



Murray Armes

BA DipArch MA MSc
RIBA FCI Arb MAE

- Over 30 years' experience
- Chartered Arbitrator
- Adjudicator
- Mediator
- Dispute Board Member
- Architect Expert Witness

Overview

Founder and Managing Director of Sense Studio Limited, Murray has enjoyed a diverse and rewarding career in the international construction industry.

Specialising in dispute avoidance and resolution, he is a FIDIC President's List international adjudicator and on the arbitration, dispute board, adjudication and mediation panels of CI Arb, RIBA, RICS and CEDR, among others, working on significant appointments relating to construction disputes. His verifiable track record in dispute avoidance influences his work as a Dispute Board Member, and he is the immediate Past President of Region 2 of the Dispute Resolution Board Foundation. Murray has been

appointed as Dispute Board Member for the €17bn ITER Project and also for the High Luminosity Project at CERN and more recently for a large nuclear project under the ICC DB Rules.

Education

Chartered Arbitrator and Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators - 2007

MSc in Construction Law, King's College, London - 2003

MA with distinction in Architecture, Sheffield University - 1981

DipArch with distinction, Sheffield University - 1981

BA(Hons) in Architecture, Sheffield University - 1978

Experience

An established Chartered Architect, Arbitrator and Expert Witness, Murray has worked on major global projects in sectors such as residential, commercial, aviation, power, healthcare, and retail, as well as being involved in engineering projects and commercial interior design. As expert, he has been instructed on cases involving some of the most

complex projects and highest value disputes in the world, covering almost every aspect of the design and construction of building projects and professional negligence for contracts in the UK, Europe, Middle East, Africa and Central Asia.

Murray is a FIDIC President's List international adjudicator, on the adjudication panels of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, CEDR and the Royal Institute of British Architects, on the CI Arb DB panel and both the A and B lists of international dispute board adjudicators for the RICS and a Member of the Dispute Board Panel of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. He is an accredited mediator with the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and the RIBA and on the CEDR panel of mediators. He is listed as an arbitrator by the CI Arb, CEDR and the RIBA.

Involved in Dispute Board activities since 2003, Murray is the immediate Past Region 2 President of the Dispute Resolution Board Foundation, an organisation which promotes the use of dispute boards worldwide. Also, Murray has also acted as Treasurer and both Executive and R2 Board Member.

Murray delivers training workshops, conferences and seminars in Dispute Avoidance and Resolution, Dispute Boards and FIDIC contracts and has given seminars in the UK, USA, Europe, South Africa, Eastern Europe, South America, Asia and the Middle and Far East. He has contributed many articles within academic journals, industry newsletters and professional guides and takes an active role as an academic tutor and participant in international mediation and arbitration competitions.

In 2014, Murray was appointed by F4E, and currently sits on the Panel of Adjudicators for the €17 billion European Undertaking for "ITER" an international joint venture established under the European Atomic Energy Community Treaty and the reputedly the largest energy project in the world. Murray also currently sits on a dispute board for CERN, in relation to the new High Luminosity Project and major building projects. Both projects involve extensive civil engineering, below ground and tunneling works, as well as above ground road and infrastructure and vertical construction. More recently he has been appointed to the DAB for a large nuclear project and another project in Africa. Murray has also been nominated and appointed for other dispute boards for power, road, water and construction projects.

As arbitrator, Murray has decided disputes concerning latent defects insurance, coal mining subsidence, renewable energy and consumer issues and to date has published around fifty awards. He has given evidence in four international arbitration hearings and has experience in chairing adjudication and arbitration hearings, as well as sitting as chair of the ISE Disciplinary Board and as a technical adviser for the RIBA Disciplinary Panel.

As an adjudicator, Murray has decided disputes concerning a wide range of technical matters, including delays, project management and quantum and final account issues and he is appointed as a standing adjudicator for a large series of PFI projects. He is familiar with FIDIC (post-1999, including MDB), JCT, NEC and other contracts including bespoke agreements. As mediator, he has mediated disputes between

architects and employers as well as developers and contractors and sub-contractors.

Murray has been taking instructions to act as an expert since 1991 and has been instructed in over 300 cases as both a party appointed and single joint expert in litigation and arbitration in the UK and is a full Practising Member of the Academy of Experts. His instructions have included cases involving building defects, water ingress, professional negligence, delays, fire damage, fire compliance, regulatory compliance, interior design, defective basement and waterproofing construction, practical completion and handover, and project management, many involving complex technical and contractual matters. He has given evidence in litigation and both domestic and high profile international arbitrations and has given evidence as expert witness on two of the world's highest value disputes.

Since founding Sense Studio, Murray has established a reputation in disputes concerning airport and aviation facilities on four large projects: two in the Middle East, one in Africa and the fourth in the UK. More recently he has been instructed on a fifth case in the Middle East. The services provided include the analysis of the quality of design information and whether it was at the right level of detail for D&B procurement, whether post contract D&B design amounted to a change or reasonable design development, the determination of reasonable design hours, whether termination was reasonable on the basis of the lack of progress and state of the works, evaluation of the state of completion prior to a remedial works contract and expert opinion on a counterclaim for defective works as well

as assessment of compliance with national and international standards.

He has been involved in numerous cases concerning cladding design and failures which include compliance with fire regulations and in jointly working with fire consultants to investigate the cause of fires and also to investigate construction matters in respect of fire protection. This is especially relevant after the events that unfolded at Grenfell House in 2017.

Murray carried out his first architectural commission at the age of fifteen and went on to found his own architectural practice in 1990 and has worked on a wide range of projects around the world including the UK, Europe, Middle and Far East, and Africa. His project experience includes hospitals and healthcare (both UK and Middle East), theatres (UK and Middle East), railways, airports, universities (UK and Hong Kong), hotels, leisure, listed buildings, retail and residential work, both in refurbishment and new build projects. Some projects required significant involvement in the engineering aspects, including a bridge scheme for a railway as part of the Wembley Stadium redevelopment in North London and others specialist knowledge of facilities for the disabled. He has carried out a considerable amount of work in connection with commercial interiors and has given expert evidence on matters concerning interior design.

Murray is a past member of Council of the Society of Construction Law and past committee member of the King's College Construction Law Association. In 2007 he became a Freeman of the Worshipful Company of Arbitrators, a Liveryman in 2009 and a Court Assistant in 2012. Murray serves as technical adviser to the

RIBA Disciplinary Panel, chair of ISE Disciplinary Panels and is an assessor for the RICS panel of adjudicators.

Positions held

FIDIC President's List of International Adjudicators

RICS A and B Panel Dispute Board Member

Council member of the Society of Construction Law

President of Region 2 of the DRBF

Member, Society of Construction Arbitrators

Freeman and Liveryman, Worshipful Company of Arbitrators, newsletter and website editor and chairman of communications

Member of Council, Society of Construction Law (since 2003)

Member and Committee Member, Kings College Construction Law Association

Member, Adjudication Society (since 2004)

Practising Member of the Academy of Experts

Member of the RIBA Disciplinary Panel

Member of the RICS adjudicator assessment panel

Member of the CIArb Practice and Standards Committee

Member of the CIArb Dispute Board Panel

Chair of the ISE Disciplinary Board (since 2016)

Professional memberships

Chartered Architect (RIBA)

Chartered Arbitrator (FCIArb, RIBA)

Chartered Arbitrator (RIBA, CIArb, CEDR and ABTA Panels)

Adjudicator (RIBA, CIArb and CEDR)

Accredited Mediator (CEDR, CIArb)

Dispute Board Member

(DRBF, FIDIC, RICS, CIArb)

Publications

"News & Views", CIArb SE Branch newsletter, editor 2006-2009 and regular contributor during that period.

"An Inspector Calls: Architects' Site Visits", article for Probyn Miers "Perspective" (2010).

"AJ legal Handbook", joint author of Chapter on Construction Legislation in England and Wales (2010)

"Prevention Better Than Cure", article on dispute boards, Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors "Construction Journal" (2010).

"To Have and to Hold", article about adjudication meetings for the Adjudication Society newsletter (2011).

"All Have Won and All Must Have Prizes", article for Construction Law Journal (2011).

"The Concept of Dispute Avoidance", paper given at the Kings College/DRBF conference "An Introduction to International Adjudication" in June 2011.

"Putting Your Money Where Your Mouth Is, The Funding of Dispute Boards by the Multilateral Development Banks", Construction Law Journal, 2013.

"Dispute Boards: Counting the Cost", DRBF Forum magazine, April-May 2015.

Two chapters 11 & 12 for the RIBA publication "Being an Effective Construction Client", 2016.

Foreword for "A Practical Guide to Successful Construction Projects", by Arent van Wassenaer, 2017.

Chapter 8 of “International Contractual and Statutory Adjudication”, edited by Andrew Burr, 2017.

“Angles”, Sense Studio’s regular newsletter.

Additional Information

Training and seminars on Dispute Boards and FIDIC Contracts carried out on behalf of the DRBF in Cape Town, Johannesburg, Bucharest, Washington, New York, London, Istanbul, Brussels, Paris, Genoa, Madrid, Sao Paolo, Rio de Janeiro, Mexico City, Bogota, Lima, Tokyo, the UAE, Doha and Singapore.

Speaker at FIDIC and ICC/FIDIC events in London, Istanbul, Brussels, Bogota, Edinburgh and Rome.

Speaker at the IBA conferences in Washington (2016) and Rome (2018).

Seminars for the Adjudication Society (London), Society of Construction Law (Dubai and Abu Dhabi), Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (London), the RIBA (London), TECSA (London) and for various law firms.

Past organiser of the DRBF UK Member’s Meetings and regular contributor.

Joint organiser and contributor to the King’s College “Introduction to International Adjudication” symposium held in London in June 2011.

Seminars for organisations in London, the UK and Europe.

Regularly writes scenarios for the ICC International and Asian Mediation Competitions and participates as mediator and judge and also as arbitrator and judge in the VisMoot, Vienna.

Murray can be contacted by email at

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