



New Park Court

Steven White

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Steven White

Year of call 1998

For enquiries please call +44 (0)113 243 3277 or email

Steven White has a commercial and chancery practice, with additional niche areas of expertise in civil fraud and employment disputes especially in relation to restrictive covenants and cross over High Court Litigation. He is known for his ability to tackle difficult issues and a go to counsel for advocacy in the employment tribunals. He has a particular interest in company disputes involving shareholder actions and directors duties, Landlord and Tenant disputes and Coronial law.

He lectures on a wide range of subjects in all areas of his specialisms.

Civil

Steven has a particular interest in company disputes and specifically minority shareholder actions and claims concerning director's duties. He has advised and appeared for a number of local companies in unfair prejudice petitions, often involving multiple factual disputes and complex valuation evidence. He also has experience of acting on behalf of erring directors in disqualification proceedings, sequestration of directors' assets, claims by the DTI for wrongful trading and preferences, and claims for breach of fiduciary duty. He has recently advised in a case where senior management had set up in competition to their employers and where issues of breach of covenant, theft of intellectual property, conspiracy by a third party backer and breach of fiduciary duty trust arose, and also acted in recovery proceedings concerning knowing receipt of fraudulently obtained company property.

He has also been called upon to draft and advise on commercial contracts, director's service agreements and shareholder agreements including for a well-known Yorkshire law firm.

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Areas of experience include:

- **Contract/Commercial:** Drafting pleadings, advising and providing representation at all stages of litigation in respect of a broad range of contractual disputes. Recent cases have included disputes between a multi-national car manufacturer and garage chain in relation to contractual claw backs, breach of a sole agent agreement for the sale of commercial property, breach of a non-circumvention and mutual confidentiality clause in relation to a 'poached' sporting event, successfully arguing that a clause in a Tomlin did not act as a penalty clause, advising a finance company in respect of recovery of HP monies where vehicles had been fraudulently sold on by a dealer and obtaining a freezing injunction in a civil fraud case.
- **Trust Law:** Advising on the construction, drafting and effect of trust documents, breach of fiduciary duty and applications for Beddoe orders. Recent cases include forcing the disclosure of files held by solicitor trustees and the mediation of a significant trusts of land dispute.
- **Cross-border Litigation:** Experience of advising upon conflict of laws, exclusive jurisdiction clauses and issues of service overseas. Recent cases have included an Anglo/Chinese contract dispute with a fraud element, a partnership dispute concerning property in the UK and Italy, service of proceedings in Indonesia and advise as to the merits of a Hong Kong exclusive jurisdiction clause.
- **Club Law:** Steven has developed a niche advising clubs and other unincorporated associations on all aspects of club contentious club law including advising a historic cricket club and also a sailing club on the expulsion of a member, recovery of monies on an unjust enrichment basis loaned and he has also acted for club officers accused of taking money in breach of club rules. Steven also appeared in the leading case of *Speechley v Allot* [2014] EWCA Civ 230, [2014] All ER (D) 89 (Mar) which established that the Duomatic principle applied to clubs and non-incorporated associations.

Employment

Steven has a wide range of experience in employment litigation including unfair and wrongful dismissal claims, discrimination, harassment and complex TUPE cases. He has appeared frequently before the Employment and Employment Appeal Tribunal on behalf of both applicants and respondents. He is on the panel of preferred counsel for the Equality and Human Rights Commission (2011-2015). He advises, drafts and litigates in relation to employment contracts, particularly restrictive covenants and confidentiality clauses and has appeared before the High Court in Leeds, London and Manchester. He recently advised a local authority on the enforceability of a compromise agreement and whether it had been entered into ultra vires and could be set aside.

Landlord & Tenant

Steven has particular experience relating to commercial premises, advising on a variety of aspects in relation to leases, licenses and tenancy matters. Recent cases involve a repair claim by a commercial tenant against the

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landlord owner of a shopping centre and advice on the validity of a break notice.

Chancery

Steven has been instructed on issues such as adverse possession, rights of ways/easements, boundary disputes, nuisance and restrictive covenants. He has recently advised on a boundary and right of way for a converted farm buildings and drafted proceedings for damages for breach of a covenant specifying 'no commercial use' as part of an estate scheme.

What the directories say

'Well known for handling a broad spectrum of employment cases.'

Legal 500 2018 (Employment)

"A very experienced employment barrister."

Legal 500 2017 (Employment)

"For a range of cases including unfair dismissal and discrimination appeals."

Legal 500 2016 (Employment)

"Cuts through matters without fence-sitting."

Legal 500 2015 (Employment)

"Not afraid to tackle difficult issues ' and as "go-to counsel for advocacy in the employment tribunals."

Legal 500

Appointments & Memberships

Chancery Bar Association

Employment Lawyers Association

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International Bar Association

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