



Whitestone Chambers

Gordon Aber

Associate Member

CALLED AS A BARRISTER: 1996

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EDUCATION

- London School of Economics and Political Science - LL M
- University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg – BB LL B

PROFILE

Gordon Aber is an Associate Member of Whitestone Chambers and is a member of the Johannesburg Bar.

Gordon's areas of specialism include Aviation, aviation insurance disputes, arbitration proceedings, personal injury matters primarily in the context of aviation, product liability and inquests.

Gordon as argued some of the leading aviation cases in the South African High Court and the South African Supreme Court of Appeal

MEMBERSHIP

- Member of the Johannesburg Society of Advocates.

PRACTICE

Gordon commenced practice at the Johannesburg Bar in the late 1980s. He established a busy commercial practice before being called to the Bar of England and Wales in 1996. He specialises in aviation and aviation insurance disputes, which frequently involve complex multi-jurisdictional claims. He is instructed on behalf of a wide range of commercial aviation interests, including airlines, airport owners, charter operators, ground handling companies, aircraft maintenance organisations (and their insurers) in a range of claims.

Gordon has a large aviation, aviation insurance and general commercial practice and he is regularly instructed by leading city law firms to appear in High Court litigation and ADR proceedings. He also advises and appears for the London war risks market and he has been involved in private arbitration proceedings in respect of losses in Libya, Chad and Afghanistan.

Gordon has argued some of the leading aviation insurance cases in the South African High Court and the South African Supreme Court of Appeal and he regularly appears in High Courts in neighbouring countries. Acting for these clients, and their insurers, in ADR proceedings is a growing area of his practice as arbitration and mediation proceedings become increasingly popular.

PERSONAL INJURY

Gordon has extensive experience of personal injury claims arising from his involvement in aviation accidents and liability claims.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Gordon has been involved in a number of compensation claim disputes arising from aviation accidents.

INQUESTS

Gordon has appeared on behalf of South African mining trade unions, their members and families at a number of South African inquests / mining enquiries arising from mining disasters and deep level mining operations.

PRODUCT LIABILITY

Gordon is regularly involved in product liability disputes arising from aviation accidents / incidents.

SIGNIFICANT CASES

Charter Hi v Minister of Transport (155/10) [2011] SCA 89 – Represented the appellant in an appeal arising from the crash of a Beechcraft C90 during an instrument flight renewal test undertaking in the Cape Town general flying area.

ZS-SVN Syndicate v 43 Air School (Pty) Ltd and another 2007(6) SA 389 (E) – Appeared on behalf of the insurers of an airport in a subrogation action by aircraft owners arising from the aircraft landing on a closed runway.

Man Truck & Bus (SA) (Pty) Ltd v Dorbyl Ltd t/a Dorbyl Transport Products and Busaf 2004 (5) SA 226 SCA – Appeared on behalf of the appellant in appeal proceedings to overturn the High Court's interpretation of reciprocal obligation under a sale & maintenance contract.

V & A Waterfront Properties (Pty) Ltd and another v Helicopter and Marine Services (Pty) Ltd and others [2004] 2 All SA 664 (C) – Appeared on behalf of the South African Civil Aviation Authority as the intervening party in injunction proceedings aimed at preventing a Cape Town-based helicopter operator from continuing flight operations.

Orange Free State Provincial Administration v Ahier and another; Parys Municipality v Ahier and another 1991 (2) SA 608 W – Represented a respondent party in High Court proceedings aimed at removing the appointed arbitrator on grounds of bias.

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