

60-SECONDS WITH:

DAVID WALKER SENIOR LEGAL COUNSEL DEMINOR



Q What do you like most about your job?

A Variety. Every day is different, and there is a good mix of intellectual challenge, creativity, and commercial problem-solving. I also get to work with a wide variety of cases, clients, and legal teams.

Q What motivated you to pursue this career?

A I find funding genuinely interesting. I still get to work as a disputes lawyer, but in a very different way to private practice. It's legal, factual, and commercial. I did want to be a travel writer and spend my days writing incisive and engaging narratives from far-flung locales, but funding will do for now.

Q What is the most rewarding thing about your work?

A Funding cases that deserve to win and watching them succeed. It's rarely so simple, but it's very rewarding when it happens.

Q Do you have any career aspirations, and have you achieved any of them so far?

A There are plenty more to be achieved, and we have big ambitions as a team.

Q What do you see as being the biggest trends of 2023 in your practice area?

A Predictions are always risky, but three things stand out. First, there will be an increasing

appetite for law firm financing (for portfolios or for funding DBAs). Second, with a greater focus on ESG issues, more stakeholders and shareholders will use funding to access litigation for financial and environmental wrongdoing claims. A real focus will be on claims relating to environmental damage and "greenwashing." Finally, given the economic uncertainties, there is likely to be an uptick in contested insolvency claims.

Q What has been your most memorable experience during your career so far?

A The first time I saw a great cross-examination of a witness at an arbitration hearing. It showed the brilliance of the lawyer involved, but also how the dynamics of some cases can change rapidly once live evidence is involved.

Q How do you deal with stress in your work life?

A Breaking things down into small pieces makes everything more manageable. Ten small things on your To Do list can be easier to deal with than one mammoth item.

Q What does your perfect holiday look like?

A It would definitely be somewhere warm with really good food, but there has to be a mix of relaxation and activity. Three or four days by the beach and then a week doing something more active.

Q What was the last book you read?

A Factfulness by Hans Rosling. I'm late to the party on this one, but it's worth reading.

Q Which famous person would you most like to invite to a dinner party?

A It's a toss-up between Sandi Toksvig and Billy Connolly. Both are funny and would have good stories, and these are the key attributes of a good dinner party guest.

Q What cause are you passionate about?

A Levelling the playing field when it comes to disputes.

Q Do you have a New Year's Resolution, and if so, how do you plan to keep it?

A I'm trying to improve my Spanish. There is a long way to go, but I'm keeping to it so far.

Q What are you looking forward to in 2023?

A Aside from good funding opportunities?! An upcoming holiday to Northern Spain. Hopefully the Spanish will have improved by then...

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