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Anthony Peto KC

"Tony is a heavy weapon in one's litigation arsenal, and particularly effective at advocacy."

– CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS, 2026



Year of call:	**1985**
Appointed to silk:	**2009**
Degree:	**MA (Oxon), BCL (Oxon)**
Languages:	**French (working knowledge)**

Tony Peto KC is a highly rated commercial silk, widely recognised as one of the leading silks for Civil Fraud currently in practice at the Bar. He has also acted in a wide range of public law and human rights matters.

Tony has been involved in many of the most complex and high profile disputes of recent years. He acts as Lead Counsel in complex, high value fraud cases in all the higher courts involving civil fraud, abuse of intellectual property, theft of confidential information or similar forms of commercial dishonesty, often leading multi-disciplinary teams of barristers, solicitors, investigators, foreign lawyers, computer experts and forensic accountants and involving world wide freezing orders, search orders, disclosure orders and committal.

His practice has recently included multi-billion dollar claims in the following fields; corruption in the oil industry; conspiracy to defraud in the Indian and American steel industries, alleged Russian state backed "raider attacks" against the factories of exiled industrialists, fraudulent expropriation of wind farm assets from political dissidents in Thailand and claims worth hundreds of millions of dollars in cases involving misappropriation of assets from European banks. He has also acted for the government in multi-million civil recovery cases, including a leading case in the Supreme Court and in cases for and against foreign states or their officials.

Tony was co-head of Blackstone Chambers from January 2012 to October 2022. Prior to his appointment to Silk, Tony was counsel to the Crown on the Attorney General's 'A' Panel.

He is recognised by latest editions of both the leading independent legal directories, Chambers UK and Legal 500, for his expertise in commercial litigation and civil fraud. Key recent quotes include:

- "Tony is a heavy weapon in one's litigation arsenal, and particularly effective at advocacy." - Chambers and Partners, 2026
- "Tony is a legend." - Chambers and Partners, 2025
- "Tony Peto is a real heavyweight in the international fraud space. Not afraid to push boundaries or make a difficult call, he is someone who you want to be in your client's corner." - Chambers and Partners, 2025

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- "Anthony is a great strategist and great on his feet, one of the go-to silks.", "At the top of his game. He knows the playbook inside out."- Chambers and Partners, 2024
- "One of the most instinctive civil fraud silks around. Dogged in his attitude and superb judgement, both on his feet and while providing advice."- Legal 500, 2024
- "Tony is not only a very experienced and highly thought-of barrister who understands the subject matter extremely quickly and gives sound and experienced advice and solutions." - Legal 500 2023
- "He is able to grasp important, complex issues very quickly and is impressively committed to the cause and his clients."- Chambers and Partners, 2023

EXPERIENCE

Civil Fraud, Asset Recovery & Injunctive Relief

Tony is widely recognised as one of the leading silks for Civil Fraud currently in practice at the Bar and has been involved in many of the most complex and high profile disputes of recent years. He acts as Lead Counsel in complex, high value fraud cases in all the higher courts involving civil fraud, abuse of intellectual property, theft of confidential information or similar forms of commercial dishonesty, often leading multi-disciplinary teams of barristers, solicitors, investigators, foreign lawyers, computer experts and forensic accountants and involving world wide freezing orders, search orders, disclosure orders and committal.

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“Tony Peto is a real heavyweight in the international fraud space. Not afraid to push boundaries or make a difficult call, he is someone who you want to be in your client's corner.”

— CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS, 2025

Cases

Commercial Bank of Dubai v. A-Sari

[2022] EWHC 2697 (Comm)

Acting for Dubai Bank in a multi-million pound claim to enforce foreign judgments; complex issues of jurisdiction, search order, world-wide freezing order and contempt

Arcelor Mittal v. Ruia

Leading a US$1.5 billion claim for the Mittal’s steel group for enforcement of international arbitral awards and for international conspiracy to injure against Defendants in Mauritius, England and India. Issues involving complex questions of conflicts and jurisdiction re Search Orders, Worldwide Freezing Orders and disclosure orders. Ground-breaking case on jurisdiction to grant such orders in the absence of any Defendants, assets or disputes within the jurisdiction.

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Mr Suppipat & Ors v Mr Nop Narongdej & Ors

Leading a US$2bn claim for a Thai political exile against multiple Defendants in Thailand (including the Commerical Bank of Siam, part owned by the King of Thailand), Hong Kong, England, Belize, and BVI for unlawful conspiracy to injure by depriving the Claimant of his interests in Thai windfarms. Issues of conflicts, jurisdiction, foreign law, foreign arbitral awards, Worldwide Freezing orders and Search Orders, the pleading and proving of foreign law and jurisdiction over certain Companies Act claims.

Cherney v. Deripaska

Representing the Claimant in a multi-million-pound claim against Oleg Deripasksa. An important case involving allegations of criminality and a claim that the Claimant had a 20% share in Rusal.

Certain Underwriters at Lloyds of London & Ors. v Syrian Arab Republic & Ors.

CL-2015-000667

The Commercial Court ordered a UK bank to disclose whether it holds funds on behalf of the Syrian Arab Republic, Syrian Airforce Intelligence, President Bashar Al-Assad and Gen Muhammad Al Khuli (former Chief of Syrian Airforce Intelligence). Tony acted for the claimants.

Calor Gas Ltd v Chorley Bottle Gas Ltd & Ors

[2020] EWHC 2426 (QB)

Successfully represented Calor Gas in its application for a search order against Chorley Bottle Gas, in which it was alleged that Chorley was unlawfully refilling Calor's liquefied petroleum gas cylinders. The case provides a useful template for any search order application during the coronavirus pandemic.

Ocado v. Faiman

BL-2019-00125

A high-profile dispute between Ocado and one of its co-founders who has established a rival company, allegedly in breach of confidence, and who now counterclaims for (amongst other things) unlawful means conspiracy against Ocado plc, causing the loss of a contract with Waitrose worth hundreds of millions. Tony acted for the Defendants.

Property business claim

Acting for a multi-billion pound property business in a multi-million claim against insurers and brokers for conspiracy to injure.

Breach of fiduciary duty claim

Leading in a multi-million pound claim for fraudulent breach of fiduciary duty in diversion of business opportunities – a case involving a complex search/computer imaging order pending. Case presently embargoed.

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Deripaska v Navigator

(2019)

US $100m dispute between Russian industrialist in relation to the ownership of a Russian textile factory and enforcement of arbitral award and allegations of international fraudulent conspiracy.

Guralp Systems

(2019)

Defending allegations of bribery in relation to Korean contracts.

Toaz v Uralchem (Ireland)

Multi-jurisdictional action between Russian oligarchs in a claim worth over US$2bn involving Russia, Cyprus, BVI and Ireland, Switzerland the UK. Case involves unlawful conspiracies to misappropriate a major industry in the Russian Federation. Tony coordinated legal experts from 6 jurisdictions as part of his role as lead counsel.

Advising in multi-million dollar claim

(2019)

Advising in multi-million dollar claim for fraudulent conspiracy re a mining company in central Africa

Advising foreign state owned natural resources organisation

(2019)

Advising foreign state owned natural resources organisation in $12bn case of international corruption involving multi-jurisdictional injunctions.

Re: multiple actions between Eastern European oligarchs

Acting for a high net worth individual and his off-shore companies in their action for the fraudulent misappropriation of over US$700m worth of assets. Highly complex issues of foreign and private international law.

Corbiere Ltd v KE XU

[2018] EWHC 1650 (Ch)

Multi-million pound claim for fraudulent misappropriation of algorithmic investment strategies from city financial institution. Complex injunctive remedies required from Chancery Division interrelating with judicial review and proceedings in Hong Kong and conducting trial for contempt of court.

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Sabbagh v Khoury

[2017] EWCA Civ 1120

Acting for the Claimant in a case of alleged international conspiracy to defraud dispute worth over US$500m in relation to interests in a multi-national middle eastern construction company (the world's largest private construction and infrastructure company) with a capitalisation of several billion Us dollars. Complex issues of jurisdiction, EU law and Private International Law, involving the co-ordination of multi-national teams of lawyers.

Reignwood v Ni

High value joint venture dispute in the Commercial Court involving the Reignwood Group of companies. Associated proceedings in Luxembourg and the U.S. Instructed by the Reignwood Group, a very substantial group of companies headquartered in China (which owns Wentworth Golf Club, amongst other assets in the UK). The claim is brought by a senior former employee who claims to have had a joint venture with the billionaire owner of the Reignwood Group. The claims are very complex in factual terms, and largely governed by Chinese law.

GGG v HHH

High value commercial fraud proceedings in the Commercial Court relating to underlying allegations of bribery. Associated investigation by the Serious Fraud Office. The claim raises novel issues surrounding the interplay of warranty claims made by a purchaser of a company arising out of alleged bribery and claims by the company itself in relation to the same subject matter. There are also substantial third-party claims for contribution and in deceit. Raises issues of US and other foreign law.

Hewlett Packard v Sage

Acting for Hewlett Packard in an alleged multi-million international fraud over a number of jurisdictions including Pakistan and the Gulf and involving the supply of several thousand servers allegedly in violation of discount schemes. Execution of Freezing Orders, Search Orders and Committal for alleged Contempt of Court.

BFS Group Limited & Otrs v Shaun Foley & Ors

(Queen's Bench Division, 2016)

£45M claim concerning an alleged fraudulent conspiracy against twelve defendants including a former director of the Claimant logistics company..

Multiple actions between Eastern European oligarchs

(2014)

Acting for a high net worth individual and his off-shore companies in their action for the fraudulent misappropriation of over US$700m worth of assets. Highly complex issues of foreign and private international law.

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Oakmont v Thomas

(Chancery Division) 2014

Acting for Brazilian based mining companies in multi-million dollar dispute involving misappropriation of company assets and dispute over shares. Multiple applications for domestic and foreign freezing orders.

Otkritie Bank v Urumov and Others

(Commercial Court and Court of Appeal, 2013)

Lead Counsel for the Defence for over 6 Defendants in a 12 week Commercial Court trial in a claim for over US$170m in an alleged Russian banking fraud attracting international media interest. Issues of private international law, foreign law, privilege and public policy. Over 120 files to digest and over a dozen witnesses to cross-examine.

Topa v Tomdal

(Commercial Court) (2012)

Lead Counsel for Claimants in multi-jurisdictional US$70m fraud case against the Deputy Speaker of the Moldovan Parliament and alleged associates of the Moldovan Mafia. Obtaining Norwich Pharmacal orders and "doorstep raiding" orders to assist civil and criminal proceedings in Moldova, Germany and Scotland and to assist Human Rights proceedings in the ECHR, Strasbourg. Involved complex issues of jurisdiction and private international law.

Dar Al Arkan v Al Refai

[2012] EWHC 3539 (Comm)

Lead Counsel for the Defendant against a Bahraini Bank in a US$500m claim arising out of alleged fraudulent "connected party" transactions. Defending allegations of conspiracy to injure, misappropriation of confidential banking information and malicious falsehood.

Serious Organised Crime Agency v Perry

[2009] EWHC 1960 and 2673 (Admin); [2010] EWHC 1711 (Admin); [2010] EWCA Civ 907; [2011] EWCA Civ 578

Acted for SOCA in a civil recovery claim worth over £100m in relation to an alleged international pension and insurance fraud involving two Court of Appeal appearances on questions of international jurisdiction.

Bank of Ireland v Bailey

(2012)

Acted for the Bank of Ireland against allegedly corrupt and fraudulent conspirators who had taken bribes in exchange for multi-million pound loans.

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Commercial

Tony is widely recognised as a leading commercial silk, with a wide-ranging commercial and civil fraud practice. He appears as leading counsel in a range of substantial and complex international commercial disputes in the English Courts both at first instance and appeal.

Tony has particular experience of acting in commercial cases with a civil fraud element. His practice has recently included multi-billion dollar claims in the following fields; corruption in the oil industry; conspiracy to defraud in the Indian and American steel industries, alleged Russian state backed "raider attacks" against the factories of exiled industrialists, fraudulent expropriation of wind farm assets from political dissidents in Thailand and claims worth hundreds of millions of dollars in cases involving misappropriation of assets from European banks. He has also acted for the government in multi-million civil recovery cases, including a leading case in the Supreme Court and in cases for and against foreign states or their officials.

> *"A tactical genius who has a real understanding of the law. He has seen so much that he is a brilliant person to develop a strategy with."*
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> — CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS, 2026

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CL-2015-000667

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Breach of fiduciary duty claim

Leading in a multi-million pound claim for fraudulent breach of fiduciary duty in diversion of business opportunities – a case involving a complex search/computer imaging order pending. Case presently embargoed.

Arcelor Mittal v Essar Steel

EWHC 724 (Comm)

Claim for enforcement of foreign arbitral award worth in excess of US$1bn involving applications for search, freezing and information orders in England and various foreign jurisdictions, including Cayman Islands, Mauritius, USA and India, in dispute between two multi-national companies. Leading large team of lawyers from four jurisdictions.

Advising on recovery of a multi-million pound judgment

(2019)

Advising in relation to a the recovery of a multi-million pound judgment against government officials of a Middle Eastern state.

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Corbiere Ltd v KE XU

[2018] EWHC 1650 (Ch)

Multi-million pound claim for fraudulent misappropriation of algorithmic investment strategies from city financial institution. Complex injunctive remedies required from Chancery Division interrelating with judicial review and proceedings in Hong Kong and conducting trial for contempt of court.

Sabbagh v Khoury

[2017] EWCA Civ 1120

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(Queen's Bench Division, 2016)

£45M claim concerning an alleged fraudulent conspiracy against twelve defendants including a former director of the Claimant logistics company..

Filmflex v Pixsel

Multi-million pound dispute over rights in proprietary software for video streaming platform.

Acqua Global Solutions v FinServe

Multi-million pound dispute over rights in software used by Tesco to provide banking services to over 6 million customers.

Newell v US Risk Insurance

(2013) Chancery Division

Lead Counsel for an American Insurance Company in an unfair prejudice petition.

S v N

Stockholm Institute of Commerce Arbitration (2013)

Lead Counsel in multi-million dollar international arbitration involving a share valuation dispute between Norwegian suppliers and Pakistani distributors.

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Solland v Salem

[2012] EWHC 1957

Lead Counsel for the Defendant in a trial arising out of an alleged joint venture relating to a £100m property in Belgravia.

Civil Liberties & Human Rights

Tony's commercial and fraud work often overlaps with public law and human rights.

Cases

ABC Queen's Bench Division

(2014)

Acting for a number of ex patriates from a foreign human rights abusive regime in a "right to life" and Article 6 application against the foreign government to prevent them from naming the clients in public High Court proceedings. Successfully obtaining orders and indemnity costs against the foreign government in question.

Members of the Liberal Democrat Party v The Liberal Democrat Party and Lord Rennard

(2014)

Acting for the Claimants in their claim against the Liberal Democrat Party and Lord Rennard in a claim that they had suffered sexual harassment and discrimination and that the Party had not properly investigated their complaints.

Re the Security and Justice Bill and the All Party Parliamentary Group on Extraordinary Rendition

(2012-2013)

Advising Members of Parliament and Peers on the APPG on Extraordinary Rendition as to the Human Rights and Civil Libertarian consequences of the provisions relating to Closed Material Proceedings in the Bill; drafting amendments for Peers to put before the House of Lords and advising as to Parliamentary procedure.

Topa v Tomdal

(Commercial Court) (2012)

Lead Counsel for Claimants in multi-jurisdictional US$70m fraud case against the Deputy Speaker of the Moldovan Parliament and alleged associates of the Moldovan Mafia. Obtaining Norwich Pharmacal orders and "doorstep raiding" orders to assist civil and criminal proceedings in Moldova, Germany and Scotland and to assist Human Rights proceedings in the ECHR, Strasbourg. Involved complex issues of jurisdiction and private international law.

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Dar Al Arkan v Al Refai
[2012] EWHC 3539 (Comm)

Lead Counsel for the Defendant against a Bahraini Bank in a US$500m claim arising out of alleged fraudulent "connected party" transactions. Defending allegations of conspiracy to injure, misappropriation of confidential banking information and malicious falsehood.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Publications

- Neither Just Nor Secure: The Justice and Security Bill by Anthony Peto QC and Andrew Tyrie MP. Published by the Centre for Policy Studies (January 2013).
- In June 2013 Anthony won the Prospect Think Tank Publication of the Year award for 'Neither Just nor Secure'.

Research / Lecturing

Tony has had considerable experience in providing continuing education courses approved by The Law Society, especially courses on pre-emptive remedies, fraud law and practice, human rights in civil fraud cases and in advanced advocacy. He was also a part-time tutor at Churchill College, Cambridge 1984-7.

Memberships

- COMBAR
- ALBA

Selected earlier reported cases

Civil Fraud, Asset Recovery & Injunctive Relief

- Serious Organised Crimes Agency v Gale [2009] EWHC 1015 (QB), [2010] EWCA Civ 759, [2011] UKSC 49
- Rybak & ors v Langbar International Ltd. [2011] EWHC 452 (Ch)
- JSC Bank v Ablyazov and others (2011)
- 3i Group plc v Holyoake (2010)
- AB v XY & Others (Ch D) (2009 – 10)
- Treasury Solicitors v Doveton Ch.(2006-2008)
- Secretary of State v R (2007)
- ESur v Rahman (2006-7)
- WestLB v Yacub QB (2007)
- Cinar Corporation v Panju (2006)
- Electrolux v Rumble (2006)

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- Daraydan v Solland [2004] 3 WLR 1106
- Medina Dairy v Nijjav (2004)
- Federal Republic of Nigeria v Abacha (2001– 2003)
- Defended ex-company Directors in relation to a £30 million VAT fraud.
- Defended a US$100 million claim arising out of alleged complicity in a "prime bank guarantee" fraud.
- Defended Jersey Trustees from allegations of complicity in a £20 million fraud.

Commercial

- Meinl Bank (2011)
- Rusal & Anor v Corbiere & Anor (2011)
- Izodia Plc v (1) Edward Vandyk (2) Corporate Synergy Holdings Ltd (Chancery Division, 2010 -2011)
- Counsel to Microsoft (2000-2008) in over a dozen anti-counterfeiting and IP abuse actions in which the claims amounted to over US$100 million.
- Counsel to Pfizer Pharmaceuticals (2007-2008) in three multi-million pound actions; one involving corruption in the pharmaceutical industry and the other against a group dealing in counterfeit drugs.
- K v X QB (2007) Lead counsel for USA party to US$400 million litigation.

Civil Liberties & Human Rights

- Shell International v Greenpeace [2012]
- SOCA v Gale [2011] UKSC 49
- Campaign against the Arms Trade (CAAT) v BAE Systems and Mercer QB (2007)

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