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James Bell

Year of Call: 1987

Practice Areas

- Clinical Negligence
- Personal Injury

Email:

jbell@tgchambers.com

Awards



Experience

A highly regarded and recognised specialist barrister in all fields of Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence.

Thank you for taking the time to view my profile.

By reading on, you will discover more about me and my trusted practice, particularly in the fields of personal injury and clinical negligence in which I have over 28 years of varied and hard-earned litigation experience.

I currently receive instructions from, amongst many others, the top three ranked claimant and defendant firms of solicitors in London. This neatly illustrates, in part, my standing in what is undoubtedly a very competitive marketplace. However, much of my work is still undertaken outside of London and I have always enjoyed the support of solicitors, as well as direct professional access, on a nationwide basis.

I bring a recognised team approach and ethos to cases in which I am privileged to be instructed and never lose sight of what my client (whether lay or professional) is looking for or wanting to achieve. My aim is to turn my knowledge into value for the benefit of the client, while at all times ensuring my advice is clearly explained and comprehensible.

As for my areas of operation, I act in any claim (above the fast track limit) and over the years I have appeared in the higher

and lower courts, including the (now) Senior Court. While I probably undertake as many multi-million pound claims each year as any leading junior at the Bar, I continue to conduct each claim, whatever its value or complexity, with the utmost consideration, recognising that my practice benefits from every type of case I have the opportunity to work on.

I have set out elsewhere what commentators and publications have said about me over the past few years (and for which remarks and comments I am most grateful).

I look forward to working with those of you who consider that I would be the right fit for your case and your legal team. I believe experience has taught me that what clients often want are lawyers who can help them to avoid legal problems, difficulties and disputes. In a legal landscape with an increasing downward pressure on costs, my tactical awareness, in-depth and current medical knowledge, and negotiation skills are conducive to the efficient running of litigation.

While there is much to be said for the proactive legal management of strategic risk, there will, for the foreseeable future, be a need for strong court advocacy and clearly communicated expert opinion advice from a specialist barrister-advisor which I continuously deliver.

Directories

A well-regarded senior junior who covers the full range of EL/PL and RTA claims, including cases where accidents occur abroad. He acts for both claimants and defendants.

Strengths: "He cuts to the chase and finds good angles to work with on complex cases." "He has an excellent bedside manner with his clients."

Recent work: Instructed in *Randawa v Singh*, a seven-figure case where quantum was complicated by the claimant's intention to move abroad.

Chambers UK 2016

"He has a sure touch with clients, and his knowledge and experience make him a joy to work with."

Legal 500 2016

"An expert in large loss national and international severe injury claims. He regularly deals with cases concerning multiple, often life-threatening head and back injuries arising from road or work accidents. Strengths: "A very well-liked senior junior who is tenacious, able, organized and innovative. He has a national practice of real standing."

Chambers UK 2015

“He has a very good grasp of technical medical issues.”
Legal 500 2015

“He has a sure touch with clients, and his knowledge and experience make him a joy to work with.”
Legal 500 2015

Receives consistent acclaim for his handling of high-value, highly complex catastrophic injury and fatality cases. He is recommended in particular for his technical expertise on matters such as schedules of loss.

Expertise: “He cuts to the chase and provides good angles on complex cases.” “He’s really busy and good at juggling quite a few plates in the air. He’s an excellent drafter of schedules and a nice guy to work with.”

Recent work: Acted for the claimant in a case involving devastating catastrophic injuries that resulted in cauda equine syndrome.

Chambers UK 2014

“He is very hardworking and clients have confidence in him.”
Legal 500 2014

Education

University College Cardiff (LLB Hons)

Memberships

Action against Medical Accidents (AvMA), American Bar Association (ABA), American Association for Justice (AAJ) [formerly the Association of Trial Lawyers America], Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL), Personal Injury Bar Association (PIBA), Professional Negligence Bar Association (PNBA)

Languages

French

Cases

Randhawa v Singh

23/01/2017

Barristers involved: James Bell

James Bell represented the Claimant, who relocated to California, in this high value (\$2M), lower limb amputee, with complex pain problems claim. Cross border issues arose in relation to living/care/prosthetic costings, discount rate and PPOs, as well as US tax liabilities.

Allen v Croydon Health Services NHS Trust

August 2016

Barristers involved: James Bell

James Bell, instructed by Wilkin Chapman, represented a middle aged woman who lost sight in one eye due to a failure to monitor and treat her vision. Breach of duty was admitted but causation and quantum remained contested.

Neal v Leicester Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

December 2015

Barristers involved: James Bell

James Bell, instructed by Mansfield Solicitors, represented a middle aged woman who lost function in one kidney, with reduced function in the other and is now at risk of suffering from End Stage Renal Failure. Causation and quantum were in issue.
