



## James Ayliffe QC

Call: 1987

QC: 2008

jayliffe@wilberforce.co.uk

### Clerks' Details

Fraser Geddes +44 (0)20 7306 0102  
Andrew Barnes tcsqc@wilberforce.co.uk  
Luke Farmer  
Nick Redmond

### Qualifications and Appointments

- First in Philosophy Politics & Economics  
New College, Oxford
- Distinction in Diploma of Law.  
City University, London

## “Superb at anything”

Chambers & Partners 2014

### Publications

- [Hill and Redman's Law of Landlord and Tenant](#) (2014)  
Specialist Editor

### Memberships

- Chancery Bar Association
- COMBAR
- Commercial Fraud Lawyers Association
- Insolvency Lawyers Association
- Professional Negligence Bar Association
- Property Bar Association
- Member of the Bar of the British Virgin Islands

### Practice Overview

James is a highly experienced QC with a broad commercial/financial practice.

He provides advice and advocacy services across a range of fields including banking, company, insolvency, financial services, civil fraud and asset tracing, joint venture/partnership, professional negligence, real estate and contentious trust matters.

His practice is marked by determination to achieve the best outcome for his clients, mental agility, attention to detail and sound practical judgment.

Much of his work has an international flavour, involving jurisdictions as diverse as the BVI, Cayman Islands, Channel Islands, Cyprus, South Africa, Isle of Man, Gibraltar, New York and Ukraine.

His work also includes acting as an arbitrator, mediator or expert.

He has been recommended for many years in the legal directories (*Chambers & Partners*, *Chambers Global* and/or *The Legal 500*) for:

- Commercial Dispute Resolution (Chancery)
- Banking & Finance
- Real Estate Litigation
- Professional Liability
- International & Offshore.

Among the comments that have been made of him in the directories are: "superb", "excellent", "a fine barrister with a charming manner", "very good with clients", "a first rate intellect with a user-friendly manner that engenders confidence", "has the ability to digest information and advise coherently on the most complex of legal arguments", "an excellent communicator who provides supremely intelligent advice", "very confident in implementing the advice he gives", "a real specialist", "his advocacy is fantastic and he is able to sway the judge's mind", "a great guy to work with", "fantastic", "dynamic", "level-headed and focused", "easy to deal with", "always on top of his cases", "a splendid understated style", "held in high regard", "widely respected", "meriting the most notable compliments", "a team player", "intellectually tough", "will stand up to anyone", and "a star of the commercial Bar".



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## Banking & Finance

James is frequently involved in banking and finance cases and is ranked in The Legal 500 for work in the field. Areas covered by him include:

- loan agreements;
- mortgages, charges and other forms of security (e.g. guarantees, bills of sale, performance bonds);
- appointment of receivers;
- bondholder disputes;
- syndication disputes;
- investment management disputes;
- disputes and issues arising out of settlement and clearing services;
- advice/ 'misselling' claims;
- claims against professional advisers.

### Some representative cases include:

- acting for court-appointed representative noteholder in proceedings by security trustee of £1bn securitisation structure for directions;
- advising borrowers on several substantial interest rate swap and other hedging instrument 'misselling' claims;
- acting for borrower under £60m investment loan facility in dispute arising out of alleged breaches of LTV covenants;
- acting for bank on claim to recover losses on a property development loan facility;
- acting for UK property group on multi-million pound claim against its principal bankers for duress and intimidation arising out of withdrawal of £100m loan facilities;
- advising Irish bank regarding issues arising out of the winding up of its deposit-taking business;
- acting on a dispute regarding the priority of equitable charges in favour of different lenders;
- acting on successful strike out of high profile claim arising out of allegedly wrongful enforcement of a mortgage over the largest stately home in England;
- acting for defendant to £50m claim arising out of financing arrangements in respect of the development of a shopping centre;
- advising bank regarding enforceability of 'shared appreciation mortgages' (SAMs); and
- advising department store regarding £100m claim against bank in respect of breaches of agreement regarding branded store and credit cards.