



Clare Stanley QC

Call: 1994

QC: 2015

cstanley@wilberforce.co.uk

Clerks' Details

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Qualifications and Appointments

- BA Hons (Cantab) (Law Tripos, Downing College)
- BEc (Adelaide)

“With a very high level of technical ability, she’s able to see a lot of the nuances in the case”

Chambers & Partners 2017

Memberships

- Chancery Bar Association
- COMBAR

Publications

- "Facing the consequences", (2015) T.E.L. & T.J., 171(Nov), 11-15
- Hedge Funds – Can investors recover their losses?, (2008) *Practical Law Company*, December

Practice Overview

Clare's practice focuses heavily on three key areas: commercial / business disputes, professional liability, and private client/trust litigation.

Clare is usually instructed in highly contentious disputes, and provides advice across the range of areas in which she practices, helping clients to achieve their commercial aims without the need to litigate: She has **"a very high level of technical ability, she's able to see a lot of the nuances in the case."** (Chambers & Partners, 2017); **"Clare provides highly intelligent, strategic and commercial advice combined with excellent advocacy skills."** (Chambers & Partners, 2016); **"Commercial in her approach and gutsy when needed; very popular with clients."** (Legal 500, 2015).

Praised for her written and oral advocacy, she is often involved in actions brought onshore and offshore in litigation involving claims for breach of trust and fiduciary duty, cross-border insolvency and **"major fraud cases. She is praised for her grasp of detail and her trusts law expertise...: 'Very practical and very good at bringing people around to see things in a certain way.'"** (Chambers & Partners, 2014).

Clare is equally happy working as part of a wider team or as sole Counsel and is recognised as **"thorough, approachable and excellent in court, she also commands the respect and confidence of lay clients."** (Legal 500, 2015).

Clare is recommended in the directories for:

- Commercial litigation
- Trusts and Probate
- Professional negligence
- Partnership



Professional Liability

Clare specialises in professional liability claims against solicitors, accountants, brokers, directors and trustees.

- Accountants: negligent tax advice, negligent valuations.
- Directors: negligence, breach of fiduciary duty cases, fraud claims, tracing claims.
- Investment professionals: negligence, breach of fiduciary duty cases, fraud claims, tracing claims.
- Property professionals: negligent valuations.
- Solicitors: negligence claims, and also fraud and trust claims against solicitors.
- Trustees and fiduciaries: acts for beneficiaries, third parties, trustees in claims for negligence, breach of fiduciary duty cases, fraud, constructive trusteeship and asset tracing.

Recommendations:

- *"Represents a broad range of professionals in high-value negligence claims, including legal, financial, accountancy and insolvency practitioners. She is often involved in cases featuring highly complex and technical elements, as well as allegations of fraud. "With a very high level of technical ability, she's able to see a lot of the nuances in the case." "Clare provides highly intelligent, strategic and commercial advice."* Chambers & Partners, 2017
- *"Her practice covers a wide range of sophisticated professional negligence matters and she acts for a number of leading law firms. She has a strong track record in claims involving negligent trust, tax and insolvency advice. Strengths: "Clare provides highly intelligent, strategic and commercial advice combined with excellent advocacy skills."* Chambers & Partners, 2016
- *"Thorough, approachable and excellent in court, she also commands the respect and confidence of lay clients."* Legal 500, 2015
- *"Clare has a commercial-trust background and regularly acts in high-profile legal and financial negligence claims. She is noted for her forensic and detailed approach to cases. "An effective cross-examiner" who "gives full and carefully considered advice. She grapples with the minutiae of a case, and puts everything into a commercial context."* Chambers & Partners, 2015
- *"Instructed as a junior in major fraud cases. She is praised for her grasp of detail and her trusts law expertise... very practical and very good at bringing people around to see things in a certain way."* Chambers & Partners, 2014

Recent Cases:

- ***Caliendo v Mischcon de Reya [2015]*** – one of The Lawyer's "Top 20" cases of 2015. Clare acts for the solicitors in a claim in relation to sale of Queen's Park Rangers to Flavio Briatore and Bernie Ecclestone. [Reported in the Court of Appeal on relief from sanctions at [2016] C.P. Rep. 3; [2015] 5 Costs L.R. 849]
- ***Page v Unite the Union & EAD Solicitors LLP*** (settled) – Clare acted for the solicitors in a claim for alleged negligent handling of claims by Union members for equal pay compensation.
- ***Rentokil v Goodman Derrick [2014] EWHC 2994 (Ch)*** – Clare acted for the successful defendant solicitors in this negligence claim for loss of a chance relating to the sale of Rentokil's office premises in Croydon.
- ***Brudenell-Bruce (Earl of Cardigan) v Moore & anor [2015] W.T.L.R. 373*** – Clare acted for the professional trustee in this high profile trial of a negligence claim by the Earl of Cardigan against the trustees of his family's estate.
- ***Challinor v Juliet Bellis (A firm) [2015] EWCA Civ 59; [2015] 2 P. & C.R. DG3*** (Court of Appeal) – Clare acted for the successful defendant solicitors in this failed claim that the firm had received monies from non-client investors in a property investment scheme on trust.



Professional Liability continued

- **Lloyds Bank v Humberts** (settled) – Clare acted for the Bank in this claim against surveyors for negligent overvaluation of boutique hotel business.
- **Park Lane Holdings v Denton Wilde Sapte** (settled) – Clare acted for the defendant solicitors in a claim in relation to alleged negligent drafting of underleases.
- **Southern Rock Insurance Co. Ltd v Endsleigh Insurance** (settled) – high profile negligence action relating to alleged systemic negligence in handling of 56,000 motor vehicle claims.

Other relevant cases:

- Acted for accountants in high-value negligence claim in relation to alleged estate planning advice which created large unintended CGT and IHT charges
- £30 million claim against investment manager relating to mismanagement of portfolio
- Acted for insurers in £50 million claim against offshore trustees for failing to spot fraudulent misappropriations by directors of underlying trading company
- Acted for liquidator in a claim against accountants for negligent undervaluation of the goodwill of the business