

## **Report on 'C5 Conference: Fraud, Asset Tracing & Recovery'**

**Geneva, March 2017**

In March 2017 I was fortunate enough to join fraud lawyers and asset recovery specialists from across the world for the C5 Fraud, Asset Tracing and Recovery Conference in Geneva.

My trip to Geneva got off to an excellent start: within minutes of arriving in Geneva, I was drinking cocktails on a roof terrace overlooking Lake Geneva with lawyers from three different jurisdictions. Networking and sharing fascinating stories with professionals from a wide range of different jurisdictions, background and specialisms would come to be the defining experience of the C5 Conference. Despite me being a first-time attendee at the conference, and one of the more junior lawyers attending, the warm atmosphere of the conference ensured that I was immediately welcomed, and over my three days in Geneva I would come to have many fascinating conversations with practitioners from across Europe, the US and beyond. This sharing of knowledge, experience and anecdote gave me a real insight into the reality of practice in a field which does not respect national boundaries.

The conference itself began with the opening remarks of the Chair, Robert Hunter of Edmonds Marshall McMahon, which were (characteristically) both entertaining and insightful. The sessions went on to cover topics as diverse as Switzerland as a Jurisdiction for Asset Recovery (Benjamin Borsodi and Philippe Knupfer), Cyber-Fraud (Gary Miller and John Riggi) and the Impact of Brexit on Fraud Litigation (Jonathan Harris QC). In my view a conference like this, where one can hear experts from different jurisdictions speak on a wide range of topics within a practice area, is increasingly important as the legal profession tends ever more towards specialisation from an early stage. By the end of the conference my understanding of the law and the reality of practice in this field had been significantly enriched.

I would highly recommend the C5 Fraud, Asset Tracing and Recovery Conference to any legal professional seeking to enhance their knowledge of the field and strengthen their professional network. I am very grateful to the Bar Council and the COMBAR International Grant Programme for funding my attendance this year.

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