

Catherine Knowles

Call 2004



Clerks' Details

Joshua Finn
0161 817 7124

Leigh Daniels
0161 817 2768

Appointments

- Junior Counsel to the Crown - Regional Panel A (2010 - 2021)

Memberships

- Employment Law Bar Association
- Employment Lawyers' Association
- Personal Injury Bar Association
- Licensed for Direct Access

Education

- BA Jurisprudence, St Edmund Hall, University of Oxford (Class II.i, 2002)
- Bar Vocational Course, Inns of Court School of Law (Outstanding, 2004)
- Benefactors' Scholarship, Middle Temple (2003)
- Certificate of Honour, Middle Temple (2004)

Personal Injury CV

Overview

Catherine's practice focuses on high value multi-track claims and she is primarily instructed on behalf of defendants.

She is on the Attorney-General's Regional A Panel of Junior Counsel and she is regularly instructed to act on behalf of government departments and agencies in cases concerning her areas of practice.

Many of the cases in which Catherine is instructed involve six figure claims for future loss of earnings and / or future loss of pension. She has particular expertise in military claims.

Catherine is also very familiar with the issues that arise in cases involving consideration of the employment relationship or employment law issues, including claims involving allegations of psychiatric injury due to stress at work, claims under the Protection from Harassment Act 1997, and claims involving a dispute as to whether the Claimant's injury constitutes a disability within the meaning of the Equality Act 2010.

Catherine has a well-earned reputation for her organisation, her teamwork and her ability to merge sensitivity with strength when instructed.

Recommendations

“Noted for her expertise in discrimination claims.”

The Legal 500 2018/19

“Recommended for discrimination matters.”

The Legal 500 2017

“A tenacious advocate with a great eye for detail and commercial acumen.”

The Legal 500 2016

“Her workload spans areas such as whistleblowing, discrimination and TUPE.”

The Legal 500 2015

Cases

Recent instructions include:

- Representing the Ministry of Defence in a number of claims brought by servicemen and women arising out of alleged injuries sustained during service (including significant orthopaedic injuries and non-freezing cold injuries). Such cases often involve expert evidence from a number of different disciplines, and claims for the loss of a chance of longer military service and associated earnings and pension.
- In a number of claims, acting on behalf of defendants alleged to be vicariously liable for incidents of historic sexual abuse. Catherine is experienced in advising on the issues that arise in such cases, in particular: limitation; the challenges of addressing liability evidence in historic cases; evaluating medical evidence concerning the presence of significant psychiatric injury; and responding to substantial claims for future loss of earnings and pension.
- Acting on behalf of defendants in cases involving claims of alleged psychiatric injury resulting from alleged stress at work, and claims brought under the Protection from Harassment Act 1997.
- Representing a Claimant who suffered spinal injuries in a running down accident, where the Claimant continued to experience pain, and had been advised by her medical expert that she would be at a disadvantage on the open labour market if she lost her current job. There was a significant issue between the parties as to whether the Claimant was a person with a disability, and whether the accident was the cause of the ongoing symptoms. Claim settled at JSM.