

## Richard Colbey

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### General Information

Richard works mainly in London and the South East in several areas of legal work. He is willing to accept solicitor, foreign lawyer and direct access instructions. Approachable, Richard is happy to personally take or return calls from prospective clients. He prides himself on providing cost-effective advice and representation as quickly and informally as possible.

Called to the bar in 1984, Richard is also admitted as a Californian attorney and has qualified as a fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators.

### Areas of law

- Commercial Disputes
- Professional Negligence
- Intellectual Property
- Personal Injury
- Property, Landlord & Tenant and Trusts
- Construction
- Family Law

### Commercial Disputes

Richard undertakes all types and most levels of commercial disputes from those involving several million pounds down to consumer disputes.

- Acted for a Yemini government agency in a £5m dispute over the price of a cargo of oil
- Acted for an Ecuadorian lawyer in protracted High Court committal proceedings, in which case he defeated most of the allegations, and his costs were less than 10% of the other side's
- Appeared in several reported cases concerning the construction of the Unfair Terms in Consumer Contracts Act 1977

### Professional Negligence

Richard undertakes all aspects of professional negligence work and is willing to take on cases against solicitors and barristers.

- Current cases include representing a woman who alleges a barrister discontinued her case at a preliminary hearing without instructions after having charged over £20,000 in fees
- He also appears for professionals before disciplinary tribunals and on appeals to the courts

### Intellectual Property

He regularly acts in IP disputes particularly relating to the music industry.

- Current cases include a claim over the rights to use the name of a well-known 1970s 'teeny bopper' band

### Personal Injury

Richard specialises in cases involving personal injury or illness that are not straightforward, particularly those where the claim is against the client's own insurer, or where ME/CFS or food poisoning is involved.

- Current claims include acting for the estate of a man who died of covid very shortly after his employment, which included a substantial death in service benefit, was terminated

### Property, Landlord & Tenant and Trusts

Acting on various types of land and trust disputes, Richard recently appeared in a High Court matter which was a family dispute over ownership of valuable development land on the North Circular Road *Intermedia v Ashia Centre and others* [2020] EWHC 473 (Ch).

### Construction

He advises on all types of construction disputes on large and small developments.

- Currently acting on a direct access basis in a million-pound claim arising out of the building of a luxury hotel in rural England
- Recently advised in respect of a restaurant development in Bethnal Green, as well as several domestic building cases

#### **Family Law**

About a quarter of Richard's practice involves acting and advising upon financial remedy claims. He also undertakes private law children cases. Further details of this can be found on <http://www.direct-family-barrister.co.uk/>.

#### **Other areas of law**

Richard is willing to consider most types of civil and regulatory work, though will not undertake criminal, immigration, public law children or tax cases.

#### **Memberships**

- Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators

#### **Personal Interests**

Richard enjoys travel and is aiming to go to every country in the world. He is interested in Post-Soviet pseudo-states and is doing advanced research on Transnistria at Buckingham University. He enjoys sport, particularly playing tennis and following Watford FC.

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