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| CREDENTIALSEducationWarwick University, Law & SociologyProfessional QualificationsSolicitor of the Senior Courts of England and Wales |

Michael is the Global Co-Chair of DLA Piper’s Restructuring group. He is involved in restructuring assignments across all the jurisdictions that DLA Piper practices.

Michael acts for a number of Lending Institutions including RBS, Aviva, Barclays, HSBC and Lloyds. He has also acted for all the major accountants' restructuring departments. Over the last few years he has been particularly active in the real estate sector acting for lenders and corporates in devising strategies to achieve maximum value in complex situations.

Michael joined DLA Piper in 1995 and became a partner in 1999. He was Managing Director of Fulham Football Club and associated Companies during 2000 and 2001. He returned as a partner in London's Restructuring group at the beginning of 2002, specialising in business reconstructions and formal insolvencies. He has a unique knowledge and expertise in the sports and particularly football industry allied to the benefit of direct experience of management in the corporate context.

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

* Advising on the sale of a major portfolio of real estate loans to Lone Star Funds for £2.25 billion. The portfolio comprised more than 1000 commercial real estate loans. This is one of the largest real estate deals in Europe in recent years. The project involved over 200 specialist lawyers from our Restructuring, Real Estate and Finance practice groups.
* Advising KPMG on the high-profile administration of Opal Group, one of the UK's biggest student accommodation provider with over 20,000 rooms across 16 cities, 2,000 apartments and two hotels among its assets. Michael advised IBRC on restructuring options, standstills and scenario planning. Ultimately administrators were appointed over the Group's assets and operations and he was retained by the administrators KPMG. The Opal companies were traded for over a year to stabilise the platform and maximise the return for creditors. Ultimately, the administrators were exited by a series of CVA’s to ensure business continuity.
* Advising the administrators of Lehman Brothers Limited (LBL) on issues arising in their estate and particularly the position between LBL and Lehman Brothers International (Europe) (LBIE) and LB Holdings Intermediate 2 Limited (LBHI2). Permission obtained to appeal to the Supreme Court on the high-profile Waterfall I litigation and we are also advising in respect of the Waterfall II litigation.
* Advising receivers from Jones Lang LaSalle on one of the largest recent property collapses relating to Daniel House and Peterborough Court, Goldman Sachs' UK headquarters. The debt restructuring and sale involved an series of parallel schemes of arrangement implemented in England and the British Virgin Islands to enable a debt free vehicle to be sold to the purchaser.