

## **Solicitor Support Service in Employment Law**

Jake Dutton offers a support, back up service for firms who wish to expand their employment law departments. Provided Jake is instructed to do so a by a solicitor he can, just like a solicitor, correspond with the other side and deal with the client – even if a solicitor is not present. There are certain things Jake can't do – such as serve an ET1 or ET3 – but from 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2014 barristers can, and Jake will, apply to conduct litigation which will mean these restrictions will no longer apply.

Jake joined Clerksroom on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014 but used to be a Solicitor-Advocate since 2001, when he first started practicing law and has always undertaken his own advocacy. Unlike most barristers, he is accustomed to case preparation work and, in particular, to corresponding with the other side and dealing directly with the client.

If your firm is interested, in addition to undertaking traditional barrister work (namely, representing clients in Tribunal) Jake is happy to undertake general case preparation work as well. This could be on benefit to your firm if you lack the time or manpower or do not wish to employ another fee earner to undertake such work. Thus this service would enables firms to expand their employment practice without needing to incur the cost of an extra fee earner's salary. Jake is also happy help the firm generally build up it's employment work.

Jake Dutton – Barrister, Clerksroom

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