



Jonathan Hilliard QC

Call: 2003

QC: 2016

jhilliard@wilberforce.co.uk

“A rising star”

The Legal 500

Memberships

- Sits on Trust Law Committee
- Sits on APL Litigation Subcommittee
- Chancery Bar Association
- APL
- STEP Contentious Trusts and Estates Interest Group
- Commercial Bar Association

Practice Overview

Jonathan has a broad trusts and commercial practice. Much of his time is spent on private, pension and other commercial trust disputes and fraud disputes, both on and offshore. His litigation often takes him into other areas of law, and he has significant experience of cases with family, regulatory, insolvency and public law elements. He also has a significant advisory practice across this spectrum of work.

He very much enjoys the challenge of breaking down complex issues into simple, clear points and the advocacy involved in litigation, both oral and written.

He is ranked in band 1 for each of the trusts, traditional chancery and pensions categories in Chambers and Partners 2016, and band 2 for offshore work. He is ranked in The Legal 500, 2014 for trusts, commercial litigation, civil fraud and pensions.

He has been described by Legal 500 as **“a pensions star”**, and Chambers and Partners describing him as **“exceptionally talented”** and **“hugely intelligent”**. Chambers and Partners says (in relation to trusts) that **“He is excellent at making a complicated case seem simple for a judge and he comfortably holds his own when up against much more senior counsel”**, (in relation to traditional chancery) that he is **“One of the brightest barristers around. He is incredibly responsive, makes himself available, and is very user-friendly”**, and (in relation to offshore) that **“he is a real star in the making”**.

The latest edition of Chambers Global commented that he **“will undoubtedly be a big name for offshore work”** in years to come and has a **“flourishing reputation”**.

He was previously listed as one of the 10 stars of the junior commercial and chancery bar in Legal Week, who described him as **“absolutely brilliant: lots of brain power- impresses solicitors and silks alike”** and stated that **“he completely outflanks some senior members of the Bar”**, while he has been listed as one of the 10 future stars of the Bar in The Times, which commented that **“he has it all- no wonder he’s in demand”**.

He was shortlisted for **ACTAPS Contentious Barrister of the Year 2014-2015**.

He is the youngest member of the Trust Law Committee.

Clerks' Details

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Billie Poppy

Qualifications and Appointments

- MA in Law, University of Cambridge (1st in year)
- LLM in Law, University of Cambridge (1st in year; starred first; highest ever mark in Advanced Trust Law, first place in tax and restitution)
- Number of other university and college prizes, including Chancellor's Medal and Tapp Scholarship
- Taught contract law at Gonville & Caius and Selwyn Colleges, University of Cambridge
- Awarded Denning, Harwicke & Kennedy scholarships by Lincoln's Inn

Publications

- [How to side-step valid trust and corporate structures](#) [2014] Trusts & Trustees 20 (9): 891-929
- Co-author of Protector's and Disclosure chapters in The International Trust and International Trust Law.s
- Co-author (with Dr Janet O'Sullivan, Reader of Law at the University of Cambridge) of *The Law of Contract* (1st-6th editions) (Oxford University Press).
- Co-author of the Pension Scheme Actuaries chapter in *Professional Negligence and Liability looseleaf*.



Professional Liability

Jonathan's professional liability practice focuses particularly on negligence in the context of:

- Trusts
- Pensions (both occupational and personal)
- Actuaries
- Financial services & investment products
- Tax
- Solicitors.

Jonathan regularly appears on his own account in matters involving QCs. By way of example, he is currently involved in a number of ongoing cases against silks.

His work includes both domestic and offshore disputes, a current example of the latter being a Gibraltar case for offshore trustees currently being listed for a 15-20 day trial in 2015.

Ever since his first case as a tenant in Chambers, which concerned a long running accountancy and actuarial negligence dispute over the downfall of Equitable Life, his professional liability work has included a significant financial services element.

He is co-author of the Pension Scheme Actuaries chapter in the Professional Negligence and Liability looseleaf.