

# Christopher Austins

---

## General Information

Christopher was called in 1988 and has been a full-time barrister since then. He is a highly experienced advocate with a robust but sympathetic approach.

He was Head of Chambers at Assize Court Chambers, Bristol, before leaving to join Clerksroom in 2002.

He is approved by the Bar Council to accept direct public access instructions and has done so since 2008. He is happy to speak with potential direct access clients, and with solicitors, at no initial cost, to ascertain what is needed to deal with their cases in the best way.

He has wide experience of Contract, Commercial, Personal Injury, and Family matters, including applications for financial remedies.

He has unusually wide experience of, and a particular interest in, acting for claimants injured in sport parachuting (skydiving) accidents.

He has undertaken a wide range of serious criminal work, including serious fraud and murders. He therefore has experience of high-level advocacy in very serious matters. He still accepts serious and privately-funded criminal work, including regulatory and road traffic matters.

During 2016 he defended two separate cases of attempted murder, and during 2018 he defended in a 3-week murder trial, maintaining his currency in serious, highly adversarial matters.

He has experience of appeals to the Crown Court against revocation and refusal of firearm and shotgun certificates. He has held Section 1 firearm and Section 2 shotgun certificates for many years.

During 2016 he was instructed as sole counsel in a 7-day trial in the High Court, a £ multi-million contractual claim against a High Street bank, and has been instructed on other significant High Court matters, some of which involved quantum in excess of £1,000,000.

Before call to the Bar he owned and managed two aviation-based companies, a commercial sport parachuting centre and a flying school. He is a former British Parachute Association Instructor and Private Pilot Licence and IMC holder. He has been instructed extensively in personal injury claims relating to parachuting accidents and general aviation, and now acts in such claims on a CFA basis if required. He is a current sport parachutist, and retains links with experienced expert witnesses in that field.

Videos:

<https://vimeo.com/user63720905>

<https://vimeo.com/356128634>

<https://vimeo.com/207009933>

<https://vimeo.com/207009554>

He has an understanding of commercial and business matters and relates well to business clients. He has managed a number of construction projects and thus has an understanding of the building process, which is helpful when dealing with building disputes.

He has significant experience as a commercial mediator, particularly in construction and business disputes.

He has held a full motorcycle licence since age 17 and undertakes motorcycle-related personal injury claims. He holds the grade of 2nd Dan in judo and has experience of personal injury matters resulting from that sport.

He has 4 children, 2 of school age.

Email: [mediation@clerksroom.com](mailto:mediation@clerksroom.com)

Clerksroom, Equity House, Blackbrook Park Avenue, Taunton TA1 2PX