



## Adrian Palmer QC

Silk 1992; Call 1972

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### Practice

#### Commercial

#### Personal Injuries

#### Commercial

- Contract
- Sale of goods
- Insurance
- Restraint of trade
- Professional negligence of solicitors, valuers, financial service providers.

#### Recent commercial cases:

*Abeles and Others v Equitable Life Assurance Society* – Group action on behalf of about 400 claimants for mis-selling of annuities over a period of years, 2005-2007.

Various actions on behalf of both financial advisers and investors arising from alleged mis-selling of financial products, 2000-2006.

*London North Securities v Meadows* [2005] EWCA Civ 956 – Interpretation and application of Consumer Credit Act and Regulations for moneylending purposes.

*Reliance v GSSC of Europe Ltd* – Breach of commercial contract for supply of services to Home Office - claim for damages in excess of £10m. - case settled in 2001 after (successful) trial of preliminary issues.

*Gorham v BT & Standard Life* [2000] 1WLR 2129 – Duty of care owed by financial services provider to third party.

*Cocking v Prudential Life Assurance* (1996) CLC 692 – Right of claimants to proceed to court instead of submission to compensation scheme.

#### Personal Injuries

Catastrophic injuries:

- Numerous catastrophic injury cases completed and ongoing, concerning both spinal and brain injuries.
- All aspects of liability and quantum.

#### Recent personal injuries cases:

Advice and settlement of cases involving (a) complex issues of public funding; and (b) periodical payments and new forms of indexation.

*Norwich Union Insurance v Manchester CC and Southampton City PCT* – Judicial review application for review of public funding in specific personal injuries case, 2006.



*McMinn v McMinn* [2006] EWHC 827 (QB) – Insurers right to refuse indemnity under s.151(4) Road Traffic Act 1988.

*Sheppard v Stibbe* [2004] 1WLR 251 – Acted for respondents in conjoined appeals concerning method of computation of damages for future loss.

*Anderton v Clwyd CC* [2002] 1WLR 3174 – Acted for respondents in conjoined appeals concerning interpretation of CPR as to service of documents.

*Fallan v Sarafian*, February 2003 – Completion on behalf of claimant of successful claim for negligent prescription of Iarium by GP.

*Galloway v North Bristol NHS Trust*, January 2001 – Completion on behalf of claimant of successful contested claim for negligent treatment of brain injury.

*Lee v Taunton & Somerset NHS Trust* [2000] FLR 419 – Acted for Claimants in two failed screening cases, including.

Acted for claimants in two birth injury cases settled during 2000-2002 (each worth in excess of £1.5m). Plus other cases ongoing.

*Brock v Frenchay Healthcare NHS Trust* – Contested claim for c.£2m, alleging negligent treatment in A&E department and negligent administration of drug in connection with neurosurgery. Successfully defended in High Court (1998) and CA (1999).

### **Education:**

Bristol University LL.M  
St John's College, Cambridge MA (Mathematics and Law)  
Clifton College, Bristol

### **Pupillage:**

11 Old Square, Lincolns Inn  
Guildhall Chambers

### **Appointments:**

Recorder  
Deputy High Court Judge

### **Professional memberships:**

PNBA  
PIBA

### **Articles:**

"*The order for periodical payments: a suggested form*", Kemp News October 2005

"*Computation of Damages for Future Loss: Additional Inflation*", All England Legal Opinion, December 2003

"*Late Service of Claim Forms*", All England Legal Opinion, January 2003

"*Service of Claim Forms*", All England Legal Opinion, September 2002

"*Failure to wear a seatbelt and contributory negligence*", JPIL June 2001

"*Duty of care: The buck stops here*", Trusts & Estates Law Journal Feb 2001

"*Failed sterilization cases after McFarlane v Tayside*", JPIL, March 2000



"The Competition Act explained", *Palmer's Company Law "In Focus"*, Jan 1998

"Withdrawal of treatment - The emergency case", *Fam Law* 1995, 195

Numerous articles in "Guildhall Chambers Commercial News" and "Guildhall Chambers Personal Injuries News"

## **Directory Recommendations:**

### **Chambers UK 2011**

Commercial

Adrian Palmer QC is another stellar name on the Western circuit. He is widely recognised for his attention to detail and his outstanding written work. "He is rigorous, bright, analytical and able to handle a wide range of commercial disputes," according to peers. His areas of expertise include insurance, professional negligence and sale of goods disputes.

Personal Injury

This set houses top personal injury silk Adrian Palmer QC, who is considered to be a "first-rate, gentlemanly barrister who approaches his cases with great diligence." He regularly handles high-value personal injury cases, and recently acted for Aviva in a Consumer Protection Act claim which was pleaded at over £9 million.

### **Chambers UK 2010**

Commercial

Adrian Palmer QC is a "*rigorously analytical performer*" Who strongly reassures his clients. They value his exceptional ability to handle figures, and acclaim him as a real force in the financial services field. His areas of expertise span contract, trade, insurance and professional negligence matters.

Personal Injury

Adrian Palmer QC "*an effective court performer with enviable advocacy skills.*" He has an impressive track record and is one of the most in-demand personal injury skills of the moment.

### **Chambers UK 2009**

Commercial

Adrian Palmer QC is hailed as an "*outstanding practitioner.*" Over the past year he has continued his involvement in the major group action against Equitable Life, which recently reached a favourable conclusion for the clients.

Personal Injury

Guildhall Chambers' extremely talented cast of individuals includes Adrian Palmer QC, "*a dominating presence on the local scene*" who is "*always exquisitely well prepared.*" He has a fantastic intellect and frequently acts for insurers.

### **Legal 500 2010**

Commercial

Adrian Palmer QC is 'superb on detail and an excellent advocate'.

### **Legal 500 2009**

Commercial

Adrian Palmer QC who "*brought mathematical skills and an impressive attention to detail to a case of actuarial complexity*".

### **Legal 500 2008**

Commercial

Guildhall Chambers' Adrian Palmer QC and financial services expert John Virgo recently saw the conclusion of the group action against Equitable Life.



**Interests:**

Gardening  
Sheep  
Walking  
Tennis

**Clerks:**

For Commercial please contact Dan Cuthbertson ([dan.cuthbertson@guildhallchambers.co.uk](mailto:dan.cuthbertson@guildhallchambers.co.uk))

For Personal Injuries please contact either:

Alastair Campbell ([alastair.campbell@guildhallchambers.co.uk](mailto:alastair.campbell@guildhallchambers.co.uk)); or

Maggie Pearce ([maggie.pearce@guildhallchambers.co.uk](mailto:maggie.pearce@guildhallchambers.co.uk))

**CFA:**

Yes