Conor Kennedy

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Conor Kennedy has a busy civil, commercial and regulatory practice, and enjoys working closely with professional and lay clients to provide clear and user-friendly advice.

Conor has extensive experience of advocacy in the County Court and the High Court, as well as in regulatory and employment tribunals. Much of his work involves a cross-border element. Conor regularly provides training and seminars to professional clients on all areas of his practice.

Outside of work, Conor enjoys cycling and travelling, often in combination.

Areas of Expertise

Commercial & Chancery

Commercial and Chancery

Conor has acted in a range of commercial disputes and enjoys working closely solicitors and lay clients to facilitate their commercial priorities. Recent work has included securing an interim freezing injunction following an unfair prejudice petition, securing interim injunctions in relation to a suspected breach of commercial confidence, and advising on a cross-border carried interest dispute.

Conor acts in a wide range of property disputes and appeared as sole counsel for the appellant in the High Court on an appeal involving a claim for a beneficial interest under a resulting trust (***Tahir v Faizi*** [2019] EWHC 1627 (QB)). He regularly advises in relation to commercial and residential property disputes, with a recent emphasis on TOLATA claims, and aims to provide concise and pragmatic advice.

Probate

Conor regularly act on contentious probate matters, often with a cross-border element or involving sensitive family disputes, and is adept at advising on all aspects of probate litigation.

Construction

Conor advises in relation to construction disputes and has a particular interest in claims relating to safety defects under the Defective Premises Act 1972 and other remedies under the Building Safety Act 2022, as well as general professional negligence claims. Conor also advises on the often complex insurance aspects of such claims, generally and in the context of contractor or developer insolvency.

Conor has a substantial practice advising and acting in health and safety disputes arising out of the construction industry, and is instructed by claimants, employers, occupiers and insurers alike.

He is regularly instructed in serious accident claims that occur on construction sites and in workplace claims generally, including falls from height, lifting operations involving cranes and other machinery, and structural failures. Conor is comfortable handling the engineering and expert evidence that such claims turn on.

A significant part of his work involves complex, multi-defendant litigation in which responsibility is contested between principal contractors, sub-contractors, employers, occupiers and their respective insurers. He has considerable experience of the apportionment and contribution issues such claims generate, and of the interplay between primary liability, occupiers' liability, indemnity and subrogated recovery.

Conor appeared as sole counsel for the successful claimant in the case of ***Allard v Govia Thameslink Railway Ltd [2024] EWHC 2227 (KB)***, which concerned exposure to prohibited chemical substances and consequential losses.

Professional Negligence

Conor regularly acts in professional negligence claims. Recent work has focused on claims against surveyors for alleged negligence and/or breach of contract. He is adept at advising on all stages of claims against professionals, including on pre-action steps, disclosure, on the need for expert evidence, and on quantification of loss.

Travel & Cross Border Claims

Conor acts regularly in cross border claims in contract and tort, and has extensive experience of difficult issues of jurisdiction, applicable law, and expert evidence as to foreign law, applicable standards, and forensic accounting.

He appeared in the recent High Court case of ***Troke v Amgen Seguros Generales Compania de Seguros y Reaseguros SAU*** [2020] EWHC 2976 (QB) involving the question of applicable law on interest rates.

Conor regularly presents seminars on this developing area of law, which have recently focused on the uncertainties of the post-Brexit landscape for claims.

Regulatory & Disciplinary

On completion of pupillage, Conor spent 18 months seconded to the NMC where he gained extensive experience as counsel in multi-day trials involving a wide range of allegations, ranging from fraud and mismanagement to clinical concerns.

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He subsequently gained wider regulatory experience by way of secondment to the Financial Conduct Authority where he worked on investigations into financial advisors and UCITS funds.

Conor appreciates the significance of regulatory proceedings for professionals and their clients, and enjoys working with them to achieve the best possible outcomes.

Personal Injury

Conor has extensive experience of personal injury litigation, acting for local authorities, insurers, and claimants. He is regularly instructed at an early stage of proceedings to advise on general strategy, including on aspects of expert evidence, requests for specific disclosure, Part 18 requests, and settlement/Part 36 offers.

Education

- MA Law, University of Oxford
- BPTC, BPP Law School

Notable Cases

- Troke v Amgen [2020] EWHC 2976 (QB)
- Tahir v Faizi [2019] EWHC 1627 (QB)

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