

Chris Hegarty

General Information

Chris resolves disputes for SMEs and individuals involved in a range of commercial, civil and chancery problems. A solicitor since 2010, Chris has spent the last 8 years fighting cases against the largest of institutions and is unafraid of fighting your corner.

Chris qualified as a solicitor advocate in 2014 and has taken on a broad range of work, taking cases from beginning to final hearings.

Based in London, Chris acts for clients across the country delivering pragmatic and efficient advice and representation. He is able to assist at every stage from the initial assessment all the way to trial and enforcement.

During recent years Chris has specialised in one of the most difficult problems an individual or small business can face – a dispute with their professional advisers – these are unlike other commercial disputes as there is a huge imbalance in information between a client and their adviser and attempting to navigate these disputes without specialist advice can be a minefield.

Chris' most recent work has had him take three major investment mis-selling cases to the High Court, *Adams v Carey* (decision awaited), *Jackson v Leslie & Nuding* and *Worthing v Lloyds*. Chris has successfully resolved far more cases before trial, deploying mediation and negotiation skills effectively and strategically.

Before specialising in professional negligence work Chris dealt with a broad range of commercial and civil cases from a defective yacht, to commercial landlord issues and mis-selling of foreign property. It was within this work that professional negligence cases, predominantly involving lawyers, became the focus of Chris' work.

Chris has significant experience of travel accident cases involving issues of choice of law, choice of jurisdiction and the practicalities of successfully pursuing a foreign insurer or defendant and recovering compensation.

When training as a solicitor Chris undertook a range of personal injury work across a range of employer's liability and public liability cases including highways, equipment hire and Health and Safety at Work cases. Chris is always keen to act in cases where he can make a genuine difference for injured claimants.

When he is not working, Chris can be found falling off a climbing wall or falling into the cold water around England overburdened with scuba gear.

Professional Negligence

Over the past 8 years Chris has dealt with professional negligence cases against various professionals.

Before the interest rate hedging product scandal broke, Chris was pursuing one of the first cases and pursued cases against some of the largest banks. Following this Chris has taken on many cases against financial professionals.

Chris is particularly proficient in cases against solicitors having worked as a solicitor for many years, he can efficiently advise on merits and options and the most effective route to redress.

Chris is a safe pair of hands for professional negligence cases at any stage and is always happy to discuss potential instructions.

Commercial

Chris's pragmatic approach focuses on achieving his client's objectives. This approach enables more effective outcomes than a traditional drive towards a trial. Alternative dispute resolution strategies can often save time, costs and disruption to a commercial

client and Chris is alive to the ability of such techniques to preserve and maintain commercial relationships.

As a forceful advocate Chris will not hesitate in pursuing interim remedies and pressing on to trial – when this is the best option.

Personal injury

Chris is always keen to act for injured individuals and make a genuine difference in their lives.

Having worked on cases where the claimant had life-changing injuries, Chris is sensitive to the issues that victims face and dogged in pursuing the compensation to achieve the best possible outcome for claimants.

Chris' experience in travel injury cases includes assisting with the travel law issues in the case of *Winrow v Hemphill* in the High Court and he is able to address the technical issues of jurisdiction, choice of law and the complexities of the procedural issues raised by overseas parties.

Chris' strong background as a personal injury solicitor brings both technical ability and the judgement developed by experience dealing with cases to assist solicitors in achieving the best outcome.

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