

Noran Al Mekhlafi Associate

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Noran is an associate based in Afridi & Angell's Dubai office and practices in the dispute resolution team. With over seven years of experience in dispute resolution in Dubai, Noran specialises in DIFC litigation, on-shore litigation, arbitration and other dispute resolution mechanisms. She has particular experience in areas of commercial, employment, maritime and construction disputes, and holds a strong track record of working in several complex high-profile cases in the DIFC Courts.

Prior to joining Afridi & Angell, Noran worked as an Associate in DIFC litigation and arbitration at BSA Ahmad Bin Hezeem & Associates LLP, Dubai, for almost two years. Prior to that, she also worked as an Associate at Hamdan AlShamsi Lawyers & Legal Consultants in the DIFC litigation and arbitration department.

DIFC litigation matters:

- *Carmon Reestrutura v. Antonio Cuenda (CA 003/2024)* Represented the Claimant in a landmark decision by the DIFC Court of Appeal which expanded the jurisdiction of the DIFC Courts to issue worldwide freezing orders in support of foreign proceedings, overturning prior restrictions further to the Sandra Holding case.
- *Sandra Holding v. Fawzi Al Saleh & others* (CFI-092/2021 & CA-003-2023). Represented the Defendants in successfully setting aside a DIFC Court Freezing Order issued in respect of foreign proceedings. This was a landmark case which significantly restricted the scope of the DIFC Court's jurisdiction to issue freezing orders in support of foreign proceedings.

Areas of Practice

- Litigation
- Arbitration
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Real Estate
- Maritime
- Corporate and Commercial

Admissions and Affiliations

- Registered as a Legal Consultant at the Dubai Legal Affairs Department.

Education

- GDL, BPP Law School, United Kingdom, 2019
- LL.M., Arbitration & Alternative Dispute Resolution, University of Dubai, 2017
- LL.B., Dar Al Hekma University, Saudi Arabia, 2015

Languages

- English
- Arabic

- *Rafed Abdel Mohsen Al Khorafi & Ors v Bank Sarasin-Alpen (ME) Limited & Bank Sarasin & Co. Ltd* (CFI-026-2009 & CFI-014-2016). Al Khorafi litigation is one of the biggest financial mis-selling claims in the Gulf region for \$200 million. Represented Al Khorafi family, working with Counsel on all related proceedings following the judgment, including the assessment of costs, and legal submissions on applications for post-judgment interest, up until settlement between the parties.
- *Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait v Rafed Abdel Mohsen Al Khorafi & Alia Mohamed Al Rifai* (ENF 085/2016). Managed the file and worked on the applications and legal submissions with Counsel.
- *Mashreq Bank PSC v. Infinite Partners LLC* (CFI-063-2020). Represented the Claimant in respect of debt recovery in the sum of over AED 130 million against several companies and individuals associated with the KBBO Group. Worked on drafting witness statements and amendments to particulars of claim.
- *The Industrial Group Ltd v Abdelazim El Sheikh El Fadil Hamid* (CFI-029-2018). Represented the Defendant/Counterclaimant in a contentious employment and damages dispute. Worked on legal strategy, drafting applications, witness statements and skeleton arguments up until trial. The case involved issues regarding the DIFC Courts' jurisdiction to hear tort claims concerning abuse of process and malicious prosecution.
- *Salem Altamimi v. 16 Objecting Parties* (CFI-085/2021). Represented two objecting parties arguing against the recognition of Abu Dhabi bankruptcy proceedings as a 'foreign main proceeding' under the DIFC Insolvency Law. Assisted the Counsel instructed in drafting the skeleton arguments.
- *AS World Group* (CFI-086-2021). Represented the Respondent in an appeal of an Order of the Small Claims Tribunal (SCT) over employment entitlements against the employer. The case addressed key procedural issues related to the rules of appeal of STC judgments in the DIFC Courts of First Instance.
- *IEMS v. ESH FZ-LLC* (CFI-114-2020). Represented the Claimant concerning a construction project and debt recovery in the sum of over AED 50 million. Worked on drafting legal submissions and witness evidence, and reply submissions in an interlocutory stay application.
- *NMC Healthcare LTD v. Dubai Islamic Bank and others* (ADGM CFI-2021-042). Represented one of the joined parties to a major dispute in respect of insurance receivables.
- *Al Mheiri v. El Araj* (CFI-057-2021). Represented the Claimant to seek a debt claim in respect of indemnity agreements. This case involved procedural issues related to the transfer of a Part 8 claim to Part 7.
- *Vegie Bar LLC v ENBD LLC* (CFI-009-2016). Represented the Claimant in a dispute over the assignment and registration of a lease agreement under the DIFC Properties Law.