

# 12

King's Bench Walk

## Gordon Aber

Call: 1996  
aber@12kbw.co.uk



### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Personal Injury, International & Travel, Aviation, Insurance, Product Liability, Health & Safety, Inquests

**Call:** 1996 - Bar of England and Wales

1988 - Johannesburg Bar, South Africa

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Gordon, a door tenant at 12KBW, is a member of the Johannesburg Bar, specialising 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. He also advises and appears for the London war risks market in private arbitration proceedings and he has been involved in disputes concerning losses in Libya, Chad and Afghanistan. He 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.

Gordon commenced practice at the Johannesburg Bar in 1988 and was called to the Bar of England and Wales in 1996. He is regularly instructed by leading London and Johannesburg firms and regularly appears in commercial arbitrations, High Court litigation and ADR proceedings.

### International & Travel

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Gordon specialises in aviation and aviation insurance disputes, which frequently involve complex multi-jurisdictional claims. He advises and appears for airlines, charter operators and general aviation aircraft owners (and their insurers) in a range of claims.

Gordon is regularly instructed in the High Court litigation in common-law jurisdictions in Southern Africa and ADR proceedings. He also advises and appears for the London war risks market in private arbitration proceedings and he has been involved in disputes concerning 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 regularly appears in High Courts in neighbouring countries. 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 civil aviation authorities. Acting for these clients in ADR proceedings is a growing area of his practice as arbitration and mediation proceedings become increasingly popular ADR options.

## Qualifications & Awards

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BA LL B (University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg).

LL M (London School of Economics and Political Science)

## Appointments & Memberships

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Member of the Johannesburg Society of Advocates

## Cases

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*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.