

## Stephen Thompson Partner



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Qualified 1993

## **Education**Hutton Grammar School University of West England

Steve has been described by Legal 500 as "exemplary" and particularly recommended for franchising, insolvency, commercial contracts and acquisitions, and corporate recovery construction.

Steve qualified in 1993 with Blake Morgan, after which he remained with the firm for three years as an assistant solicitor. He then moved to Pinsent Curtis in 1997 where he spent two years in their Birmingham office. Following a further period as a partner in a niche commercial practice in Cardiff, Steve joined Darwin Gray as a partner in 2004.

Steve is head of the firm's Corporate and Commercial team and is also a member of the Commercial Dispute Resolution team, in which he is involved in a number of specialist areas of litigation.

Steve has wide ranging experience in relation to transactional matters, including mergers and acquisitions, management buy outs and buy ins, joint ventures and business reorganisation and restructuring.

As an Affiliate member of the British Franchise Association, Steve has particular expertise in relation to the buying and selling of franchise businesses. Steve also has considerable experience in the buying and selling of businesses in an insolvency context.

With his extensive commercial experience, Steve regularly acts for a range of businesses, particularly in the IT sector. He has a great deal of experience in advising on and reviewing contracts of all types, including those with an international connection. In addition, Steve advises in relation to lottery, gaming and charity issues.

In relation to Dispute Resolution, Steve is regularly instructed in relation to a variety of specialist areas including construction, intellectual property, professional negligence, procurement, franchising and also banking and finance litigation.

## Memberships

- Member of the Data Protection Society
- Member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators
- Affiliate of the British Franchise Association
- Incorporate member of the Chartered Institute of Builders

## **Personal Interests**

Steve enjoys spending time family, spin classes and martial arts.