

*NICHOLAS DAVIDSON QC

CALL: 1974

SILK: 1993

"A master of brevity, who sees the whole picture but doesn't miss the detail. The very definition of a legal eagle."

Email: nicholas.davidson@guildhallchambers.co.uk

Tel: 0117 930 9000



Nicholas joined Guildhall as a door tenant in June 2022, and is an experienced barrister in commercial practices and professional liability.

PRACTICE AREAS

- Lawyers' Liability
 - Financial practitioners' liability
 - Insurance, corporate governance, and general common law
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LAWYERS' LIABILITY

Nicholas has decades of experience of claims against lawyers, both on the claimants' side and on the defendants' side, and this has taken him around the full spectrum of the law and to the highest Courts (e.g. *AIB v Mark Redler & Co* in the Supreme Court).

In recent years he has been involved in claims relating to problems over executive bonus arrangements, senior employee exit payments, Stamp Duty Land Tax, the administration of a potentially insolvent Estate, the flotation on AIM of an overseas business, loss of an option to acquire a freehold interest, and criticisms of the way in which lawyers have conducted litigation and arbitration. A frequent issue in this area of law is Limitation.

FINANCIAL PRACTITIONERS' LIABILITY

Nicholas also has decades of experience of such claims. This included the remarkable and successful claim by Harlequin Property against accountants Wilkins Kennedy. He is particularly interested in claims against investment professionals (in which predominantly he has acted for claimants rather than defendants), not least the extent to which risks are accurately identified and explained to clients and investments made in line with client expectation. More than 20 years' experience as a D.B. pension trustee reflects his interest in the subject.

INSURANCE, CORPORATE GOVERNANCE, AND GENERAL COMMON LAW

Nicholas has particular experience of issues as to professional indemnity insurance (including experience as an arbitrator), but also other general experience of insurance matters. He has been concerned with matters of corporate governance at the highest level (the executive bonus arrangements at Newcastle International Airport; a top-level governance fracture at one of Europe's largest private companies; the governance of the National Union of Mineworkers, for whom he acted against its former President, Mr Arthur Scargill). There is a wide overlap between his lawyers' liability practice and general commercial, contract-based work.

APPOINTMENTS:

Deputy High Court Judge (until 2021)

Directions Judge, Bar Tribunals and Adjudication Service

Pension Trustee, Inner Temple Defined Benefit Scheme

MEMBERSHIPS:

Bar European Group

British Insurance Law Association

Chancery Bar Association

Commercial Bar Association

Financial Services Law Association

Professional Negligence Bar Association (past Chairman)

Society for Computers and Law

EDUCATION:

Cambridge University (Economics Part I, Law Part II)

Guildhall Chambers, 23 Broad Street, Bristol BS1 2HG Tel: 0117 930 9000 DX: 7823 Bristol

nicholas.davidson@guildhallchambers.co.uk | www.guildhallchambers.co.uk