
From The Times

January 20, 2009

Money to be made in lawsuits linked to meltdown

Carol Lewis

Richard Fields is a happy investment fund manager: his competition has "all but dried up" and he sees plenty of new investments on the horizon.

He is chief executive officer of Juridica Investments, an AIM-listed fund that invests in litigation and arbitration cases. In the past year he has invested \$108.25 million (£74 million) in 17 legal cases. Fifteen are in progress and two have completed successfully, yielding a profit of 30 per cent. Many banks that invested in litigation on an ad hoc basis have stopped in the past month, he said, "maybe because they don't have the risk appetite and are not focused on it as an asset but as an opportunity. Some saw it as an event-driven business, but they lack the bandwidth and have too many other problems at the moment."

He says that the future looks bright, with many institutional investors inquiring about their options to bring legal cases against financial organisations. "I think we are going to see a lot of litigation activity related to the financial meltdown generally, not just aimed at hedge funds but other types of asset management, banks and insurance."

Nevertheless, he is realistic and says it is likely that more fund managers will move into the niche attracted by "uncorrelated [to the market] assets and healthy returns. In the United States alone, this is a \$30 billion-plus market," he said.

[Contact our advertising team](#) for advertising and sponsorship in Times Online, The Times and The Sunday Times, or place your advertisement.

Times Online Services: [Dating](#) | [Jobs](#) | [Property Search](#) | [Used Cars](#) | [Holidays](#) | [Births, Marriages, Deaths](#) | [Subscriptions](#)
News International associated websites: [Globrix Property Search](#) | [Property Finder](#) | [Milkround](#)

Copyright 2009 Times Newspapers Ltd.

This service is provided on Times Newspapers' [standard Terms and Conditions](#). Please read our [Privacy Policy](#). To inquire about a licence to reproduce material from Times Online, The Times or The Sunday Times, click [here](#). This website is published by a member of the News International Group. News International Limited, 1 Virginia St, London E98 1XY, is the holding company for the News International group and is registered in England No 81701. VAT number GB 243 8054 69.

