



Practice Areas

EMPLOYMENT LAW
OTHER SPECIALISMS
PERSONAL INJURY LAW
POLICE LAW
PUBLIC / ADMINISTRATIVE LAW
PUBLIC INQUIRIES

News

[5 Essex Court welcomes four new members](#)

[5 Essex Court is rated highly in its specialist fields in Chambers and Partners 2013](#)

Contact us

[5 Essex Court, Temple,](#)

[London, EC4Y 9AH](#)

[Phone: 020 7410 2000](#)

Email:

clerks@5essexcourt.co.uk

Professional Negligence:

Charles has been regularly instructed in professional negligence claims involving solicitors and other professionals. In a recent multiparty case, allegations of negligent claims handling, he successfully defended an insurance broker obtaining a favourable costs order.

Background:

Charles' education includes studying at the Memorial University Newfoundland, University of Westminster and the Council of Legal Education. He was called to the Bar in 1983 and joined 5 Essex Court in 1997. His areas of expertise include police law, employment law, civil litigation, ancillary relief and professional negligence, together with commercial litigation, human rights and public law.

Employment:

Charles has widespread experience of employment law, representing large public bodies such as NHS Trusts and police forces in cases involving dismissal for disciplinary reasons, incapacity, unfair dismissal and those involving allegations of disability and racial discrimination. He is also regularly instructed in respect of redundancy, in particular ETO's and TUPE transfers and in matters relating to pensions.

Police Law:

Charles' practice includes instructions in internal disciplinary tribunals, including police discipline. He frequently provides advice and representation for a number of constabularies around the country (As Presenting Officer and as Legal Adviser to the Panel).

Charles has also been instructed in a Chief Constable's review of two failed discipline cases, advising and reporting on the management of complex discipline cases and errors and omissions in the investigation.

Civil Litigation:

Charles has wide ranging experience of civil litigation, contract disputes and contract drafting, particularly the drafting of PMS and GMS agreements.

Ancillary relief:

Charles is instructed in high value ancillary relief applications. For example he recently represented a Head of Department of a City firm of Solicitors obtaining a successful result and a favourable cost order. Recent instructions also included a contentious probate claim, where his client recovered a substantial sum and his costs.

Lectures:

Charles frequently lectures for a number of organisations including police authorities, insurers and solicitors on police related subjects. Charles has played an important role in developing and delivering Chambers' NPIA accredited training on all aspects of the 2008 Conduct and Performance Regulations. He has been a frequent lecturer for a number of organisations including Police Authorities, Insurers and Solicitors. Charles has run in house training courses for solicitors in negotiating skills, ADR and Mediation for Hodge, Jones and Allen and Weightmans.

Additionally, Charles lectured the Crawford THG Liability Conferences and is due to lecture General Practitioners on litigating PCT contracts, legal remedies for GMS and PMS contractual disputes at a one-day conference in March.

Interests:

Charles was proud to be part of the British Olympic Sailing Squad from 1983 - 1992 and a Flying Fifteen World Champion 2001, and UK and European Champion 2004. He is a member of PIBA, ELBA and has been a member of the Sports Dispute Resolution Panel.

Significant work and cases:

Charles was recently instructed in a complex disability discrimination case relating to a consultant in the oil and gas industry who has MS and represented a Broker in a high value claim in the High Court, which also involved alleged breaches of FSA regulations.

A notable recent police law case was Carter and others, the leading case in respect of claims asserting misfeasance in public office arising from the conduct of police discipline cases, during which he was able to obtain an order striking out the claim, together with an indemnity costs order.

Charles recently advised all General Practitioners in Northumberland on the termination of their PMS contract with the local PCT, damages claims arising from breaches of GMS agreements and unilateral termination of GMS contracts by PCTs. He recently represented a GP in six day arbitration with his partner involving a dispute over the retention of the partnership GMS contract, obtaining a successful result and recovery of costs. He has been regularly instructed in matters as diverse as web sites and insurance claims and personal injury, including head injury claims.