



Rochelle Powell

Call 2019

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Rochelle accepts instructions in all of Chambers' core areas of work, with a focus on personal injury, health & safety, clinical negligence, public law, inquests and inquiries.

She is the current editor of the chapters on Vicarious Liability, Additional Claims and Counterclaims, and Disclosure in Bingham & Berrymans' Personal Injury and Motor Claims Cases.

Rochelle acts on behalf of both claimants and defendants in personal injury matters. She is regularly instructed in public liability, employers' liability and road traffic accident matters. She has successfully pursued and defended against allegations of fundamental dishonesty on multiple occasions.

Rochelle was Counsel to the Infected Blood Inquiry and was involved from 2018 to 2023.

Expertise

Personal Injury

Rochelle has a busy personal injury practice. She routinely represents claimants and defendants in claims and appeals arising out of road traffic accidents, Highways Act claims, employers' liability matters and public liability matters. She is also experienced in claims involving allegations of automatism or medical emergencies.

Rochelle is regularly instructed to advise on quantum in cases with complex medical evidence. She is experienced in managing experts in conference and in drafting statements of case and complex schedules of loss. In addition to frequent paperwork cases, Rochelle is regularly in court for trials, PTRs, CCMCs, interim applications and approval hearings.

Prior to coming to the Bar, Rochelle worked at a leading personal injury firm where she gained extensive experience of all personal injury matters. This has given Rochelle additional insight into the demands of running a busy caseload within a firm of solicitors, which enables her to give meaningful and practical advice on complex claims.



Inquests & Inquiries

Rochelle was instructed as Counsel to the Infected Blood Inquiry, frequently described as the worst treatment disaster in the history of the NHS. She worked on witness statements, disclosure, report drafting and the Inquiry chronology which assisted Leading Counsel in Inquiry hearings.

Rochelle also spent a number of years working on the Infected Blood Inquiry prior to joining chambers. During this time her work involved leading the disclosure exercise for material held by all UK NHS Foundation Trusts and Health Boards, drafting witness statements and producing Rule 9's. She was the principal point of contact to a number of designated legal representatives, core participants and Inquiry witnesses.

Clinical Negligence

Rochelle has a particular interest in clinical negligence, predominantly acting for claimants. Her work includes cases in delayed diagnosis, surgical and birth injury claims, failure to identify nerve injuries and unnecessary and unwarranted surgery.

Rochelle is a regular contributor to the TGC Clinical Negligence Newsletter

Credit Hire

Rochelle undertakes a significant volume of credit hire litigation, acting for both claimants and defendants. She is familiar with all aspects of credit hire and the various issues which arise. Her experience includes applications for non-party costs orders against credit hire companies.

Public Law

Rochelle has experience of a broad spectrum of public law issues including prison law, immigration, unlawful detention and human trafficking. She advises in judicial review and civil damages claims.

Motor Insurance Fraud

Rochelle regularly appears in trials involving allegations of fundamental dishonesty, particularly in respect of issues of causation, occupancy and induced or staged road traffic collisions. She understands the importance of findings of fraud to Claimants and Defendants alike and routinely advises clients in conference in relation to allegations of fraud made by or against them.

In her Defendant personal injury practice, Rochelle has obtained findings of fundamental dishonesty and dismissal under section 57 Criminal Justice and Courts Act 2015.

Rochelle was awarded a distinction for her LLM thesis which considered fundamental dishonesty in personal injury litigation, with a particular focus on section 57 of the Criminal Justice and Courts Act 2015 and the surrounding caselaw.



Collective Redress

Rochelle accepts instructions in group litigation across a wide variety of areas. Recent work has included:

- Assisting Pogust Goodhead to value nearly 100 individual product liability claims in a group action against a leading pharmaceutical company (Johnson & Johnson) arising out of the insertion of Transvaginal Mesh in cases of stress urinary incontinence.
- Assisting Pogust Goodhead to plead Schedules of Information for over 170 claimants pursuing product liability claims in a group action against a leading pharmaceutical company (Bayer) arising out of the use of their Essure Device for 'non-surgical' sterilisation.

Education

- LLM (Distinction), BPP University
- GDL (Commendation), BPP University
- BA (Hons) History, University of Nottingham

Languages

- Spanish

Memberships

- PIBA