

Overview

Commercial Disputes
Professional Liability
Property

Mediation and
Arbitration

Profile: Overview

Simon has a property, commercial and professional negligence practice consisting of advocacy, drafting, advisory work and mediating in a range of property and business related matters. He is recommended as a leading junior for property litigation work by Chambers UK and the Legal 500, and for professional negligence work and as a leading mediator by the Legal 500.

Experience and Expertise

More than 20 years at the Commercial Chancery Bar have equipped Simon Williams with the sort of experience which for some time has been recognised by the leading legal directories. As an advocate he appears frequently in the Chancery Lists of the County Court, in the Chancery Division of the High Court (including the Companies Court), in the Technology and Construction Court and in the Court of Appeal, in various tribunals, and in mediation and arbitration. In 2009 he appeared in one of the last cases to be heard by the judicial committee of the House of Lords. He is also an experienced and well-regarded civil and commercial mediator.

Cases and Work of Note

- *Therium (UK) Holdings Ltd v Cable Plus BV & Others* [2016] EWHC 2421 (Comm) (committal proceedings arising out of alleged breaches of asset preservation and asset transfer orders and of a worldwide freezing injunction)
- *Moorjani v Durban Estates Ltd* [2016] 1 WLR 2265 (basis of assessment of damages for breaches by landlord of long leasehold property of covenants to maintain common parts and to insure building)
- *Smart v The London Borough of Lambeth* [2014] HLR 7 (where S claimed title to property by adverse possession, to what extent L expressly or impliedly consented to S's occupation of the property when it put in place a scheme for the upkeep of that and a number of its other properties)
- *Good v Onsette Limited* [2013] EWHC 3447 (Ch) (entitlement to beneficial ownership of shares in and dividend declared by mining/overseas exploration company)
- *Scott v Kennedys Law & Vertex Law* [2011] EWHC 3808 (Ch) (method of assessment of loss on the no transaction basis)
- *Islam v Al Sami* [2011] EWCA Civ 32 (validity of equitable charge)
- *Joyce v Bowman Law Ltd* [2010] PNLR 22 (causation and computation of damages in claim against negligent conveyancers for loss of a chance to develop land)
- *Ofulue v Bossert* [2009] 1 AC 990 HL (whether an admission of ownership in a pleading in earlier proceedings is a continuing or any acknowledgement of title for the purposes of section 29 of the Limitation Act 1980, whether the contents of without prejudice correspondence are admissible as an acknowledgement of title)
- *Legal Services Commission v Banks* (2008) 20 EG 137 (CS) (whether a temporary postponement of rent pending satisfaction of a significant award of damages is a financial gain for the purposes of the statutory legal aid charge)
- *Ofulue v Bossert* [2008] 3 WLR 1253 CA (adverse possession, human rights, acknowledgement of title, without prejudice rule)
- *Mortgage Credit Limited v Kalli* [2007] EWCA Civ 1156 (adverse possession in a commercial landlord and tenant context, misconduct by trial judge)
- *Filobake Ltd v Rondo Ltd and Frampton International Ltd* [2005] EWCA Civ 563 (construction of performance obligation in contract for supply of goods).
- *Pena v Coyne and Sunmoor Ltd* (Chd) [2004] 2 BCLC 703 & 730 (setting aside sale of a restaurant business at an undervalue)
- *Leeman v Mohammed* [2001] 82 P & CR 14; [2001] EGCS 11, Court of Appeal (land registration, priority of interests, overriding interests)

- *Hanina v Morland* [2000] All ER (D) 1931 (whether alleged right an easement)
- *Larksworth Investments v Temple House and Beach (No 2)* [1999] BLR 297 (assessment of damages for disrepair of commercial premises)
- *Savills v Kibble* [1998] EGCS 170, Court of Appeal (construction of commission clause in estate agent's contract)
- *Larksworth Investments v Temple House and Beach* [1996] EGCS 86 (construction of alienation clause in commercial lease)

Recommendations

Simon is recommended as a leading junior for property litigation in the latest editions of both Chambers UK and The Legal 500. He is also recommended as a leading junior for professional negligence work and as a leading mediator in the current edition of The Legal 500.

Recent directory comments have included:

- "An extremely impressive barrister with a friendly and highly professional attitude, whose strengths are his attention to detail, his commitment to clients and his strong sense of the commercial realities of a case." (Real Estate Litigation, Chambers UK 2018)
- "Very approachable and great with clients." (Property Litigation, The Legal 500, 2017)
- "Impressive." (Professional Negligence, The Legal 500, 2017)
- "He is a very solid performer." (Real Estate Litigation, Chambers UK, 2017)
- He is first class and really knows what he is doing.
- Extremely thorough in his work and never gets flustered.
- A safe pair of hands.
- He has a relaxed style that comes with experience, has the ear of the court and has the gravitas to respond appropriately if the judge disagrees with him.
- Clear and concise.
- Able to deal with individuals and corporate clients in a very effective manner.
- Very confident and very approachable.
- Receives acclaim from clients for his professional negligence and damages-related work.
- Deserving and highly proficient.
- Caught the market's attention for the quality of his advice on a range of commercial and residential property claims. meticulous but not pedantic.
- In a stressful situation, has the ability to get on with clients and simply deliver messages they don't necessarily want to hear.

Seminars

Simon is a frequent lecturer at seminars on topics within his sphere of practice.

Qualifications

- LLB Hons (Soton) 1983
- Called to the Bar by the Inner Temple 1984
- ADR Group Accredited Mediator 2006

Memberships

Chancery Bar Association; Property Bar Association, Professional Negligence Bar Association.

Other Details

VAT Registration Number: 524117576

Bar Membership Number: 20286

For More Information

Please click on the links to the left or contact a member of the clerking team.

