



## Jonathan Davey QC

Call: 2003

QC: 2016

[jdavey@wilberforce.co.uk](mailto:jdavey@wilberforce.co.uk)

*“Incredible eloquence,  
reassuring client manner  
and impressive breadth of  
expertise”*

### Memberships

- Chancery Bar Association
- Property Bar Association
- Commercial Bar Association
- Commercial Fraud Lawyer's Association
- Association of Pension Lawyers
- Bar Pro Bono Panel

### Publications

- [Butterworths Property Law Handbook](#), 10th Edition 2013

### Practice Overview

Jonathan was appointed QC in 2016.

He was shortlisted for "Chancery Junior of the Year" at the Chambers Bar Awards in 2015.

He was shortlisted for "Property Junior of the Year" at the Chambers Bar Awards in 2014.

Prior to taking silk, Jonathan served on the Attorney General's A Panel of Counsel to the Crown, the most senior of the 3 Crown Panels. Before being appointed to the A Panel, Jonathan also served on the B and C Panels (10 years' AG panel experience in total).

Jonathan is a highly respected litigator with a broad commercial chancery practice encompassing areas including commercial, real estate, trusts, financial, revenue and professional liability.

He has considerable experience, in particular, of large-scale and high-value litigation in cases which involve more than one field of law. He is regularly instructed in complex tax litigation, and is currently involved in the high profile Ingenious litigation and Icebreaker litigation, both of which are in the national press, the latter under the headline "Taxman us Take That".

Jonathan is a highly persuasive advocate, with considerable experience both as a trial lawyer and as an appellate advocate. As well as appearing in the higher courts, Jonathan frequently appears across a range of tribunals including the Tax and Chancery Chamber of the Upper Tribunal.

Jonathan regularly appears in the legal directories (*Chambers & Partners*, *Chambers Global* and/or *The Legal 500*) as a leading practitioner in various areas:

- Real estate
- Private client / Tax
- Private wealth

Comments that have been made of him in the directories include: "a key figure", "hugely respected", "impressive", "phenomenally intelligent", "charming and effective", "user friendly", "practical", "an accomplished advocate", "incredibly eloquent", "an excellent draftsman", "reassuring client manner", "impressive breadth of expertise", and "handles complex litigation matters with aplomb".

### Clerks' Details

Colin Everson [tcjqcsj@wilberforce.co.uk](mailto:tcjqcsj@wilberforce.co.uk)  
Robert Johnstone +44 (0)20 7306 0102  
Billie Poppy  
Maisie Taylor

### Qualifications and Appointments

- First Class Honours degree, Philosophy, University of Nottingham
- Distinction, International Relations MA, University of Nottingham
- MPhil, Downing College, Cambridge University
- CPE, City University, London
- Denning, Mansfield, Bowen and Hardwicke Scholarships, Lincoln's Inn
- Commercial experience in United Kingdom, Europe and United States prior to being called to the Bar
- Attorney General's Panel of Counsel to the Crown (B Panel)



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## Commercial

Jonathan is greatly experienced in the commercial sphere. This is based both on his commercial dispute practice at the Bar and his time in business in the UK, continental Europe and the USA prior to coming to the Bar.

Jonathan took silk in 2016, before which he was shortlisted for "Chancery Junior of the Year" at the Chambers Bar Awards 2015 on the basis of his exceptional commercial chancery work.

Jonathan's commercial practice is broad. This reflects his "**impressive breadth of his expertise**" (Chambers & Partners) and the fact that he is recommended in the legal directories across a range of fields (including real estate; private client / tax; private wealth). Jonathan's commercial practice embraces disputes involving partnerships, companies, joint venture agreements and high value property transactions. It also includes disputes involving rare artwork and other cultural items. Many of Jonathan's commercial and business cases involve complex financial and/or tax issues.

### Some representative cases include:

- A number of high value arbitrations concerning complex contractual disputes between well-known UK business entities [2015-2016]
- *Ingenious and Others v HMRC* [2015]: £1bn dispute regarding proper commercial and tax analysis to apply in respect of partnerships involved in the film and games industries (with Malcolm Gammie QC).
- *Camden Market Holdings Inc v IBRC* [2014]: Dispute concerning rights under complex security arrangements in respect of assets worth £400m (with Antony Zaccaroli QC).
- *Icebreaker and Others v HMRC* [2014] UKFTT 416 (TC): £400m dispute regarding proper commercial and tax treatment of limited liability partnerships involved in the creative industries.
- *Century Projects Limited v Almacantar (Centre Point) Limited* [2014] EWHC 394 (Ch): High value commercial property dispute in respect of rights relating to iconic central London property, Centre Point Tower on New Oxford Street (with Jonathan Gaunt QC).
- *Secretary of State for Justice v Topland Group and others* [2012]: £25m commercial fraud dispute in respect of a transaction involving substantial central London business premises (with Simon Browne- Wilkinson QC and Philip Brook-Smith QC).
- Acting for the defendants in Cayman-based Re Jahre litigation involving claims for US\$250m alleged to belong to Norwegian shipping tycoon (with Camilla Bingham).
- *Re Mazarelli* - High-value international dispute concerning rights of ownership in respect of allegedly stolen medieval Italian literature and artwork.