

William Waldron KC

Call 1986 | Silk 2006



Clerks' Details

Neil Wright
0151 242 8814

Appointments

- Accredited Mediator
- Bencher of Gray's Inn - 2012
- Vice Chair (Circuits) Inns of Court College of Advocacy - 2016
- Deputy Chair ATC (Circuits) - 2014 - 2016
- Chair of Northern Circuit Advocacy Training - 2010 - 2020
- Recorder of the Crown and County Courts - 2011
- Judge of the Mental Health Review Tribunal (Restricted Panel) - 2011

Memberships

- Northern Circuit
- Personal Injuries Bar Association

Education

- St Edward's College, Liverpool
- University of Wales (LLb Hons. 1976 - 1979)
- Inns of Court School of Law (1985 - 1986)

Personal Injury CV

Overview

Will Waldron travels the country handling catastrophic injury claims of complexity and high value and has a particular expertise in brain, spine and amputee cases. With a comprehensive mastery of his practice areas, Will is calm and measured and considered extremely "client friendly". He is a first-class advocate. He is highly knowledgeable in all things aviation and is well qualified to handle claims involving injury following aircraft accidents. Before taking Silk, he spent over a decade as Junior Counsel in catastrophic injury claims, gaining vast experience, which he has been able to deploy to great effect as Leading Counsel.

Will is a Bencher of Gray's Inn, was Chair of Northern Circuit Advocacy Training (2010 - 2020), was Deputy Chair of the internationally renowned Advocacy Training Council, and in 2016 he was appointed as Deputy Governor of its successor, the prestigious Inns of Court College of Advocacy. He has over 20 years' experience of teaching advocacy skills to young barristers and is an assessor of advocacy trainers.

A nationally recognised speaker on all aspects of catastrophic injury claims and a regular contributor to legal journals, he is a Recorder of the Crown and County Courts, a Judge of the Mental Health Tribunal Restricted Panel and a qualified Mediator.

Examples of cases in which Will has led the legal team involved recovery of the equivalent of £1.6 million (below knee amputation), £7.1 million (brain injury with severe physical disability), £14 million (tetraplegia and brain injury), £10.5 million (severe brain and physical injuries following a burst aneurysm), and £5 million (brain injury causing severe speech and balance problems).

On-going cases include tetraplegic injury to a man of 30 (potential

value £15 million), paraplegic injury to a man of 30 (potential value £5 million) together with numerous brain injury cases with values ranging from about £2 million to £15 million.

Some of Will's latest settlements (March, June and December 2020 and January 2021) involved respectively spinal injury to a woman aged 54 (£2.35m), severe brain and physical injuries to a young man of 23 (£9.25m), paraplegia and severe pain to a man of 40 (£7m), catastrophic lower limb injuries short of amputation to a man of 59 (£3.1m) and mild to moderate brain injury to a woman of 63 (£1.25m).

Recommendations

“William is a determined and dynamic silk.”

“He is forensic in his analysis and has great expertise.”

“He is a leader in the area of serious personal injury. His mastery of dealing with and advising clients is first class.”

“William is eloquent and has brilliant writing. He can make complex situations simple.”

Chambers and Partners 2024

“Will is a sharp and very accomplished advocate. He is very strong on rehabilitation and achieves the best results for his clients both in terms of outcome and settlement.”

The Legal 500 2024

“He has an ability to simplify very complex situations and a very good manner with clients. He is very responsive.”

Chambers and Partners 2023

‘William has good attention to details, a very good manner with clients, is very responsive, is calm and precise, and robust with opponents when needed. He is second to none as a KC.’

The Legal 500 2023

“He is second to none and very responsive. He has an absolutely charming manner with clients and a lovely advocacy manner. He always gets the best for the client.” “He gets into the detail of cases very well and is very clear in his advice.”

Chambers and Partners 2022

“A calm and reassuring presence in even the most challenging of cases.”

The Legal 500 2022

“Very fair and has a great presence in court.” “He has a very good manner with clients and is able to explain complex concepts in a succinct and accessible way.”

Chambers and Partners 2021

“He has a tremendous manner with clients and legal colleagues; superb attention to detail; always accessible and incredibly responsive.”

The Legal 500 2021

“William’s negotiation style is straight to the point and he does not waste time in playing games. He’s also incredibly approachable and has a very friendly charm.”

“A very down-to-earth and hands-on silk. The level of interaction and support he provides makes even the most complex and challenging of cases far more straightforward, and he’s wonderful with clients.”

Chambers and Partners 2020

“Effortlessly cuts through cases to get to the real issues.”

The Legal 500 2020

“Outstanding – a go-to person on the Northern Circuit for police law.”

Chambers and Partners 2019

“He takes the time to fully explain things and listens carefully to clients, allaying their nervousness with his calm and reassuring manner. He is quick to respond and accessible.”

“He is excellent at dealing with intricate liability issues.”

Chambers and Partners 2019

“A hardworking silk who is charm personified.”

The Legal 500 2018/19

“Noted for his expertise in representing the police in health and safety matters.”

The Legal 500 2018/19

“He is an excellent provincial barrister who can cut the mustard.”

Chambers and Partners 2018

“A first-class QC who is very thorough and brilliant at phrasing things.”

“Able to address very technical points with ease and impart this information to clients with charm and wit.”

Chambers and Partners 2018

“He combines keen insight with a fantastic human touch.”

“His approachable manner belies his tenacity and determination.”

The Legal 500, 2017

“A top-class advocate, he’s very good in the court room.”

“Thorough, analytical, clever. Everything you would expect of a leading QC in the field coupled with a very user-friendly approach and understated manner.”

Chambers and Partners 2017

“A top-class advocate who is very pragmatic and a very easy chap to get along with.”

Chambers and Partners 2017

“An excellent silk with a wealth of experience.”

The Legal 500, 2016

“He is extremely good and relates to clients brilliantly well. He is very patient, thorough and proactive.”

“He is excellent, pragmatic and thorough, with enviable client care skills.”

Chambers and Partners 2016

“He has particular expertise in brain, spine and amputation cases.”

The Legal 500, 2015

“A first rate advocate who you would always want on your side.”

Nick Peel, Senior Partner, Weightmans

“A real team player.”

Roger O’Donnell, Senior Partner, Ward Hadaway

“Has a detailed knowledge and understanding of the issues involved in catastrophic and serious personal injury claims.”

Peter Carson, Solicitor, Member of the editorial team of the Judicial Studies Board Guidelines in Personal Injury Cases

Cases

CXJ – Catastrophic brain injury to a young man who was 17 when injured and is now 28. The Claimant has serious behavioural and other issues, against the backdrop of a pre-existing problems. The solicitor involved, who is highly able and experienced, classes this as one of the most difficult claims he has encountered. (2021)

GXH – Woman of 63 who sustained a subtle brain injury in a car accident. She was left with on-going issues with memory and concentration but, importantly, significant behavioural problems. The Claimant’s experts felt that she probably lacked capacity to deal with her finances, although this was ‘finely balanced’. Expert evidence for the defence suggested the Claimant retained capacity, was being over-provided for and, upon completion of the case, would make a reasonably complete recovery. Settled and approved for £1.25m. (2021)

TXM – Man of 36 at the accident date, knocked from his bicycle by a lorry and rendered paraplegic. He was a highly intelligent man in a well paid job who was keen on any and every sport. Settlement was achieved at £7m on a lump sum basis, the Claimant’s preferred option (Dec 2020).

MNF – Catastrophic and very disabling lower limb and pelvic injuries. A 57 year-old man who was thrown from his motorcycle by a negligent driver who turned across his path and catapulted him into the air. He is in constant pain and is psychologically vulnerable as a result. Settled on a lump sum basis, the Claimant’s preference, at £3.15m (Dec 2020)

MXF – Catastrophic brain injury to 31-year-old Claimant who was riding a motorcycle at excessive speed in a built-up area, under the influence of drugs, and described by independent witnesses as responsible for his own accident. Settlement secured for £1.75m after factoring in contributory fault (likely value of claim £5m+). (2020)

JXH – Catastrophic brain injury. Young man only 12 when knocked from his bicycle by a van. Liability was very much disputed and contributory fault almost inevitable. Real risk of failure on primary liability. Settlement secured and approved at £1.6m. (2020)

AXH – Complex and difficult case involving a catastrophically brain injured young man, only 12 when injured in a car accident and 22 at the date of settlement. The end result was an approved settlement of £9.25m on a lump sum basis. (2020)

XX – Tetraplegia and brain damage. Devastating injuries to a man aged 22 at the date of the accident and 26 at settlement who rejected rehabilitation and had to be coaxed to engage. Compromise reached at £2.2m lump sum and £275,000 annual periodical payments (lump sum equivalent £9.1m) (2017)

SB – Catastrophic spinal injury with brain damage to a man aged 25 at injury, 28 at settlement. Dispute as to whether the Claimant was wearing a seatbelt was resolved in his favour. Housing and care claims complex. Capacity raised difficult issues impacting upon damages. Compromise reached at £6.7m (2016)

X – On-going litigation involving a young man who was involved in a collision when riding an off-road motorcycle on the highway as a consequence of which he sustained catastrophic brain injury. Liability was hotly contested but compromised at 60/40 in the Claimant's favour, approved by the court. Case value as yet unknown but likely to be in excess of £5m. (2016)

SX – Young man aged 15 when he was catastrophically injured as an unbelted rear seat car passenger, and 28 at date of settlement. Difficult issues surrounding care and case management because Claimant could never see a time when his family would not look after him. Over time, and with sensitive handling, resolution reached. Liability compromised at 80% in Claimant's favour and settlement at £2.8m (2015)

EF – Spinal and brain injuries to a man aged 65 when he was knocked down by a car and 69 at settlement. He was reluctant to move from a house which was wholly unsuited to his needs but in which he had lived for much of his life. The care package was limited by his rejection of increasing amounts of assistance. Compromise was reached at £2.1m (2015)

AMM – Lower leg amputee who had made huge efforts post-accident to return to work and whose care needs were tolerably limited. The question of future losses was complex and fraught with litigation risk as the Claimant wished to manage alone for as long as possible. Settled for £1.6m. (2015)

AMP – Claim for a man aged 35 at the accident date and 40 at settlement catastrophically

injured in a motorcycle accident. Considerable battle on accommodation and the case settled for £3.5m, including an element of damages to reflect a second house move. (2014)

Wilkinson v Churchill Insurance and Evans v Equity Insurance (2012) EWCA

Civ 1166 - Represented Ms Evans in a case that was compromised shortly before it reached the Supreme Court. The Claimant successfully argued that section 151 (8) of the Road Traffic Act 1988 was incompatible with European Directives, with the result that the Court of Appeal created a new hybrid species of “fault” in which a person will suffer a deduction in damages for allowing an uninsured driver to drive their vehicle. Section 151 of the Act had previously permitted insurers to deny compensation in such cases.

Publications

Assistant Editor – “The Fight for Justice” (Bill Braithwaite QC)

Beyond the Bar

Outside work, Will is a keen aviator, having obtained his Private Pilot’s Licence in 1991. He has been playing acoustic guitar and singing since his teenage years, something he continues to enjoy. A passionate supporter of, and season ticket holder at Everton he attended his first game at Goodison Park in 1962. Before qualifying as a barrister, he spent 6 years working in commercial radio as a broadcaster and manager and, following his return to the law, continued to broadcast as the “anchor” on Radio City, Liverpool’s award winning Saturday afternoon sports show. He has maintained his links with radio and is regularly invited to contribute to programmes as a newspaper reviewer and legal commentator.