

Sebastian Sayer

Partner

I am a partner in Fox Williams' financial services team. I specialise in contentious FS regulatory and white-collar matters, acting for both corporate and individual clients.



Described in Chambers and Partners as a "tough litigator" with "exemplary approachability, articulacy and responsiveness", Seb advises corporate and individual clients on contentious financial services regulatory and white-collar crime matters. His clients include banks, investment firms, FinTechs, other financial services firms, and senior individuals working at those firms.

Seb has a specialism of advising in relation to investigations, whether those be conducted by law enforcement agencies or a regulator, as part of a public-facing inquiry, or carried out internally (such as by an employer).

He regularly advises clients on matters relating to the FCA's Senior Managers and Certification Regime, such as non-financial misconduct issues, Conduct Rules, governance, and Senior Manager applications.

Seb often works with his colleagues in Fox Williams' employment department, ensuring that clients simultaneously receive coordinated regulatory and employment law advice.

Seb is ranked in both Legal 500, and Chambers and Partners.

Prior to joining the firm, Seb worked in the Enforcement division of the FCA for five years. Seb was a senior prosecutor, and carried out many high-profile investigations and prosecutions including multiple cases taken to trial at Southwark Crown Court. This included one of the FCA's most high-profile insider dealing prosecutions, involving a compliance officer at a major Swiss investment bank. He maintains strong links with colleagues from the regulator. Seb is a barrister by background, having been called to the Bar in 2007 and practising in chambers (before the FCA) at Foundry Chambers.

Legal Expertise

- Contentious financial services regulation
- Non-contentious financial services regulation
- White collar crime

Experience

- Acted for a significant number of senior lawyers and executives (up to C-suite and non-executive director level) at a major retail bank, in relation to the Dame Linda Dobbs [Review](#)
- Acted for a director of a public company under criminal and regulatory investigation by the FCA for insider dealing.
- Acted for a money laundering reporting officer under investigation by the FCA for alleged regulatory and criminal breaches of the Money Laundering Regulations.
- Advised various senior investment bankers under internal investigation for 'non-financial misconduct' issues.
- Acted for a senior investment banker in relation an internal investigation into alleged breaches of personal account dealing rules, and related regulatory issues.
- Advised various private banks and major financial services companies on regulatory issues, including staff misconduct, regulatory reporting, whistleblowing investigations, and governance (SMCR).
- Advised a public (non-FS) company in relation to insider dealing issues and compliance with FCA information requirements.
- Acted for various companies and directors in relation to Companies House prosecutions.
- Advised the head of compliance at a major international investment bank in relation to a FCA interview and investigation.
- Advised a senior individual in relation to the police investigation into the Grenfell Towers fire.
- Advised a leading UK specialist pension adviser firm in relation to a FCA enforcement investigation and ongoing supervisory issues including a redress scheme relating to defined benefit pension transfer advice.

Memberships

- Fraud Lawyers Association

- Financial Services Lawyers Association
- Lincoln's Inn

Accreditations



