



## Jonathan Davey QC

Call: 2003

QC: 2016

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

*“An amazing advocate with a fantastic ability to make the complicated simple.”*

Chambers and Partners 2022

## Memberships

- Chancery Bar Association
- Property Bar Association
- Commercial Bar Association
- Commercial Fraud Lawyer's Association

## Publications

[Butterworths Property Law Handbook 11th Edition \(2018\)](#)

## Practice Overview

Jonathan was appointed Queen's Counsel in 2016 at just 13 years' call. 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; and was shortlisted for *Chambers & Partners' Junior of the Year* award in the areas of Chancery and Real Estate. Since taking Silk, Jonathan's practice has continued to be a broad commercial chancery practice with a particular focus on property, trusts and tax litigation.

Jonathan is a highly respected litigator with considerable experience of complex, large-scale and high-value litigation in cases which involve more than one field of law. An example is the high profile £1 billion *Ingenious* litigation which is currently before the courts. Jonathan has considerable experience of leading large legal teams.

Jonathan is a highly persuasive advocate, with substantial 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 and other dispute resolution forums.

Jonathan is ranked in the legal directories (*Chambers UK, Chambers Global and/or The Legal 500*) in the areas of real estate, tax, private client and charities. Comments that have been made of him in the most recent directories include:

- Real estate: "Very hands-on, user-friendly and accessible." "An absolute pleasure to work with – bright, thorough, well prepared." "An excellent advocate."
- Private client: "A brilliant advocate, excellent with clients, diligent, a leader who will go the extra mile for a client and then some." "Responsive, thoughtful, open-minded. He listens to the client; very collaborative in approach."
- Tax: "A very, very good and extremely eloquent advocate." "Extremely good at explaining things in terms that a non-specialist can understand. He responds very quickly, which is welcome."
- Charities: "Works extremely hard and is very conscientious." "Plans meticulously, meaning he is well-prepared for any question from the court." "Extremely approachable, making him a popular choice with clients."

## Clerks' Details

[practicemanagers@wilberforce.co.uk](mailto:practicemanagers@wilberforce.co.uk)  
+44 (0)20 7306 0102

## 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 UK, USA and Europe prior to coming to the Bar
- Attorney General's Panel of Counsel to the Crown (A Panel)



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## Commercial

Jonathan has extensive experience of business and commercial litigation across a range of courts and tribunals. His commercial legal expertise is supplemented by his experience in business in the UK, USA and Europe prior to coming to the Bar. Jonathan's commercial practice is broad, reflecting 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 and private wealth. Key elements within Jonathan's commercial practice include:

### Partnership and company disputes including related tax. For example:

- *Ingenious Film Partners 2 LLP v HMRC* [2019] UKUT 0226 (TCC) – £1.6 billion dispute concerning partnerships involved in the film industry
- *Clark v HMRC* [2018] UKUT 397 (TCC) (Court of Appeal hearing listed for early 2020) – dispute concerning offshore corporate and trust structures used to liberate pension funds
- *Seven Individuals v HMRC* [2017] UKUT 132 (TCC) – multi-million pound dispute concerning partners investing in partnerships involved in the creative industries
- *Acornwood LLP v HMRC* [2016] UKUT 36 (TCC) – £400 million dispute concerning creative industry limited liability partnerships

### Commercial property transactions. For example:

- Acting for high profile public body in commercial dispute in respect of multi-million pound option agreement relating to substantial real estate portfolio [2019].
- Multi-million pound commercial dispute resolved by arbitration concerning the construction of complex contractual arrangements in respect of a real estate portfolio comprising over 1000 commercial properties [2018].
- *Re real estate portfolio of leading UK University* [2017]; Multi-million pound dispute concerning the basis upon which a major UK University holds its real estate portfolio.
- *Camden Market Holdings Inc v IBRC* [2015]; Dispute concerning rights under complex security arrangements in respect of assets worth £400m.
- *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.
- *Secretary of State for Justice v Topland Group* [2013]; £23m commercial fraud dispute in respect of a transaction involving substantial central London business premises. Jonathan acted for the Secretary of State for Justice.

### Rare artwork and other cultural items. For example:

- *Sotheby's, Italian Ministry of Culture and others v Mazzaelli*: Interpleader claim concerning disputed ownership of allegedly stolen medieval Italian religious and cultural manuscripts.
- Acting in dispute regarding ownership rights in relation to significant 17th century (post-Ming, pre-Qing dynasty) Chinese porcelain collection.