



## Jonathan Seitler QC

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QC: 2003

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### Clerk's Details

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### Qualifications and Appointments

- PPE, Pembroke College Oxford
- Diploma in Law with Distinction

*“Unique in finding angles on difficult questions and turning complex arguments into deceptively simple submissions”*

Chambers & Partners 2019

*“An unbelievable brain which he uses to obtain technical and commercial advantages for his clients”*

Legal 500 2019

## Memberships

- Property Bar Association
- Professional Negligence Bar Association
- Standing Conference of Mediators

## Publications

- Claims against Valuers and Solicitors (1996)
- Commercial Property Litigation (looseleaf) (2000)
- Lenders Claims (2006)
- Leases: Covenants and Consent (2009)

## Practice Overview

Jonathan currently stands top of the pile in terms of QCs for heavy and important property litigation and property related professional negligence work. In its 2019 edition, Chambers & Partners said that he is **“... now the leading practitioner in the field and is highly sought after by solicitors and clients”**. **Jonathan's great skill, it remarks, is that he “is unique in finding angles on difficult questions.”**

Jonathan Seitler QC recently won the Legal 500 Award for Real Estate, Environment and Planning Silk of the Year to add to the Chambers & Partners Real Estate Silk of the Year Award which he won on three separate occasions, in 2007, 2010 and 2015. In 2019 Jonathan was ranked as the top silk for Real Estate Litigation in Who's Who Legal.

Jonathan has accomplished these plaudits with a simple approach: his enormous success and enduring popularity has been achieved by immensely hard work, deep attention to detail, speed and decisiveness.

Jonathan is presently involved in many of the leading cases in property litigation and property related professional negligence and is widely respected and admired for bringing to every matter, irrespective of how complex, clarity, commitment and care.

Jonathan is strongly of the view that technical excellence in legal matters can be found quite easily: what makes the difference in terms of a successful lawyer are abilities on top of those – the ability to communicate clearly and effectively with clients and in particular to reflect their commercial objectives; the ability to think strategically about how to counter the move that the enemy is going to make next (even if it hasn't yet thought of it itself); and ultimately, the ability to persuade the court to do something that it wouldn't otherwise do.

Jonathan has been Deputy Head of Chambers at Wilberforce since 2016.



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## Professional Liability

Jonathan's particular speciality is property-related professional negligence.

His practice therefore largely involves claims against solicitors and valuers. He has acted consistently both for Claimants and for Defendants and has enjoyed success in relation to both.

Many professional negligence cases in which Jonathan has been involved have been high-profile and for that and other reasons, most have settled without the necessity for trial. Invariably, these settlements have involved highly satisfactory outcomes for Jonathan's clients. His reported cases are, therefore merely the tip of the iceberg in terms of the work he has been carrying out in this field.

### Reported cases include:

- *Mortgage Agency Services Number One Ltd (t/a Britannia Commercial Lending) v Cripps Harries LLP*
- *Rentokil v Goodman Derrick* pending – solicitor's negligence relating to sale of land subject to satisfaction of planning conditions.
- *Herrmann v Withers LLP* Scope of solicitor's duty, standard of solicitor's duty, measure of damages.
- *Moffat v Burges Salmon* Solicitor's duty, loss of a chance.
- *Credit Lyonnais SA v Russell Jones & Walker* liability for negligence when a firm of solicitors had been negligent in failing to draw a client's attention to the fact that time was of the essence in the case of a condition precedent concerned with the early termination of a lease.
- *Eastgate Group Ltd v Lindsey Morden Group Inc* accountant's negligence on sale of business, contributory negligence and contribution.
- *Hawkins & Harrison v Tyler* valuer's negligence, contribution between solicitor and valuer.
- *Legal & General Mortgage Services Ltd v HPC Professional Services* surveyor's negligence, margin of error in valuation.