



Lexa Hilliard QC

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Clerks' Details

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Publications

- Contributor to *Company Directors Duties, Liabilities and Remedies* (Ed. Mortimore OUP).
- She is also currently involved in the new edition of *Shareholders' Agreements* (Thomson Reuters).

“She stands out for her sheer depth of experience.”

Legal 500, 2021

Practice Overview

Lexa Hilliard QC is a popular and well-respected silk who is recommended by the legal directories as a leading silk for commercial dispute resolution, commercial chancery, company, insolvency and professional negligence. Her expertise also covers arbitration, banking and finance as well as fraud. She regularly advises in connection with off-shore disputes in the Channel Islands, the Caribbean and the Isle of Man.

Clients note that she is: *“keenly commercial, incredibly passionate and works seamlessly with the team”* and that she has: *“hugely impressive advocacy skills and strategic input.”* She regularly handles high value, legally complex cases in both the domestic and international market, acting both as advocate and expert. She has particular experience of cross-border litigation, often involving an insolvency or civil fraud angle. Her ability to be *“highly inventive and always think of new ways to approach a case”* allied to her: *“no-nonsense approach”* ensure her success with judges and tribunals as well as clients.

Chambers and Partners 2021 describes Lexa as *“a delight to work with. She’s energetic and works very well with instructing solicitors.”* *“incredibly intelligent and very commercial.”* *“Her reputation is truly fantastic. She’s a brilliant practitioner for any insolvency or restructuring matter and has such a loyal following. Judges really listen to her.”*, *“her pleadings are good and she’s also very practical when dealing with clients.”*

While Legal 500 commends her *“deep-rooted knowledge of banking and finance – has a vast amount of experience in this area and is able to advise on very complex arrangements with clarity and precision.”* Describing her as *“bright and on the money.”* *“extremely hard working, excellent attention to detail and very client facing.”* and commenting that *“she makes herself available and is tireless when dealing with a case – she really throws herself into the case and is a critical member of the team.”*

Previous directory quotes include:

“She is exceptionally bright and there is nothing that she doesn’t know just off the top of her head.” Chambers & Partners 2020

“She very hands-on and passionate about her clients’ cases, and is a very reliable and user-friendly silk to work with.” Chambers & Partners 2020

“She is very effective even when under extreme pressure.” Legal 500 2020

Between 1990 and 2011, she practised from South Square. Prior to that she lectured in law at Durham University.

She regularly provides talks, podcasts and webinars and is on the Commercial Litigation Editorial Board of Lexis PSL.



Civil Fraud

Lexa's practice encompasses all aspects of civil fraud including pre-emptive relief such as freezing orders, search and seizure and preservation orders. She acts for both claimants and defendants in claims for deceit, knowing receipt, knowing assistance, breach of fiduciary duty and conspiracy.

Representative cases include:

- *Phoenix Group v. Cochrane & Ors* [2017] EWHC 418 (Comm) claims to determine ownership of multi-million £ settlement known as the Arena Settlement, freezing orders.
- *Guralp Holdings & Ors v Guralp & Ors* (2017) – claim for fraud and breach of fiduciary duty arising out of alleged bribery of overseas agent.
- *Hunter v Lawless* [2016]: acting for claimant in substantial action for recovery of monies alleged to have been misappropriated by the claimant's former accountant.
- *NGM Sustainable Developments v Wallis & Ors* [2014] EWHC 2375 (Ch); instructed on behalf of successful claimant defending an application to strike out multi-million pound fraudulent misrepresentation/conspiracy claim.
- *E-Clear (UK) Plc v Elia* [2013] EWCA Civ 1114; [2014] 1 P&CR DG4: successfully overturned summary judgment in the Court of Appeal in connection with a claim against the director for breach of fiduciary duty and misfeasance.
- *Halliwells LLP v Austin* [2012] EWHC 1194: instructed in an action concerning the scope of the fraud exception in a retirement deed. Case subsequently settled in the Court of Appeal.
- *Barrowfen Properties Ltd v. Patel & Or* [2021] EWHC 689 (Ch); acting for the successful claimant in application to strike out late amendments made by defendant alleging that the claim by the claimant was fraudulent.
- *Barrowfen Properties v. Patel & Or* [2020] EWHC 1145 (Ch); acting for successful claimant in application by defendant to strike out claims in conspiracy and deceit.
- *Barrowfen Properties v. Patel & Or* [2020] EWHC 2536 (Ch); acting for the successful claimant in application for disclosure of documents on the ground that the iniquity principle applied and therefore the documents were not protected by legal professional privilege.