

Kathryn Britten

Qualifications and experience



Email: kbritten@alixpartners.com

Direct: +44 (0) 20 7332 5058

Mobile: +44 (0) 7826 532 684

Kathryn specialises in Dispute Advisory Services including providing privileged advice, as an Expert Witness and as an Expert Determiner.

Kathryn has a degree in Mathematics from London University. She trained with Deloitte Haskins & Sells (now PwC) and qualified as a Chartered Accountant in 1979. In 1990 she joined BDO, where she became an audit partner (until 2005) and a forensic partner, eventually becoming the UK National Head of Forensic Accounting. She joined KPMG in 2010 where she was Chairman of KPMG Forensic UK until 2016 and is now a Managing Director at AlixPartners.

Kathryn was described as “brilliant” in the GAR International Who’s Who of Commercial Arbitration 2015, and in 2016 she is described as follows: “..one of the foremost expert witnesses in the UK and was universally praised to researchers. “A hugely experienced and technically sound accounting expert: a good choice for any arbitration raising serious financial accounting issues,” said one [lawyer], while another described her as “a delight to work with”

Kathryn has almost 40 years’ experience in the accounting profession. For the last 20 years her focus has been in expert witness and dispute advisory services in particular pre action advice, litigation support and alternative dispute resolution including mediation, arbitration and expert determination. She has also undertaken many forensic investigations.

Kathryn is one of the UK’s most senior and experienced accountancy expert witnesses, having written hundreds of reports and given oral evidence on many occasions and she has very extensive experience in high profile, international cases where she has acted for both claimants and defendants.

Kathryn’s many years’ experience as an auditor and her current audit and accounting knowledge mean that she is well placed to identify and assess the key issues that are relevant in considering causation and quantum.

Kathryn is particularly known for her keen analytical mind. Her wealth of experience and ability to identify and articulate the critical issues have enabled her to provide clear and robust testimony and also to assist with many pre-action exchanges that have resulted in successful and significant settlements outside the courts.

Her work as an independent expert witness and advisor includes:

Kathryn advised the administrators of a company in the Aerospace Industry in respect of a potential claim against its Big 4 auditor.

Kathryn advised a large firm of accountants in relation to an FRC investigation into its audits of an airline company.

Kathryn was appointed expert witness for a major car hire company in a High Court case against a consultancy firm.

Kathryn was instructed as expert witness on behalf of the Defendants, to prepare an expert report for the High Court in relation to the sale of a global market research business by a European business to a business in the Far East. This matter involved valuing the business on several bases and on multiple dates due to allegations of fraudulent misrepresentation.

Kathryn testified in the High Court on behalf of a major supplier of fast moving consumer goods in relation to an insurance claim for loss of profit.

Kathryn acted as accountancy expert on behalf of the defendants in a High Court dispute following the delayed opening of a major new supermarket. The claim was for loss of profits due to significant construction delays and remedial works.

Kathryn was involved in the quantification of damages arising from the business interruption caused by an explosion at a major oil storage depot in the UK

Kathryn was appointed as expert witness on behalf of the defendant in a loss of profits claim brought by a software provider. This concerned alleged deficiencies with a system designed by the defendant. Kathryn's report was used in a mediation which resulted in settlement of the claim.

Kathryn testified in the High Court in a case concerning the value of an insurance claim by a high street retailer.

Kathryn testified on behalf of a claimant in the sporting and hospitality industry. The claim related to loss of profits arising from delays and other issues caused by a Compulsory Purchase Order over part of the land to be used as the venue for a new venture which was to provide functions and entertainment

Kathryn testified in the High Court in connection with loss of profits arising from a breach of contract concerning a major distributor in the food and drink industry.

Kathryn gave evidence in the High Court in a case concerning the value and method of accounting for a group of African companies that had been acquired by another group.

Kathryn testified in the High Court in a case concerning alleged fraudulent accounting and misappropriation in the Waste Management Industry.

Kathryn testified in the High Court in connection various claims of by a company against its accountant.

Kathryn has acted in several mediations and negotiations where the strength of her evidence, both written and presented during the process, has been instrumental in helping the parties to reach settlement out of Court.

AlixPartners
6 New Street Square
London EC4A 3BF

t: +44 (0) 20 7098 7400 f: +44 (0) 20 7098 7401