

12

King's Bench Walk

James Beeton

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AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Personal Injury, Industrial Disease, International & Travel, Abuse, Military Claims, Inquests, Group Litigation

James specialises in cases involving personal injuries, industrial diseases, and the conflict of laws. The Legal 500 lists him as a “rising star” of the personal injury bar.

He represents claimants and defendants in claims for serious injuries, fatal accidents, and sexual abuse. He is particularly experienced in industrial disease litigation and is a general editor of the leading textbook on claims for asbestos-related illness.

James has expertise in claims with a cross-border element. He regularly advises on and acts in cases raising jurisdictional issues under Brussels I (Recast) and the CPR 6BPD service gateways. His cases often involve the application of foreign law under Rome I and Rome II. He edits the International & Travel Law Blog.

James also acts for bereaved families and other interested parties at inquests arising out of suspected clinical negligence or industrial disease. He is committed to pro bono representation and accepts instructions on this basis where appropriate.

Personal Injury

James represents claimants and defendants in all areas of personal injury litigation. He acts in cases involving serious injuries and fatal accidents arising out of workplace activities, defective premises, road traffic collisions, and contact with animals. He often represents serving and ex-members of HM Armed Forces in claims for injuries suffered during service. James also acts in cases involving dangerous products, with a focus on cases which raise cross-border issues.

Industrial Disease

James specialises in claims for diseases caused by exposure to asbestos and other hazardous substances. He is often instructed in mesothelioma claims involving low levels of exposure and complex quantum issues. James is a general editor of Sweet & Maxwell's “Asbestos: Law & Litigation” – the leading textbook on asbestos litigation in England and Wales.

He is also regularly instructed in claims for other industrial diseases, including noise-induced hearing loss and hand-arm vibration syndrome. He is representing a number of members of HM Armed Forces in claims for injuries arising out of prolonged exposure to cold conditions.

International & Travel

James has expertise in claims with a cross-border element. He regularly advises on and acts in cases raising jurisdictional issues under Brussels I (Recast) and the CPR 6BPD service gateways. His cases often involve the application of foreign law under Rome I and Rome II. He has been instructed in a number of group actions relating to injuries, deaths, and environmental damage abroad brought against parent companies in the courts of England and Wales.

James is experienced in claims relating to ruined package holidays and injuries suffered in the course of international travel. He acts for passengers, crew members, and carriers in contractual claims and claims under the Montreal Convention and Athens Convention. He is also instructed in claims arising out of aircraft crashes. He is a contributor to the "Accidents Abroad" chapter of Butterworths Personal Injury Litigation Service and he edits the *International & Travel Law Blog*.

Abuse

James acts in civil claims for sexual and physical abuse against a range of defendants, including schools, children's homes, religious institutions, public authorities, and employers. He advises on limitation, consent, vicarious liability, non-delegable duties, causation, and quantum. He also acts in Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority appeals on eligibility and quantum.

Military

James represents serving and ex-members of HM Armed Forces in claims for injuries and diseases suffered during service at home and abroad. He acts in cases involving hearing loss caused by exposure to weapons fire, injuries caused by exposure to cold conditions, and other physical and psychiatric injuries suffered during training or on deployment.

James is often instructed in cases involving historical breaches of duty and cross-border issues arising out of deployment overseas. He is familiar with the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme and frequently advises on quantum issues specific to claims for the loss of a military career.

Inquests

James represents bereaved families and other interested parties in all types of inquest, typically arising out of suspected clinical negligence or industrial disease. He is committed to pro bono representation and accepts instructions on this basis where appropriate.

Qualifications & Awards

BCL (Distinction), Exeter College, University of Oxford
BPTC, City, University of London
BA Jurisprudence, Saint Peter's College, University of Oxford

Inner Temple Pegasus Scholarship
Jonathan Brock QC Memorial Essay Prize
Times Law Awards: 2nd Prize
Law Faculty Prize for Criminal Justice and Human Rights (BCL)
Ralph Chiles Award for Comparative Human Rights (BCL)
Middle Temple Colombos Law Prize
Exeter College Tobias Prize in Law
Oxford Postgraduate Internship Award (UN World Food Programme Legal Office)
Exeter College Internship Grant (Court of Appeal of Hong Kong)
Saint Peter's College Law Essay Prize

Memberships

Personal Injuries Bar Association

Pan European Organisation of Personal Injury Lawyers

London Common Law & Commercial Bar Association

Publications

Books

Harry Steinberg QC, Michael Rawlinson QC and James Beeton, *Asbestos: Law & Litigation*, 1st Ed. (Sweet & Maxwell, 2019)

Butterworths Personal Injury Litigation Service, Division XVIII: Accidents Abroad (LexisNexis UK, 2020)

Articles

“Case report: *CXB v North West Anglia NHS Foundation Trust* [2019] EWHC 2053 (QB)”, (2019) 181 *Personal Injury Law Journal*

“Jurisdiction: Recent developments post-Keefe”, (2019) 180 *Personal Injury Law Journal*

“‘Keefe question’ to go back to the Court of Justice (*Alison Cole and Ors v IVI Madrid SL and Anor*)” (2019) *Lexis®PSL Dispute Resolution*

“Characterisation of obligations for choice of law purposes under Rome I and II (*Committeri v Club Med*)” (2018) *Lexis®PSL Dispute Resolution*

“Rome I – Consumer Contracts (art. 6)”, (2018) *Lexis®PSL Dispute Resolution*

“Case Report: *Wood and Anor v TUI Travel PLC T/A First Choice* [2017] EWCA CIV 11”, (2017) 154 *Personal Injury Law Journal*