

CHRIS QUINN

Call: 1992



Chris' client-base consists primarily of companies, partnerships and LLPs and/or senior individuals within the same who find themselves facing, or who wish to avoid, significant commercial and/or employment disputes.

Chris has very extensive trial experience and is frequently instructed in cases because they are expected to go 'all the way', either in the High Court or in the Employment Tribunal. In the most high-profile of his recent trials, ***Affinity v Ferguson and others***, the Claimant discontinued its £10 million claim against Chris' clients shortly before closing submissions. In two other employment competition cases, ***Rush Hair v Gibson-Forbes*** and ***Decorus Ltd Penfold*** Chris successfully enforced restrictive covenants/ duties arising out of the employment relationship on behalf of his claimants. In ***Richards and Purves v IP Solutions*** Chris successfully limited the size of the award made to two former directors and employees of a company after a corporate acquisition. Finally in ***Gillespie v THT*** Chris won a significant victory in a whistle-blowing claim brought by his CEO client. Other recent trials include ***Bourne Rail v Ashton and Others*** in the High Court and ***Marshall v Commonwealth of Australia*** in the Employment Tribunal.

Chris offers litigation, advisory, regulatory [including FCA] and negotiating expertise across many sectors including oil and gas, investment management, banking, broking, hedgefunds, the legal profession and manufacturing. He is frequently recommended by the two leading guides across a range of specialisms.

Chris is often instructed in initially urgent cases where clients are looking for counsel capable of both assimilating complex business information quickly and then providing decisive and intelligible advice as to how best to proceed as well as a proven ability to get results. His track-record in major cases is impressive and include noteworthy successes in several high-profile disputes such as:

- ***SBJ Lonmar v West***
- ***Towry EJ Limited v Bennett***
- ***Thomson Ecology Limited v Hall***

Chris is instructed in a number of cases on behalf of fellow lawyers, both barristers and law firms. He is also instructed in cases with a trans-national element and frequently on behalf of North American companies with a London presence. He leads our Arbitration Group and has extensive experience as Counsel in arbitrations. In 2017 he presented a course on cross-examination at the prestigious European Court of Arbitrators' Conference in Milan and in 2018 he was one of the arbitrators at the Vis Moot in Vienna.

Chris is a previous nominee for Chambers & Partners Employment barrister of the year award.

He devised and led Littleton's recent major ongoing training exercise for senior associates entitled "*How to handle an Urgent High Court Employment Dispute*".

In Legal 500 (2016) Chris is ranked as a leading practitioner in both Employment and Commercial Dispute Resolution and is described as:

"A tenacious and dogged opponent, with a justified reputation for being a fighter."

and

"Diligent and effective with difficult witnesses."

Chambers & Partners UK (2016) described Chris as:

"Tactically astute and gets to grips with the detail. Robust and confidence-inspiring with clients."

Oil/Gas/Related

Chris is regularly instructed in disputes arising in the oil/gas/ commodities sector. He has both advised and represented numerous oil companies on a range of issues.

Cases have involved BP, Bibby Ship Management, Tullow Oil, Thomson Ecology, President Energy plc, Gulfsands Petroleum and Tata Steel.

See: ***Thomson Ecology Ltd v Hall and Others*** [2013] EWHC 2875 (Ch)

Asset Management/Stockbroking/Financial Advisers

Chris has been instructed in litigation arising from the breakdown in relations between senior individuals in several well-known asset management firms including Marathon and Rubicon.

In respect of investment/ stockbroking/ financial advisers cases see:

Affinity v Ferguson and Others (2016)

J M Finn & Co Ltd v Thomas Brook Holliday [2013] EWHC 3450 (QB)

Towry EJ Ltd v Bennett and Others [2012] EWHC 224 (QB)

Lonmar Global Risks v West and Others [2010] EWHC 2878 (QB)

Banking

Chris has advised and acted for several of the major banks/ building societies in a wide variety of claims ranging from discrimination to the fall-out from the LIBOR scandal.

His cases have involved Lloyds, Credit Suisse, HSBC and Nationwide.

See: ***Nationwide Building Society v Benn and Others*** [2010] IRLR 922

Broking

Cases have involved Integro Insurance Brokers, BGC and Tullett Prebon.

See: ***Tullett Prebon Group Ltd v El-Hajjali*** [2008] EWHC 1924 (QB)

Legal Profession

Chris is regularly instructed on behalf of major law firms in relation to both internal matters and claims that have been brought against them.

One recent case of Chris' explored the inter-relationship between solicitors' undertakings and the contempt of court jurisdiction.

Chris has also acted for partners who have been named respondents in Tribunal claims.

See: ***Damian McCarthy v Visitors to the Inns of Court and Bar Standards Board*** [2015] EWCA Civ 12
Coll v Floreat [2014] EWHC 1741 (QB)
Clyde & Co LLP v Bates van Winkelhof [2014] UKSC 32

Arbitration

Chris Quinn has been instructed as Counsel in a number of major arbitrations and has been recognised by the directories as a leading junior in international arbitration. Recent arbitrations included a multi-week multi-million pound dispute about an asset management LLP and a smaller dispute involving a fall-out between medical practitioners. Chris has also appeared in a number of sports- related arbitrations.

Sports

Chris has also acted for and against professional sports clubs and associations at all levels up to and including the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

Other sectors

Charities [Gillespie v THT]

Defence [Chemring Group]

Retail [Debenhams]

Stock Exchanges

Recruitment agencies

Architecture [Woods Bagot]

Agency/ Pest Control. See ***Personnel Hygiene Services Ltd v Rentokil*** [2014] EWCA Civ 29 (CA)

Franchises. See ***Martin & Co (UK) Ltd v Cedra*** [2015] EWHC 1036 (Ch)

Trans-national Issues

Chris frequently acts for and against trans-national companies. Recent cases have involved Tata Steel, Clyde & Co, Woods Bagot, Integro, Raymond James Investment Services, Stallergenes.

Education

Post-graduate

1991-92 Queen's University, Canada

LLM in International Law

1990-91 Inns of Court School of Law

Bar Qualification

Undergraduate

1987-90 University of Cambridge

LL.B (Hons)