



Thomas Seymour

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Clerks' Details

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Qualifications and Appointments

- First Class degree in Law – Cambridge

“He is very proactive and has an incredible analytical mind.”

Chambers and Partners 2022

Memberships

- Chancery Bar Association
- Association of Pension Lawyers
- Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners
- Association of Contentious Trust and Probate Specialists

Publications

- Speaker on an APL webinar (November 2020) discussing *Hughes and others v Board of the Pension Protection Fund* [2020] EWHC 1598
- Address at Wilberforce Chambers Hot Topic Seminar (November 2018) – *Barnardo's v Buckinghamshire & Ors* [2018] UKSC 55
- Article on *Hampshire v PPF* on compensation for loss of benefits on employer insolvency published by Practical Law Pensions (January 2017) and Nugee Memorial Lecture (June 2017)

Practice Overview

Thomas is a highly experienced barrister with a broad chancery and commercial practice. His main practice areas are pensions, trusts/private client, wills and contentious probate, administration of estates and charity law, property and professional negligence related to those practice areas.

Thomas has a specialist pensions practice based on over 20 years' experience of acting and advising in pensions matters, including litigation in the High Court, regulatory matters and Pensions Ombudsman references.

Thomas has an extensive trusts and private client practice, specialising in contentious trust litigation both in the United Kingdom and cases with a foreign element (including recent cases in Gibraltar and the Cayman Islands). His private client practice also embraces wills, contentious probate, estates and charities.

His property work focuses on real property disputes: enforcing contracts for sale or lease, title and boundaries, restrictive covenants, easements, mortgages, commercial landlord and tenant, and conveyancing.

Thomas acts and advises on partnership and company law matters and has recently advised the Financial Reporting Review Council on International Accounting Standards and compliance issues relating to public companies.

Chambers & Partners, 2021 describes Thomas as **"very experienced"**. Chambers & Partners, 2020 says he is **"commercial and pragmatic"**, **"he's very thoughtful, with an academic approach"**.

The Legal 500 2021 notes the following about him: **"Very thorough. Really runs points to ground. Fantastic tolerance level for technical detail. A joy to work with."** The Legal 500 2020 edition describes Thomas as providing **"reliable analysis of tricky trust law issues"**.

He is also an accredited mediator.



Publications continued

- [Comments from Counsel: A leak in the statutory lifeboat? Compensation for loss of pension benefits on employer insolvency](#)
Published by Practical Law (January 2017)
- [Estoppel in pensions cases](#)
Published by Practical Law (May 2015)
- [Trustee exculpation - the law, the quirks and the business sense](#) (2014)
Trusts & Trustees 20 (9): 933-942
- Seminar address to Association of Pension Lawyers on group estoppel in occupational pension schemes.
Published in Pension Lawyer Issue 101 (November 2004)

Professional Liability

Allied and directly complementary to Thomas' specialisms in pensions, trust and real property matters, he has substantial experience of acting and advising in professional negligence claims in those fields. Thomas is able to deploy his specialist knowledge of the particular practice area.

Thomas regularly acts and advises in claims arising from errors in the course of administering occupational pension schemes, and has extensive experience both in advising and acting for the trustees and/or employers as claimants and in representing the professional defendants (pensions consultants, actuaries and solicitors).

By way of example, since acting for the successful defendant in the leading case of *Shore v Sedgwick Financial Services Ltd* [2007] EWHC 2009, [2008] EWCA Civ 863, Thomas has acted and advised in a number of other professional negligence claims concerning alleged pensions mis-selling.