



Q&A

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Can you share a defining moment or turning point in your career so far?

A defining moment was being part of the team advising on the updating of a Domestic Medium Term Note (DMTN) Programme and the successful issuance of notes under that programme. This transaction marked a key milestone for me as a legal advisor, navigating both the regulatory framework and market-facing documentation in a high-stakes, time-sensitive environment.

From structuring the programme to coordinating with arrangers, investors and regulators, the deal brought together multiple layers of complexity. What made it truly meaningful was seeing how our work enabled the client to access diversified, long-term funding, supporting their broader strategic objectives and financial sustainability. That transaction deepened my appreciation for the role of debt capital markets (DCMs) in shaping institutional growth, and reinforced my passion to structure finance solutions that drive long-term growth and funding sustainability.

Have there been key decisions that significantly impacted your career trajectory?

Transitioning from property law to banking and finance was not just a career move, but a mindset shift. I did my articles mainly in property law and continued in the same department as an associate after my admission. While property law gave me a strong grounding in transactional discipline and tangible asset risk for five years, the world of finance demanded something broader: quick adaptability, strategic thinking, regulatory fluency and the ability to navigate complex, multi-stakeholder deals. Some of the key decisions that significantly shaped my path as a banking and finance lawyer with a property background were:

- Shifting from tangible to abstract. Moving from a focus of tangible property risks to abstract financial risk sharpened my ability to assess and manage legal risk in DCMs and finance transactions which required a different analytical lens.
- Owning the narrative. Rather than downplaying my property roots, I embraced them. They gave me a unique lens and transactional discipline that continues to assist me in manoeuvring through complex finance work.
- Navigating a different type of risk. While property law deals with physical certainty, banking and finance law is about managing abstraction: market movement, future payments and covenant structures. Adapting to that was a turning point.

If you are a lawyer considering a pivot, don't underestimate the power of a well-timed shift. Your background may just be your competitive edge.

What was your first deal or transaction like, and what did you take away from it?

My first transaction in the banking and finance space was advising on the updating of a DMTN Programme and the issuance of notes

under the programme. It was a steep learning curve for me, but a turning point in my career, and an introduction to the rhythm and discipline of DCMs work. The experience sparked my passion for banking and finance, and confirmed that I had found not just a practice area, but a path. My takeaway from the transaction was the following:

- Teamwork is everything. These deals demand seamless coordination between legal, commercial, regulatory, and investor teams. That level of collaboration was new and energising.
- Clarity matters. In DCMs, your drafting must be watertight, your timelines sharp, and your communication clearer than ever. One slipup can ripple across the entire market-facing process.
- The impact is tangible. Seeing a client raise capital through a well-structured programme and knowing you played a part in enabling their next phase of growth is incredibly rewarding.

How have you balanced your personal life with the demands of a career in finance?

This area of practice is high pressure by nature; the deals move quickly, with overnight turnaround times, and the risks are often significant. Balancing your personal life and the demands of this sort of work requires being intentional and constantly adjusting. What's helped me is learning to set boundaries with flexibility. I have become more deliberate about how I structure my day, prioritise time sensitive work, and carve out space for rest and personal commitments. There are weeks when the balance tilts, but having a clear sense of personal values helps me make the right choices in this fast-moving environment.

What does self-care look like for you, and how do you prevent burnout?

Self-care is therapy for me; I ensure that I take myself for a spa treatment regularly. I love Thai massages and the ancient health care treatments, which assist with the stiff neck and back aches that come from long hours of sitting. I religiously play social netball every Monday and Wednesday to help me de-stress from work, and I do boxing to keep a healthy and fit lifestyle.

Have your views on work-life balance changed over time?

My views on work-life balance have evolved over time, especially as a banking and finance lawyer where the pressure of transactions can easily blur boundaries. Over time, I have come to see that work-life balance is about managing energy and realising that sustained performance in this field requires rest, perspective and personal fulfilment outside of work. 