

JOE ZHOU

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PRACTICE AREA

MR. ZHOU SPECIALISES IN CROSS-BORDER M&A, INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENERGY, AND INBOUND AND OUTBOUND INVESTMENT. HE HAS EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE IN FINANCING AND DEVELOPMENT OF COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE, INDUSTRIAL ZONES, PORTS, POWER PLANTS AND OTHER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS.

Education

- Columbia University Law School, New York City, USA, Masters of Law
- Peking University Law School, Beijing, China, Masters of Law
- South Central University of Economics and Law, Wuhan, China, Bachelor of Arts

Professional Qualification

- Admitted to practice in New York
- Admitted to practice in the PRC
- Registered Foreign Lawyer in Hong Kong SAR

Professional Background

- Before joining Fangda Partners, Mr. Zhou worked at Berwin Leighton Paisner (now Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner) and another leading international law firm in both Beijing and Hong Kong.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS AND CASES

Energy, Infrastructure and Real Estate

- Represented China Merchants group companies and Dalian Port on the financing, design, project development, and operation the free trade zone with an area of 48.2 km2 (the largest in Africa), as well as the construction and operation of all supporting infrastructure, such as ports, roads, power supplies and hotels ("Project of the Year 2019" by China Law and Practice)
- Represented Shenzhen Energy Group on its joint venture with Sino-hydro on the project financing and development of a 180MW hydropower project in Papua New Guinea
- Represented China Merchants Port, as a member of a Chinese consortium, on the financing, construction and development of a deep-water port terminal and related development in Myanmar
- Represented Hopu Investments on its investment in Hainan Meilan International Airport Company Limited, covering deal structuring and legal due diligence on Meilan International Airport and related assets and businesses under the target group
- Represented Beijing Urban Construction Group on the investment in and development of a multi-purpose building with hotels, duty-free shops and shopping malls in the Maldives
- Represented Hong Kong Electric in partnership with CLP Power on the development of a floating liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminal in Hong Kong waters
- Represented a fund under China General Nuclear Power Group on its disposal of a portfolio of solar and wind power plants in various cities throughout China
- Represented China Harbour on its investment in two port terminals in South America
- Represented China Merchants Holdings International (now China Merchants Port) on the financing, construction and project development of a 224km 4-lane toll road in East Africa
- Represented China Merchants Shekou Industrial Zone on its investment in the redevelopment of an urban area adjacent to an old port in East Africa to develop commercial, residential and industrial properties
- Represented Orient International on its investment in a mega fishery project covering fish processing, fishing and industrial zone development in East Africa

- Represented Veolia Water, a leading global water group, on its various water supply and wastewater treatment projects in Beijing, Shanghai and Shenzhen, including negotiating the joint venture contracts and concession agreements and advising on corporate restructuring
- Represented Veolia Transport, a leading international transportation company, on its various investments in urban public transportation projects in Shenyang, Chongqing and Nanjing through the establishment of joint ventures with local state-owned enterprises
- Represented Hongkong Land, a member of the Jardines Group, on the RMB 60 billion greenfield construction, development and financing of a 30-hectares integrated retail complex and an 80-room Mandarin Oriental hotel in the Wangfujing district of Beijing
- Represented a major Chinese real estate developer on its joint venture project with an offshore sovereign fund for the greenfield development of properties in over 10 Chinese cities
- Represented Macquarie's real estate and infrastructure fund on its various investments in commercial properties in Shenyang, Chongqing and other cities in China
- Represented Tesco China on its development of retail property in Zhuhai with a local developer through a cooperation and lease arrangement
- Represented an Italian conglomerate on its acquisition of office buildings in Shanghai through acquisitions of the equity interests in three asset holding companies
- Represented Sanofi Aventis, a global healthcare leader, on its investment in and development of a new biopharmaceutical manufacturing and processing and packaging project in Shenzhen
- Represented a European food conglomerate on its greenfield development of a manufacturing plant in Shandong and a manufacturing plant in Inner Mongolia
- Represented CMA CGM, the third largest shipping company in the world, on its acquisition of office properties in Shenzhen

FDI and M&A

- Represented CITIC Securities International in all aspects of its joint venture project with a PRC-listed company in Qianhai, Shenzhen, including negotiating the joint venture contract and advising on the guaranteed buyback and security arrangements
- Represented Hongkong Land on its sale of equity interests in a local project to a Chinese partner, including negotiating the equity transfer agreement and the escrow agreement and supervising project implementation
- Represented Air France on establishing a joint venture company in Guangzhou with its Chinese partner, a major PRC airline company
- Represented Faiveley Transport S.A. on a proposed RMB 1 billion joint venture project with a subsidiary of China South Railway (CSR), China’s largest manufacturer of railway locomotives
- Represented Sanofi Aventis, a global healthcare leader, on its acquisition through a property exchange in Tianjin of state-owned equity interests in a biopharmaceutical company
- Represented Hermes in establishing a wholly foreign-owned enterprise in Shanghai