

Ceri Widdett



Call 1994



Clerks

 Ian Spencer
 0113 203 1971

 Nicole Luna
 0113 203 1975

 Megan Hawke
 0113 203 1985

Appointments

- Equality and Human Rights Commission preferred panel of Counsel

Memberships

- Employment Law Bar Association
- Personal Injury Bar Association

Education

- BA (Hons) Keele University (Class II.i, 1993)
- Bar Vocational Course, BPP Law School (Very Competent, 1994)
- Wansbrough Willey Hargrave Scholarship, Keele University (1994-1996)

Personal Injury

Ceri undertakes all aspects of personal injury work but has a particular specialism in Highways Act claims. She regularly acts on behalf of both Local Authorities and claimants and has been instructed by Leeds City Council for a number of years.

Ceri further specialises in estoppel, occupational stress at work claims, RTAs, civil motor fraud, defective premises, occupiers' liability, accidents at work, and detailed costs hearings. She is recommended in Chambers and Partners (2017) as a leader in the field of stress at work.

Personal Injury Cases

Robinson v West Yorkshire Police Court of Appeal

The case involved alleged negligence by police officers whilst carrying out their duties and the relevance of the immunity principle in *Hill v Chief Constable of West Yorkshire* [1988] 2 WLR 1049. Judgment was handed down in February 2014.

Campbell v Leeds United AFC

[2009] EW Misc 4 (EWCC) 3 April 2009 Ceri represented the Claimant in direct race and sex discrimination claims. Further represented the Claimant in the High Court in a claim for Occupational Stress at Work. She successfully argued issue estoppel in the Claimant's favour.

Leeds City Council

(LTL 5/10/2007). Highways Act claim.

Fazal Begum v Leeds City Council

(LTL 3/10/2007). Highways Act claim.

Recommendations

Chambers and Partners

"Very experienced in discrimination cases." (2018)

"Clients always love her approach as it gets to the root of the issues in a no-nonsense manner." "Her conduct in the tribunal is impeccable and of the highest standard." (2017)

"She's reliably consistent, she has a brain the size of a planet and she's particularly good at health type cases." "She comes across well with clients and tells it like it is." (2016)

"Ceri Widdett of Exchange Chambers focuses on proceedings relating to discrimination issues. She frequently acts for health authorities. Strengths: "She is able to adapt her style and approach. She is prompt and very able in any issue." (2015)

“Has a wide practice that covers all aspects of employment law, with a particular focus on discrimination matters. She also receives regular instructions on claims relating to stress at work, whistleblowing.” (2014)

“...particularly excels in discrimination law.” (2013)

“...impresses with her particular expertise in discrimination law matters.” (2012)

“...a solicitor’s favourite” and “is always on top of a case and has a very clear understanding of the law.” (2010)

The Legal 500

Since 2004, Ceri has been annually cited in the Legal 500 as a recommended specialist in Employment Law.

“Highly recommended for discrimination and whistleblowing matters.” (2018/19)

“Very experienced in discrimination cases.” (2017)

“A specialist in discrimination claims.” (2016)

“She is a fighter, and is good with clients”. (2015)

“...an extremely skilled, confident and tenacious advocate who keeps a cool head in the tribunal”. (2013)

Publications

“Quick fire questions and answers on Shared Parental Leave”, mothersmeanbusiness.co.uk (2016)

“The Facts – Statutory Maternity Leave”, mothersmeanbusiness.co.uk (2016)

“Managing Sickness Absence”, Cascade (August 2016)
<https://www.cascadehr.co.uk/effective-absence-management-2016>

“Whistleblowing – New Challenges for Employers”, Local Government Lawyer, 7th March 2013

Justifying Treatment and Other Stories – Tameside and Glossop Acute Services NHS Trust v CM (A Patient), Feminist Legal Studies, Vol V, No 1, 1997

Beyond the Bar

Recent Seminars

“How to manage long-term sickness absence in the workplace”, (December 2016)

“Sexual Harassment in the workplace: raising voices and developing strategies”, (June 2016)

“Stress at work claims: how to avoid the pitfalls”, (May 2016)

“Estoppel Pitfalls for Employment and Personal Injury Lawyers”, (March 2015)

“Police negligence: Answering a call for help but at what cost?” (March 2014)

“Stress and Mental Health in the Workplace”, Unite Regional Equality Conference, (Nov 2013)

“Redundancy and Dismissal: Shaping New Law into Highly Developed Advice for Employers, “How do you identify suitable alternative employment and what happens when there are limited roles and the rights of different groups conflict, for example, disabled employees and those on maternity leave? How do you deal with employees who are off sick and refusing to engage in the redundancy process and/or claiming that the process itself is making them unwell?” Whitepaper Conference (Nov 2013)

Webinars

“Maternity, paternity and shared (grand) parental leave”, Personnel today (October 2016)

<http://www.personneltoday.com/hr/maternity-paternity-and-shared-grandparental-leave-webinar/>

“Managing long-term sickness absence”, Personnel Today (July 2016)

<http://www.personneltoday.com/hr/leave-absence-managing-attendance-fairly-demand-webinar/> (July 2016)