structuring, business licensing, employment and immigration and obtaining probates. Her expertise includes counsel to foreign nationals and entities on obtaining the relevant regulatory approvals required for the acquisition of property in the BVI. She is highly regarded by clients for her responsiveness and ability to identify and anticipate their needs, as well as to provide practical legal advice and strategic guidance throughout each engagement.



NADINE WHYTE LAING

Partner, Commercial Litigation

Mrs. Whyte Laing, a litigator of over 20 years standing, advises in all types of commercial litigation, corporate insolvency, and probate cases. She has appeared in almost all sophisticated cases since joining O'Neal Webster as an associate in 2010. Prior to joining the firm, she served as a judicial assistant and Deputy Registrar of the BVI High Court from 2006 to 2010. She frequently appears with Paul Dennis, KC, in many leading BVI cases at all levels, including the Privy Council. Together they have developed a reputation as a formidable litigation team.



MEET OUR ENTIRE LEGAL TEAM AND LEARN MORE
ABOUT WHAT O'NEAL WEBSTER CAN DO FOR YOU AT
WWW.ONEALWEBSTER.COM.



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*"O'Neal Webster has
proudly served the legal
needs of enterprises,
families, and individuals
for over 30 years."*