

Chris Hegarty

General Information

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

Qualified as a solicitor advocate in 2014, Chris has taken on a broad range of work, taking cases from beginning to final hearings. Based in London, he 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.

In 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. Attempting to navigate these disputes without specialist advice can be a minefield.

Chris's most recent work has seen 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*. He has successfully resolved far more cases before trial, deploying mediation and negotiation skills effectively and strategically.

Before specialising in professional negligence, 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 his practice.

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 variety of employer's liability and public liability cases, including highways, equipment hire and health and safety at work cases. He is always keen to act in cases where he can make a genuine difference for injured claimants.

Areas of law

- Professional Negligence
- Commercial Law
- Personal Injury

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, he 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.

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

Commercial

With a pragmatic approach, Chris is focused on achieving his client's objectives. This 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, he is sensitive to the issues that victims face and dogged in pursuing compensation to achieve the best possible outcome for claimants.

His experience in travel injury cases includes assisting with travel law issues in the case of *Winrow v Hemphill* in the High Court. 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.

Personal Interests

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

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