

	First / Given Name:	Paul
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	Post-Nominals:	FCI Arb, FAMINZ (Arb/Med), IAM, FRI, FPD, FHKI Arb, FMI Arb
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	Nationality(ies):	New Zealand/European

Awards / Recognitions

1. 2022 – Prime Disputes – Outstanding Global Achievement in Commercial Mediation.
2. 2021 – Lexology Global Award – Client Care in Mediation.
3. 2021 – NZ Lawyer Most Influential Lawyer Award (change maker category).
4. 2020 - New Zealand Law Awards: Mediator of the Year.
5. 2020 – Prime Dispute “Equality and Diversity Leader Award in Dispute Resolution”.
6. 2019 – Arbitrators and Mediators Institute of New Zealand (AMINZ), Anne Edge Memorial Award for Excellence in Fellowship Examinations.
7. 2019 - Arbitrators and Mediators Institute of New Zealand (AMINZ), Fellowship Mediation Prize for Top marks in Written Examinations.
8. 2019 – New Zealand Awards: Mediator of the Year Finalist.
9. 2019 – LawFuel New Zealand’s 10 Leading Mediators.
10. 1995 – New Zealand Law Society Bar Examinations, First place in Auckland.
11. 1994 – New Zealand National Champion University Witness Examination

Positions

A] Current:

1. Independent Arbitrator and Mediator – Arbitra International (London & Washington).
2. Commercial Barrister (since 2004).
3. AMINZ Deputy Director of Professional Studies (Arbitration and Mediation).
4. Chairman of the Registered Master Builders Association of New Zealand Code of Conduct Committee.
5. New Zealand Regional Councils – Investigations and determinations on complaints concerning the conduct of elected officials.
6. Resolution Institute Determinative Committee.
7. Resolution Institute Arbitration Subcommittee.
8. Resolution Institute Diversity, Equality and Inclusion Committee.
9. Arbitrators and Mediators Institute of New Zealand – Mediation, Arbitration and Farm Debt Mediation Panels
10. Netball New Zealand disciplinary committee Chairperson.
11. Ministry of Justice Landlord/Tenant Dispute Scheme – Mediation and Arbitration Panels.
12. New Zealand Sport and Recreation Complaints & Mediation Service – Mediation Panel.
13. Maritime Mediation Centre (Athens) – Panel member.
14. Independent Director.

B] Previous:

1. 2020 - International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), Mediation Competition Adjudicator (Paris).
2. 2019 – International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), Mediation Competition Adjudicator (Melbourne).

3. 2008 – 2018: Company Receiver under the New Zealand Receiverships Act 1993.
4. 2006 – 2008: Managing Director & CEO – Sensation Yachts Group.
5. 1993 – 2004: Litigation Solicitor.
6. 1983 – 1991: Navigator Royal New Zealand Air Force.

Professional Accreditations

1. **Fellow** (FCIArb): Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, U.K.
2. **Fellow** (FAMINZ (Arb/Med)): Arbitrators and Mediators Institute of New Zealand – Fellowship in both mediation and arbitration.
3. **Distinguished Fellow** – International Academy of Mediators.
4. **Fellow** – Hong Kong Institute of Arbitrators.
5. **Fellow** – Prime Disputes London.
6. **Fellow** – Resolution Institute
7. **Fellow** – Malaysian Institute of Arbitrators.
8. **Supporting Member** – London Maritime Arbitration Association
9. **LLB (Hons)**: University of Auckland, New Zealand.

ADR / Professional Experience

International and Domestic Arbitration:

1. Acted as senior counsel in 4 International arbitrations involving disputes over superyacht construction contracts
2. Acting as arbitrator in a domestic arbitration under the Arbitration Act 1996 (NZ) regarding a commercial contract dispute.
3. Acting as arbitrator in a domestic arbitration under the Arbitration Act 1996 (NZ) regarding a family estate dispute.
4. Chairperson of the Registered Master Builders Association of New Zealand complaints committee – 15 hearings conducted and determinations issued in the last 12 months.
5. New Zealand Regional Councils – 3 investigations and determinations issued into the conduct of elected officials in the last 12 months.

International and Domestic Commercial Mediation:

1. Property Joint Venture - This matter involved a significant property development joint venture involving three large scale residential developments.
2. Government Department and Commercial Supplier - This dispute involved a government department who regularly engages with commercial suppliers.
3. Shareholders Disputes - I have worked on numerous shareholder disputes
4. Transborder Public Company Dispute - This dispute involved a publicly listed company in New Zealand and a publicly listed company in California.

Commercial litigation

1. Lead counsel in a superyacht refit dispute in the Melbourne High Court.

2. Lead counsel acting for the Fijian Tax Authority in a transfer pricing claim against Fiji Water (estimated damages \$1.6 billion Fijian dollars).
3. Lead counsel on numerous disputes for IATA - New Zealand and Pacific islands.
4. Lead counsel acting for the receivers of Hartner Construction Limited (at the time the largest construction failure in New Zealand).
5. Lead counsel acting for the receivers of Carich Training (largest education provider receivership in New Zealand).
6. Junior counsel acting for New Zealand public company in partnership dispute with CITIC (\$2.6 billion).
7. Junior counsel acting for Air New Zealand on the collapse of Ansett Australia.
8. Junior counsel acting on behalf of Tainui - the first Maori land settlement with the New Zealand government – value \$170 million.
9. Lead and Jr counsel on numerous aviation disasters including loss of Ansett New Zealand Dash-8, Southern Air fatality, Whanganui Aeroworks fatality.

Receiverships

1. Acted as receiver on behalf of Caterpillar Finance (Singapore) in the closure and sale of New Zealand Yachts Ltd – an international superyacht company based in New Zealand.
2. Acted as receiver on behalf of the secured creditor in relation to the failure of a finance company in New Zealand (Hopscotch).

Panel Admissions

1. Arbitrators and Mediators Institute of New Zealand Inc (AMINZ) – Mediation, Arbitration and Farm Debt Mediation Panels.
2. Member of the London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA).
3. Arbitration Panel Member - Shanghai Arbitration Commission.
4. ADGM Arbitration Centre – Arbitration and Mediation Panels.
5. Member of the Dispute Resolution Foundation Board (DRFB)
6. Member of International Congress and Convention Association (ICCA)
7. Member of Arbitration Ireland
8. Member of the International Bar Association (IBA)
9. London Maritime Arbitrators Association – supporting member.
10. Civil Mediation Council (UK) – registered member.
11. Society of Construction Law UK – member.
12. Prime Dispute – Arbitration, Dispute Board, Emergency Arbitrator and Mediation Panels. Certified Educator.
13. Maritime Mediation Centre Panel – <https://www.maritimemediationcenter.com/>
14. Immediation – Arbitration and Mediation Panels.
15. CODR – Arbitration and Mediation Panels.
16. Fairway Resolution Limited – Arbitration and Mediation Panels.
17. New Zealand Ministry of Justice Funded Dispute Resolution Scheme – Arbitration and Mediation Panels.
18. Franchise Association of New Zealand – Mediation Panel

19. Marine Industry of New Zealand – Mediation Panel
20. New Zealand Law Society – Early Resolution Service and Mediation Panel.
21. Appointed to Maldives International Arbitration Centre List of Arbitrators.
22. New Zealand Sport and Recreation Complaints & Mediation Service – Mediation Panel.

Core Areas of Focus / Expertise (*indicative, not exhaustive*)

1. Commercial arbitration.
2. Civil and commercial mediation.
3. Commercial litigation.
4. Early conflict resolution.
5. Disciplinary and Code of Conduct determinations (Master Builders etc)
6. Areas of focus/expertise: construction, contract (including blockchain and smart contracts), banking and finance, commercial and corporate, transport, marine.

Publications

1. 2022 - Lexology Getting the Deal Through (Arbitration Edition) – New Zealand Chapter.
2. 2021 – Assistant Editor of Kluwer Mediation Blog.
3. 2021 Lexology Getting the Deal Through (Mediation Edition) – New Zealand Chapter.
4. Paul Sills ‘Cognitive Bias in Mediation’ Kluwer Mediation Blog 10 May 2020.
5. Paul Sills, ‘Cognitive Bias in Ethical Decision making’ (2020) 9 JOFOI 1.
<https://www.fsprivatewealth.com.au/article/cognitive-biases-in-ethical-decision-making-158322443>
6. *Legalwise Seminars*, (New Zealand & Australia).
Have published a monthly article on ADR in Legalwise (online) 2016 - present.
7. New Zealand Law Society, ‘*LawTalk*’, (New Zealand Law Society, 2016 - present).
Have published a monthly article on ADR in LawTalk since 2016.

Speaking / Lecturer Engagements

1. 2021 - Legalwise Mediation Masterclass – both New Zealand and Australia
2. 2020 – CI Arb Mediation Symposium (London) – Workshop on the Evolving Mediator and Cognitive Biases (Plus Plenary Session)
3. 2020 – Paul Sills, ‘Mediation Best Practice Masterclass’ (Presentation for Legalwise Australasia Seminars, April 2020).
4. 2019 - Paul Sills, ‘Mediation Best Practice Masterclass’ (Presentation for Legalwise Australasia Seminars, November 2019).
5. 2019 – Paul Sills, ‘Cognitive Bias in Ethical Decision Making’ (Presentation for the Arbitrators & Mediators Association New Zealand, September 2019).
6. 2019 – Paul Sills, ‘The Influence of the Law regarding Mediation’ (Presentation for the Arbitrators & Mediators Association New Zealand, July 2019).
7. 2019 – Paul Sills, ‘Cognitive Bias in Ethical Decision Making’ (Presentation for Legalwise Australasia Seminars, June 2019).
8. 2018 - Paul Sills, ‘How to get the Best out of the Opportunity’ (Presentation for Lowndes Corporate & Commercial Lawyers, July 2018).
9. 2018 - Paul Sills, ‘Negotiation, Mediation and Dispute Resolution’ (Lecture to the University of Auckland Law School, May 2018).
10. 2016 – Paul Sills, ‘Alternative Dispute Resolution’ (presentation for the Australian National Mediation Conference).
11. 2014 - Paul Sills, ‘Diversity’ (presentation for the Australian National Mediation Conference).

Languages

1. Active (*for oral hearings*): English (native)
2. Passive (*for reading documents*): English (native)
3. Drafting (*for writing Awards/Decisions/etc.*): English (native)

Education

1. 2020 - Arbitrators & Mediators Institute of New Zealand (AMINZ) Fellowship – arbitration.
2. 2020 - Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIArb) Fellowship.
3. 2019 - Arbitrators & Mediators Institute of New Zealand (AMINZ) Fellowship - mediation.
4. 2018 - Harvard Program on Negotiation Advanced Mediation Course - Mediating Complex and Multi-party Disputes.
5. 1995 - University of Auckland, LLB (Hons).
6. 1984 - Queens Commission – Royal New Zealand Air Force.

Professional Memberships

1. Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, U.K (CIArb) – Fellow.
2. Arbitrators and Mediators Institute of New Zealand (AMINZ) – Fellow Arbitration & Mediation.
3. Distinguished fellow with International Academy of Mediators (IAM)
4. Hong Kong Institute of Arbitrators – Fellow.
5. Resolution Institute – Australasia – Fellow.
6. Prime Disputes London - Fellow.
7. Malaysian Institute of Arbitrators - Fellow.
8. Appointed to Maldives International Arbitration Centre List of Arbitrators.
9. New Zealand Law Society.
10. New Zealand Bar Association.
11. Admitted to practice at the AFIC Court – Kazakhstan.
12. Previously admitted to practice in Fiji - acting on behalf of the Solicitor General.