

Christopher Allen

Call 2012



Clerks' Details

- Sarah Rotherham
- 0151 242 8887

Memberships

- Northern Circuit
- Personal Injury Bar Association

Education

- LLB (Hons) Law, Hatfield College, University of Durham (Class 2(i) – June 2003)
- Legal Practice Course, College of Law, Chester (June 2005)
- Admitted as a Solicitor of England and Wales – March 2006
- Higher Rights of Audience (All Proceedings) – April 2009
- Called to the Bar by Lincoln's Inn – March 2012

Beyond the Bar

Away from work, Chris is married with two young children. He is a keen follower and player of all sport especially football, tennis and squash. He is an infrequent visitor to the gym and the holder of a thoroughly deserved high handicap in golf. Chris is a keen sailor and is a qualified RYA Day Skipper.

Practice Overview

Chris practices exclusively in catastrophic / serious injury. His practice encompasses all means of drafting, advisory work and court appearances, and he has particularly adept at drafting large schedules of loss in cases involving spinal injuries, brain injuries, amputees, fatal accidents and otherwise catastrophic injuries including schedules exceeding £10 million. He drafts schedules in Word, Excel and via PI Calculator according to his instructing solicitor's preference.

He is instructed as sole counsel in cases pleaded up to £2 million and often as led junior in cases worth in excess of £2 million. He has been involved in finalising multiple multi-million-pound settlements in the last year including a £17.5 million settlement (see attached list of cases for examples). He appears frequently against Queens Counsel and has considerable experience in obtaining substantial interim payments after contested applications.

Significant areas of expertise are:

- Catastrophic injuries – brain / spinal / amputees
- Cases involving Fatal Accidents Act 1976 and Law Reform (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1934
- Military Claims including psychiatric injuries, NFI and other very serious injuries
- Interim payments
- Costs inc. MOJ
- Appeals

Chris is also regarded as a costs specialist who regularly achieves very favourable budgets at CCMC's. He is regularly engaged in technical costs arguments including premature issue and/or unreasonable exit from the MOJ portal process as well as the application of the fixed cost regime particularly in cases which settle before allocation to the

multi-track even if the settlement exceeds the fast-track limit. He has experience in making applications under CPR 45.29J. In addition, Chris is considered by many to be a specialist in dealing with technical arguments and preliminary issues such as abuse of process, limitation and insurance indemnity.

He has an extensive practice in military claims acting only for Claimant. He fully understands the nuances of the military structure, of establishing career projections and pension loss calculation. He has successfully settled many claims involving NCFI's at joint settlement meetings and has experience of dealing with other very serious injuries involving military personnel.

Chris also regularly undertakes professional negligence actions for and against firms of solicitors who have been involved in alleged negligence arising out of personal-injury matters.

Chris is friendly and approachable. He encourages solicitors to contact him directly by telephone or email at all stages of litigation even before formal instructions have been sent. He maintains a comprehensive and updated database of experts and welcomes the opportunity to recommend suitable experts at an early stage.