









Lawrence McDonald

Call 1996



Clerks' Details

-  Joe Mawson
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Appointments

- Recorder (Ticketed to hear Chancery cases, Civil cases and Criminal cases)

Memberships

- Chancery Bar Association
- Property Bar Association
- Northern Chancery Bar Association (Secretary)
- Northern Circuit Commercial Bar Association
- Inner Temple

Education

- The Inns of Court School of Law
- University College London
- The Manchester Grammar School

Commercial CV

Overview

Lawrence is an experienced commercial litigator with particular expertise in property, insolvency and professional negligence cases. He acts for companies, individuals, office holders and public bodies before courts and tribunals of all levels in England and Wales.

Prior to life at the bar, Lawrence worked at a number of law firms both in London (Linklaters and Nabarro's) and Liverpool (Brabners). This has enabled him to build a practice that understands the complexities of both sides of the table. He also has an extensive advisory and mediation practice.

Lawrence has recognised strength in:

- Property litigation of all types including real property, landlord and tenant and service charges
- Commercial litigation including contractual disputes, Tort claims, injunctions, company, partnership, trusts and probate and property related commercial cases
- Personal and corporate insolvency
- Professional negligence, particularly in claims involving solicitors, often for conveyancing or other property related negligence.

Recommendations

The Legal 500

'Lawrence is very friendly and provides an excellent service. He is also well respected and pragmatic.'

"Lawrence is very good with clients and supports his solicitor. He knows what solicitors and clients want of him, and is great on his feet, personable and very likeable. He is good at getting his head around the larger issues."

"Lawrence is a tremendously affable character and enjoyable to work with. He is commercial in his outlook and very knowledgeable on the law."

"Lawrence demonstrates clarity of thought in his written advice, submissions and work. He is able to communicate relatively complex legal argument into language that a lay client can readily understand."

"He is knowledgeable, very good with clients, in depth knowledge of all instructed matters, very good as consultant, very organised and works in a speedy manner."

"An assured voice in the court room and a lateral thinker on his feet."

"His calm demeanour reassures clients."

"Recommended for a panoply of property disputes."

"He has an excellent all-round knowledge and is a great lateral thinker."

"He handles a broad spectrum of real estate cases, including landlord and tenant disputes" "A calm, collected and intelligent advocate."

Chambers & Partners

"Lawrence has great legal knowledge and is also very commercially astute."

"Lawrence McDonald is great, and very responsive."

"He is thorough, creative and excellent at cross-examination."

"Approachable and good to work with."

"A pragmatic lawyer who always has an eye on the most effective way of resolving disputes."

"He has a very sensible approach."

"He gets things done without making a meal of it."

Cases

People in Mind Limited v Armchair Answercall Limited (2014) – A 6 day trial in London about whether the departure of a network of franchisees frustrates a contract for services with the franchisor. Listed before the Court of Appeal in autumn 2016.

Bradley v Heslin [2014] EWHC 3267 – A 3 day trial before the Vice-Chancellor regarding the acquisition of an easement by prescription, adverse possession or proprietary estoppel. Listed before the Court of Appeal in March 2016.

Hamlington v Wrexham County Borough Council (2014) – A 5 day trial about whether drainage works by a highway authority caused damage to property.

Rainford v Rainford (2014) – Whether payments made by an ex-husband to his ex- wife were a loan or gave rise to a beneficial interest in a property.

Whalley v PF Developments Limited [2013] EWCA Civ 306 – A successful appeal to the Court of Appeal regarding the assessment of damages for trespass.

Feury v Marshman (2013) – A 5 day trial before HHJ Bird concerning easements, nuisance and harassment. Following cross examination of the witnesses, the case settled on favourable terms before judgment.

Liverpool Quays Management Limited v Moscardini [2012] UKUT 244 (LC) - A successful appeal to the Upper Tribunal regarding the recoverability of service charge expenditure.

Campbell v Banks [2011] EWCA Civ 61 – An appeal concerning the applicability of section 62 of the Law of Property Act 1925.

Re Northall (Deceased) [2010] ECHC 1448 (Ch) – A 3 day trial before David Richards J concerning the beneficial interest in money held in a bank account in joint names.

Pierse Developments Limited v Liberty Property Investment Limited [2009] EWCA Civ 1423 (as Instructing Solicitor) – A dispute regarding a development agreement for a block of flats in Liverpool that was affected by the recession.

Sugarman v Porter [2006] EWHC 331 (Ch) (as Instructing Solicitor) – Restrictive covenants.

Mean Fiddler Holdings Limited v Islington LBC [2003] 3 EGLR 61, LT; [2003] 2 P&CR 7, CA (as Instructing Solicitor) – Compulsory purchase and breach of leasehold covenants.

Beyond the Bar

In the summer of 2016, Lawrence sailed from New York to London via Ireland and Holland as a crew member on the final leg of the Clipper Round the World Yacht Race. He also enjoys throwing himself down mountains on either skis or a mountain bike. Lawrence has competed nationally or internationally in areas as diverse as chess, judo and debating.

Other than that, Lawrence spends most of his time as an unpaid driver for his three daughters' various sport, music and social engagements.