



**BENCHMARK
LITIGATION**
ASIA-PACIFIC

2027 WEBINAR



HOUSEKEEPING MATTERS

- Full screen mode is at bottom right
- Option to submit questions
- Webinar and slides will be uploaded after
- [Research Guidelines](#) available online



WEBINAR OUTLINE

- Introduction
- What's new this cycle
- Research form guidelines
- Submission process
- Timeline of the research
- Assessment methodology
- Benchmark Litigation Asia & China Awards
- Q&A



INTRODUCTION

Benchmark Litigation is the only publication in the market to focus exclusively on dispute resolution. Since its inception in 2008 in the US, the Benchmark brand has grown dramatically and garnered industry-wide accolades as the definitive hub for in-depth analysis of the players shaping the dynamic practice of litigation. In keeping with Benchmark's sharp rise in popularity, its publishing staff increasingly aims to respond to the demands of its audience.

We exclusively cover the litigation and disputes markets and aim to provide law firm and lawyer rankings on the market's most important cases and firm developments across the region.



OUR RESEARCH TEAM

- **Kelsey Li** - Australia, China, China and Hong Kong SAR, Hong Kong SAR, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand and Philippines (*Kelsey.li@legalbenchmarkinggroup.com*)
- **Candice Mak** - India, Indonesia, Nepal, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand and Vietnam (*Candice.mak@legalbenchmarkinggroup.com*)
- **Miao Sha** – Benchmark China regions, Taiwan (*Miao.sha@legalbenchmarkinggroup.com*)



NEW FOR THE 2027 CYCLE

Practice areas

India – Insurance

Indonesia – Construction

Malaysia – Insolvency, Insurance, Technology, data and privacy

Nepal – Commercial and transactions

Singapore – Insurance

Thailand – White-collar crime

Research trips

Malaysia (November)

Thailand (November)



HOW TO TAKE PART



DOWNLOAD OUR
[RESEARCH FORM & CLIENT
REFEREE FORM](#)



COMPLETE THE
FORMS



UPLOAD THEM VIA OUR
[ONLINE SUBMISSION TOOL](#)

- You will need to [sign up for and register](#) an account on the accreditation portal before you can upload the submissions *
- Please do not use forms or links from last year. New ones are created for each research cycle.
- Practice area submission: You must submit SEPARATE research forms for each dispute resolution practice area. After logging into the submission portal and selecting Benchmark Litigation, you will be prompted to choose a practice area per upload.
- Client referee submission: Each firm should submit only one SINGLE referee excel form with all client details as we do not require practice area specifications. As you upload the excel form, when prompted to select a practice area, simply select any practice area and submit. This will link the excel to your submission account irrespective of practice area selection (thus, each submission account should have only one excel form uploaded).
- Please note that a client referee submission is not mandatory to participate in our research.

LEGAL BENCHMARKING GROUP ACCREDITATION PORTAL

Legal Benchmarking Group has developed a [submission portal](#). Here's where you will be uploading all your submission forms.

- **Benefits for participants:**
- Ability to create an account
- All submission data stored within firm accounts
- Detailed submission alerts
- Ability to submit referees on Excel
- Single portal for all our legal brands (*asialaw, Benchmark Litigation, IFLR 1000, IP Stars, LMG Life Sciences, and World Tax*)



WHAT WORK IS CONSIDERED?

- Anything along the entire disputes life cycle, including pre-litigation work
- Litigation, arbitration, and other types of ADR (mediation, adjudication, etc.)
- Includes: pre-litigation process, negotiations, documentation and preparation for trial, trials to investigation, judicial reviews, appeals and enforcement proceedings.
- Cover ONLY disputes-related work, so the contentious work within a practice area (e.g. IP disputes, labour disputes, etc.)
- Category of “Commercial and transactions” is not meant for transactional work. It is for disputes linked to transactions, and general corporate and commercial disputes.



UPLOADING PRACTICE AREA FORMS

Practice areas:

One form per practice area

Client excel sheet:

One form per firm (select any practice area)

 **Benchmark Litigation**

Open for Submission
From: 10/02/2026
To: 24/04/2026

Please select a jurisdiction and a practice area, and click 'Upload File'. You can then upload the relevant documents

Jurisdiction:

Poland

Portugal

Québec

Romania

Saskatchewan

Serbia

Singapore

South Korea

Spain

Sweden

Switzerland

Practice Area:

Class action

Dispute resolution

Intellectual property

Labor and employment

Arbitration

Aviation

Commercial

Commercial and transactions

Commercial and transactions - Dom

Commercial and transactions - Intern

Commodities and trade

Competition/antitrust

Construction

Energy



GLOBAL SUBMISSION FORM

Submit one form per practice area

No section is mandatory

- 1) **Litigation stars/ Future stars** – *do not include already-ranked stars*
- 2) **Regional guides/awards** – *As these lists are refreshed every awards cycle, please include nominations even if they are on the current lists*
 - **Top 100 Women in Litigation** – *Recommended not to nominate more than 3 per practice area*
 - **Top 40 under 40** – *Must be under 40 years old by April 30, 2027 & Birthday must be completed to be considered*
- 3) **Hires, departures and promotions** – *Partner-level moves only please*



GLOBAL SUBMISSION FORM

4) Firm Profile & Statistics / Strategy, Innovation and Service Delivery / Thought Leadership & Trends

- Not mandatory
- Kept confidential
- Does not affect your rankings
- Information is for our internal use

Why we are asking

- Understand how firms are structured, resourced, and growing.
- Assess practice strength, market position, and strategic direction.
- Track emerging trends in talent, diversity, AI, ESG, and service delivery.
- Inform market analysis, editorial insights, and industry reports

How the information may be used

- Assess practice size, composition and capabilities
- Understand investment priorities, growth strategy and market positioning
- Track how firms are adapting to client, regulatory and technology changes
- Support aggregated market analysis, benchmarking and thought leadership



GLOBAL SUBMISSION FORM

7) Referral work— *List out partners who manage firm's referral work relationships or network*

8) Key publishable clients

- *Unrelated to client referees that are contacted for feedback*
- *These may be referenced in any editorial analysis*

9) Litigation/Dispute resolution Overview

- *Filled in only one time per firm*
- *Dispute resolution department summary*
- *Copy/paste across the different practice area submissions if necessary*



GLOBAL SUBMISSION FORM

10) Awards nominations

****Must be submitted via our submission form****

- We will not consider any matters submitted in alternate templates
- Nominate up to 3 cases per practice area
- Additional to the 20 case highlights (in total can submit 23 cases)
- Maximum of 2 practice areas per matter (try to keep it to 1)
- Industry sector list is available on the website
- Please include the relevant lead in-house counsel names and emails as they will be considered for our in-house counsel awards category
- As usual, the significance, impact and outcome section is extremely crucial for the awards case evaluations
- Only public cases can be considered for the Impact Cases of the Year category
- If you don't wish to nominate any cases for the awards, you may just skip this section



GLOBAL SUBMISSION FORM

11) Case highlights

- *Maximum of 20 case highlights per practice area*
- *List cases in order of importance/significance*
- *Ongoing or completed cases between **August 2025 – October 2026** (significant case update or court ruling)*
- *Mark confidential information in **RED***
- *Do not require in-house counsel contact details here; but it would be helpful to just have the names if applicable*

****Other important notes for the research form!****

- *We do accept alternate templates if necessary, but we do not accept PDFs*
- *Please ensure all the information that is required for a comprehensive rankings analysis is included*
- *Must submit awards nomination cases through our research form*
- *If you have any doubts or questions, please reach out to the relevant research analyst*

CLIENT REFEREE FORM

Nominating Law Firm Name	Jurisdiction of Nominating Law Firm	Referee First Name	Referee Last Name	Referee Organization	Referee Title	Referee Email Address
Example & Co LLP	New York	Anastasia	Appletree	Aurora Industries	General Counsel	anastasia.appletree@example.com
Example & Co LLP	District of Columbia	Jane	Doe	Davidson & Sons	CEO	jane.doe@example.com
Example & Co LLP	Ontario	David	Davidson	Northlake Capital	Senior Litigation Counsel	david.davidson@example.com
Example & Co LLP	France	Jennifer	Jones	Jones Advisory	Head of Disputes	jennifer.jones@example.com
Example & Co LLP	Singapore	Michael	Wong	Charterhouse Chambers	Global Head of Litigation	michael.wong@example.com

Client referee spreadsheet (Excel)

- Do not make any amendments to the columns or rows (don't add, remove, rename, merge, etc.)
- No practice areas or referring lawyer name required
- Only one client form per law firm (*please upload the excel selecting any practice area*)
- Please fill in every field, do not leave blanks (*please repeat your law firm and jurisdiction details for each client*)
- For other lawyers or barristers that serve as your referee, fill in their firm/chambers name under "Referee Organization". Do not confuse it with the nominating firm columns on the left.

RESEARCH GUIDELINES: CLIENT REFEREES

- There is **NO LIMIT** on the number of client referees you can submit.
- Client submitted do not need to be specific ones related to the work matters listed in the submission. However, they should be clients who have used your legal services for disputes in the past 12-24 months.
- Please list all referees on the single client referee excel form and upload to the accreditation portal under any practice area you choose.
- All client referees that are submitted will be contacted.
- All client information provided will be treated as confidential.



RESEARCH FORM GUIDELINES SUMMARY

- Firms must submit one form per practice area
- Not all sections are mandatory; but information on a firm's work, clients and practice remains important for a rankings assessment
- Maximum of 23 case highlights per practice area (3 awards + 20 highlights)
- Work timeframe approximately between August 2025 – October 2026
- Forms must be submitted via our [submission portal](#); due to GDPR compliance, we will not accept forms via email
- Do not adjust or alter the format of the research form. Do not delete any question or section in our research form.
- Awards cases must be submitted via our research form; so you may need to submit 2 documents per practice area if the other information is being submitted in an alternate template
- Please include your firm's name and jurisdiction (and practice area) when saving your research form. The suggested format is ***FirmName_Jurisdiction_PracticeArea_BMAP2027*** or ***FirmName_Jurisdiction_PracticeAreaAwards_BMAP2027*** (for forms only containing awards nominations)

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES: METHODOLOGY

Work evidence

Work evidence is a key factor we use to determine a firm's ranking. For a firm to be ranked, it must have a strong track record of advising or representing on matters relevant to our ranking categories. The same applies to the ratings of individuals; lawyers must have been working on significant cases in some capacity to be rated.

Client feedback

Client feedback is used in support of work evidence when determining a firm's ranking or lawyer's rating. What this means is good feedback alone will not ensure a firm or lawyer is ranked or rated. However, do note that client feedback is not mandatory, and it will not be detrimental to a firm or lawyer's ranking if no client feedback is received.

Peer feedback

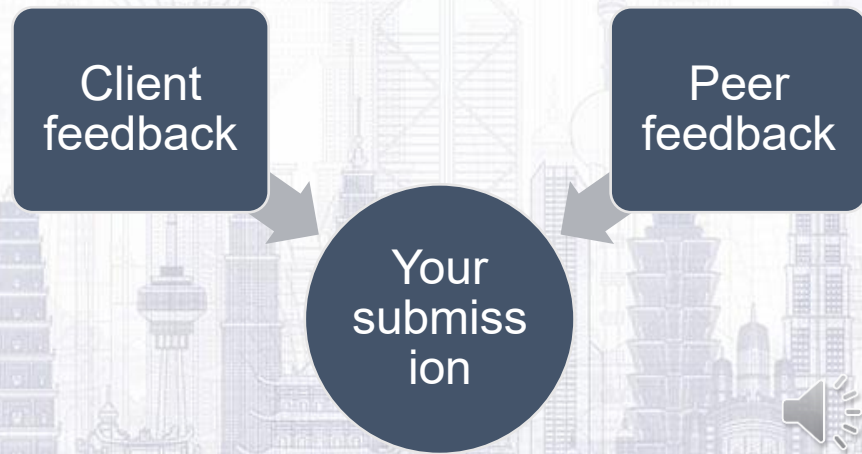
Peer feedback is another metric we use to determine a firm's standing. We conduct a significant number of interviews with practitioners, where we ask for feedback on firms, lawyers and discuss trends. By receiving these on-the-ground insights, we can determine more fully the picture of the market in terms of a firm's and/or lawyer's reputation and standing, and what the market trends are. Nobody knows the market better than the lawyers themselves!



We are a qualitative survey, so while we take deal and case values and volume into account the rankings are not determined solely by these factors.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES: METHODOLOGY

- Client and peer feedback is used **in support of work evidence** when determining a firm's ranking or lawyer's rating.
- What this means is good feedback alone will not ensure a firm or lawyer is ranked— a firm or individual must be experienced in advising on significant and complex matters, as shown in your submission form.



CLIENT REFEREE PROCESS

- 1) Upload client referee excel by deadline **October 23**. We do not accept late submissions.
- 2) Law firms (via the submitter's email recorded on the accreditation portal) will be notified one week before the client surveys are sent out to the referees (around November 4).
- 3) Referees are sent the client surveys mid-November (around November 11) from my email (*Candice.mak@legalbenchmarkinggroup.com*).
- 4) The client survey closes on **December 31**. There are no extensions.



INTERVIEWS 2027

- We will invite firms for an interview based on our research needs as a priority, but we do welcome requests. Interviews are scheduled on a first-come-first-served basis.
- We may not be able to speak to all participating firms due to the sheer volume of market players in a jurisdiction, so we do encourage lawyers to complete the lawyer survey to make their views known.
- Each firm we speak to will be allotted 30 minutes – 1 hour max; it is 1 interview per law firm so all interviewees need to be on that one call.
- It is imperative that interviewees be willing and able to share market feedback on the current ranking tables. Otherwise, we may decline an interview request.
- The interview will cover: 1) Peer review (firms and lawyers) 2) Market trends 3) Your firm/practice highlights and updates



LAWYER SURVEY

Our **Lawyer Survey** is a quick and easy way for lawyers to share their thoughts with us on the market.

Lawyers can also provide feedback on our existing lists of ranked firms and individuals.

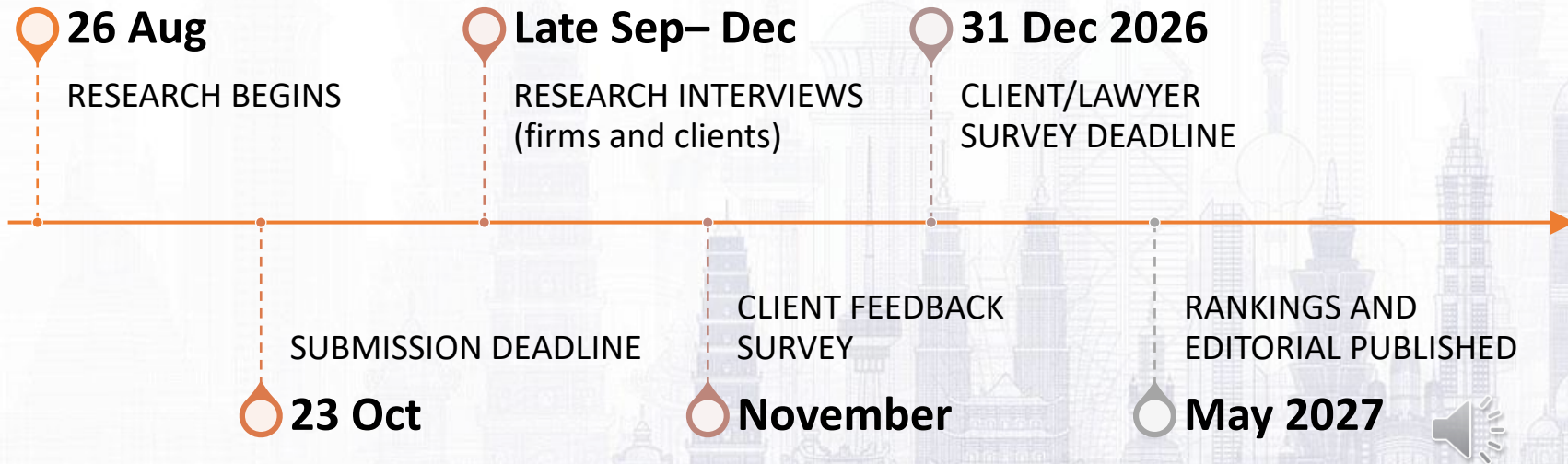
The survey is open to all disputes lawyers and the information provided is treated as confidential.

The survey is live right now can be accessed through this [LINK](#) or on the [methodology](#) page.

The survey can only be filled out online via the link, we will not provide any Word or PDF versions.



RESEARCH TIMELINE



Benchmark Litigation APAC & China Awards 2027

The Rosewood Hotel, Beijing on 27 May 2027



BENCHMARK LITIGATION APAC AWARDS 2027

Live ceremony will be held at **The Rosewood Hotel, Beijing on 27 May 2027**

- The Benchmark Litigation Asia-Pacific Awards decisions are based on the data submitted through the annual directory research. All the submitted firms will be considered for the Benchmark Litigation Asia-Pacific 2026 Awards.
- The awards assessment is highly case-based. The editorial team reviews specific work matters and focuses on those that are landmark, novel, precedent-setting or unusually complex. Please showcase your top cases by detailing their merits in the significance/importance field in the submission form.
- We will continue to release awards lists for the Top 100 Women in Litigation and The Top 40 under 40. Nominations for both are received through the practice area submission form.



BENCHMARK LITIGATION APAC AWARDS 2027

- Please remember to nominate awards cases in the submission form via the top section of the highlights.
- Confidential cases can be nominated (please indicate in the field regarding confidentiality). These will be considered for the Firm and Lawyer awards, but not the Impact Case of the Year awards.
- **We will only accept awards nominations (cases, Top 100 Women in Litigation, and Top 40 under 40) through our own submission form this year.**
- If your submission is in a different format/template, please still fill out the awards nomination cases, Top 100 Women in Litigation and Top 40 under 40 nominations on our form otherwise they will not be considered.

Innovation

- Did the advice or argument the firm used show something more nuanced and innovative than a straightforward solution that would commonly be deployed?

Complexity

- Did the matter address legal issues that were out of the ordinary and what ingenuity did the firm show to solve them?
- Is the case beyond your plain vanilla, run-of-the-mill disputes?

Impact

- What impact did the advice have on market?
- Did the firm win an unprecedented judgement in court?
- Will the outcome of the case shape jurisprudence or clarify a new point of the law?



Q&A SESSION



PLEASE TYPE
YOUR
QUESTIONS
INTO A TEXT
BOX BELOW
THE SCREEN



WE WILL
PRIORITISE
QUESTIONS
THAT ARE
RELEVANT TO
THE MAJORITY
OR WERE NOT
COVERED IN
THE
PRESENTATION



YOU CAN DOWNLOAD
DOCUMENTS AND
GET LINKS –
RESEARCH FORM,
SUBMISSION AND
CLIENT REFEREES
PORTAL, RESEARCH
GUIDELINES FROM
OUR BENCHMARK
LITIGATION [WEBSITE](#)



FOR UNANSWERED
QUESTIONS DUE TO TIME
CONSTRAINTS OR
SPECIFICITY, AN FAQ
DOCUMENT WILL BE
COMPILED AND
UPLOADED TO OUR
METHODOLOGY PAGE BY
EARLY NEXT WEEK.



THANKS FOR
YOUR TIME
TODAY!



Common FAQs

How much influence do we have over our ratings vs. the external market?

Firms are encouraged to tell their story via our research form and through interviews. We then measure the firm's input against the feedback we receive via studying the market. If our studies are in harmony with the firm's assertions, we weight them equally. If there is an extreme disparity between the firm's views and a pronounced percentage of the market, we will provide greater weight to the market consensus.

If we participate, are we guaranteed to get ranked?

All firms who submit and can prove they are doing notable work in the relevant practice areas will receive accreditation, however we do not guarantee rankings or lawyer ratings.

Do you only rank those of partner level?

We primarily rank partners but outstanding associates and senior associates can be recognised in our 'future stars' lawyer rating category.

We're a small boutique firm – what chance do we stand against the big brand name firms in your ratings?

Because Benchmark focuses exclusively on disputes, which is often the focus for specialist firms in the market, smaller firms stand a very good chance of being just as highly rated as large corporate firms, and in some cases even more highly rated.

Is Benchmark "pay-to-play"? If I don't support the project financially do I still get rated?

Benchmark is absolutely not "pay-to-play." Firms cannot pay to appear in the guide, and can only be rated if the market deems them worthy of consideration.

