



Paul Newman QC

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Clerks' Details

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Qualifications and Appointments

- First Class degree in Law, Downing College, Cambridge
- LLM, Harvard Law School

“Brilliant at finding clever solutions to problems, will always give a clear view and is utterly reliable and user-friendly.” The Legal 500, 2021

Memberships

- Association of Pension Lawyers
- Association of Contentious Trust and Probate Specialists

Publications

- Paul's new book, A Practitioner's Guide to Correcting Mistakes in Pension Schemes, will be published by Bloomsbury Professional in March 2022
- Paul is a contributor to leading practitioners' works on pensions law and on the law of corporate receivers (Lightman & Moss)
- He has written several articles on pensions and financial services topics, including an influential analysis of rectification issues as they relate to pension schemes, published in Trust Law International.
- Paul was responsible for the chapter on expert witnesses in Chambers' Guide to the Civil Procedure Rules.

Practice Overview

Paul has a litigation and advisory practice concentrating on financial and private client disputes, most notably pensions, financial services and trusts. A substantial proportion of Paul's practice also involves advising on and acting in liability and negligence disputes involving professionals.

As well as representing some of the highest profile pension schemes in the UK and several major life insurers, Paul acts regularly for The Pensions Regulator. He has been heavily involved in advising on, and appearing in cases relating to, various provisions of the Pensions Act 2004, and also has extensive experience of advising and litigating on various public sector and industry-wide pension schemes.

Paul has advised the Royal Bank of Scotland in connection with its successful recovery of pension benefits from Sir Fred Goodwin. He has also advised the Department of Work and Pensions on the age discrimination regulations, and has advised the senior UK judiciary on the effect of the reforms to public sector pensions on the judicial pension schemes.

An increasing amount of Paul's work relates to Self-Invested Personal Pension Schemes, or SIPPs. Paul acts for investors, providers and trustees in respect of claims for mis-selling of SIPPs and mis-investment of investments within SIPPS.

Paul regularly acts in contentious private and commercial trust disputes both in the UK and overseas, particularly Jersey and the Caribbean, involving disputes concerning the role of protectors, claims by beneficiaries and the duties of trustees.

Paul recently appeared in an international arbitration in Bermuda relating to a claim for breach of warranty in a share sale agreement involving a multinational telecommunications company.

Paul has an interest in legal history and is a member of the Selden Society. In his spare time, he is researching for a part-time PhD at the London School of Economics on the topic of law reporting in the Georgian era, for which he has been awarded an AHRC London Arts & Humanities Partnership Research Studentship for his research.

Paul is regularly recommended in the legal directories. Recent comments about Paul in The Legal 500 and in Chambers & Partners include the following: *"He has a first-class mind and is well-known for his courtroom manner and robust pragmatism"; "he provides crystal clear analysis. He's emotionally intelligent and therefore very client-friendly"; "a first-rate litigator"; "a very bright and first-rate advocate, imaginative in finding solutions to extremely complex legal issues, and he does so without losing sight of the underlying legal principles"; "an absolutely outstanding advocate, who fights cases with passion"; and "a superb advocate with a no-nonsense approach."*



Trusts, Tax, Probate & Estates

Paul has considerable experience acting in Private and Commercial Trust matters. His experience in this area dates back to his early years in practice working on cases relating to Lloyds Names' Premium Trust Deeds. Paul's expertise includes advising and acting on trust matters, both in the UK and overseas, particularly Jersey and the Caribbean, involving disputes concerning the role of protectors, claims by beneficiaries and the role and duties of trustees.

Notable/Recent cases include:

- Acting for a very high profile overseas-resident businessman in connection with a dispute relating to several family trusts.
- Acting for one of the professional trustees in the long-running litigation involving the Blenkinsopp estate in Northumberland: *Howell v Lees-Millais*.
- Acting in the heavily-contested trust litigation involving proceedings in Switzerland, Liechtenstein and the UK worth over £75 million, which led to a Court of Appeal decision on an important point of procedure: *Labrousche v Frey* [2012] 1 WLR 3160. The case went to trial in 2015 and an appeal is currently pending.
- Acting for the life tenant of a £15m settlement in a breach of trust claim brought against the trustees.
- Representing corporate defendants in a £400m intellectual property/breach of confidence claim, in which proprietary interests are claimed over the corporate defendants' property.
- Acting for the estate of the settlor of a trust of the proceeds of a life assurance policy worth £5m, in a dispute over the distribution of the policy proceeds.
- Advising a Jersey trustee company on various issues raised by a disgruntled beneficiary of a sizable discretionary trust.