

James Candlin

Call: 1991
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AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Personal Injury, Industrial Disease, International & Travel, Clinical Negligence, Product Liability, Health & Safety, Inquests, Fraud, Public Authority Liability, Property, Property Damage, Mediation, Aviation

Specialist personal injury practitioner. Recognised as a leading junior in Chambers & Partners notably for travel related work. However, his experience is broad including product liability, occupational disease, fatal and catastrophic head and bodily injury often in consequence of cycling, motorcycling and motor racing accidents.

He has a science degree and is known for cases which have technical features, product liability, food poisoning, unusual pathogens, and scientific causation arguments as well as clinical negligence claims.

James specialises in health & safety, and is regularly instructed to act in relation to prosecution arising from serious accidents and near misses in industry, freight transport, medical and care institutions. On several occasions James has conducted inquest, criminal and civil proceedings in the same matter.

Away from work James attention is directed at his 4 children, watching and playing sport, keeping bees, making and mending furniture.

Public Authority Liability

James has significant experience of Occupiers liability and Highway Authority duties acting for both Claimants and Defendants and for c 12 years conducted a significant proportion of the Suffolk and Essex County Council Highways Act Defences. Interesting cases include:

- *Presswell & Presswell v Devon County Council (2014)* action concerning regular flooding from highway of a home arising from decision making as to commissioning of a highway drainage improvement scheme. Settled before trial.
- *Pattinson & Pattinson v Cornwall Council and North Cornwall Council (2009)* Action by parents of child of 5 drowned when she fell into fast moving river in spate. Riverbank was occupied by local authorities and was near playground and public car park. Allegation that riverbank should have been fenced because of risks. Judgment at trial for Defendants.
- *Kinsella & Quigley v Nottingham County Council (2009)* flooding claim arising from failure to maintain a pump and gully system intended to provide back up drainage in the event of run off overwhelming land adjacent to a highway. Settled before pleadings issued.

Qualifications & Awards

University of Aberdeen BSc(Hons) Pharmacology

Polytechnic of Central London [now University of Westminster] Diploma in law

London School of Mediation accredited mediator

Appointments & Memberships

Lincoln's Inn

Member Personal Injuries Bar Association [Executive Committee member 2000 to 2016]

Member AVMA

Directories

He provides a good, considered response with a fast turnaround. – Chambers & Partners, 2025

James is really diligent and gets to the nub of the issue. – Chambers & Partners, 2025

James is technically excellent. His medical knowledge is fantastic, which in a personal injury case is invaluable. – Legal 500, 2025

James is a careful and conscientious barrister with great judgement whose meticulous case preparation makes him an excellent choice for fraud work in particular. – Legal 500, 2024

James is extremely able, has a mastery of the expert evidence and is a very thorough, hard-working barrister who does the best he can for his clients. – Chambers & Partners, 2024

James is a careful and conscientious barrister with great judgement whose meticulous case preparation makes him an excellent choice for fraud work in particular. – Legal 500, 2023

James has a wealth of experience in travel law, having been practising in the field for many years. He is a careful advocate and is thoroughly conversant with the law in the area. – Legal 500, 2023

He really thinks things through, and tactics are established right from the outset. – Chambers & Partners, 2022

James has a great grasp of the law in this area and an excellent ability to communicate with judges. – Legal 500, 2022

In court he is extremely polite and is excellent in cross-examinations. He's very good with clients. – Chambers & Partners, 2021

He is a careful and meticulous cross-examiner. Very helpful. Client friendly. – Legal 500, 2021

His attention to detail is great and he's a tough negotiator. He is very experienced and provides thorough and comprehensive advice. – Chambers and Partners, 2020

He is a careful and meticulous cross-examiner. – Legal 500, 2019

He is excellent in cases concerning forensic evidence; he understands all the terms and is an extremely effective cross-examiner. – Chambers & Partners, 2019

He has excellent knowledge of sickness claims in particular, and is down-to-earth and very helpful. He's very thorough, digs down into the details and is a fantastic advocate. – Chambers & Partners, 2019

He is praised for his attention to detail. – Legal 500, 2018

Very forensic, yet approachable and affable. – Legal 500, 2017

He has excellent technical knowledge and is balanced and practical in his approach. – Legal 500, 2017

Because of his in-depth knowledge of medical issues, he's a safe person to turn to for issues of causation, such as illness outbreaks in foreign hotels. – Chambers & Partners, 2017

He has very good attention to detail and can absorb significant facts from large volumes of papers. – Chambers & Partners, 2017

James is very protective of his client whilst simultaneously remaining realistic. – Chambers & Partners, 2017

"He has huge in-depth medical knowledge as well as legal knowledge. His knowledge of chemistry and illness allow him to take a very strong view of claims abroad. – Chambers & Partners, 2016