



Derek O'Sullivan KC

Year of call: 1990 | Silk: 2016

Email: derek.osullivan@39essex.com

Phone: +44 (0)20 7832 1111

"A standout silk who regularly appears in high-value catastrophic injury cases. He elicits stellar market praise..."

Chambers and Partners 2022

Derek O'Sullivan KC is recognised as one of the country's leading Personal Injury practitioners. His practice concentrates on very high value catastrophic injury claims.

Derek was named 'Personal Injury & Clinical Negligence Junior of the Year' at the Chambers Bar Awards 2012 and then in 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016 he was a "Star Individual" in the Chambers Personal Injury ranking for Juniors. He took Silk in 2016 and his practice has grown whilst in Silk. He is a Band 1 Leading Personal Injury Silk in both Chambers and Partners 2021 and a Leading Silk in Legal 500 2021.

Derek's practice concentrates on cases where claimants have been catastrophically injured. He has a particular expertise in relation to brain injury cases- not only cases of severe traumatic brain injury but also "subtle" brain injury cases and cases involving cumulative causes-and spinal injury cases. He is also regularly instructed in catastrophic spinal injury and amputation cases. Derek is familiar with all elements of catastrophic injury cases and is used to leading a team (including extensive medical expert evidence) defending very high value claims.

Areas of expertise

Personal Injury

Occupiers Liability

Road Traffic

Employers' Liability

Public Liability

Sport Injury and Negligence

Travel and International Injury

Insurance Fraud

Health and Safety

Policy Coverage

Product Liability

Civil Liability Group ADR Scheme

Derek's seniority and reputation in the personal injury "**marketplace**" has led to numerous requests for him to act as a QC Mediator in personal injury litigation (and litigation or disputes, such as coverage and insurance disputes arising between motor insurers following a multi-vehicle accident, arising out of personal injury claims). He accepts instructions to act as a QC Mediator and uses his long experience of this litigation to assist parties (not just Mediations involving a claimant and defendants but also as between defendants) who require the involvement of a QC Mediator. He has a fair-minded and "hands on" approach which the parties in Mediation conducted by him have found to be of great assistance and is currently instructed to act as a QC Mediator in a number of cases in which the parties have been unable to achieve settlement by the conventional means of a Joint Settlement Meeting conducted by the parties (or have not believed that a JSM would be a worthwhile exercise due to the differences between the parties).

Recommendations

- *"A standout silk who regularly appears in high value catastrophic injury cases. He elicits stellar market praise for his technical ability and client care as well as his handling of fraud allegations. He is one of the few barristers to have been instructed in a corporate manslaughter case". "A very smooth advocate who wins everybody over with persuasion". "A master tactician and strategic thinker who is always on his game. The depth and breadth of knowledge across a wide range of issues is second to none".*

Chambers and Partners 2018- 2021

- *"Tenacious, thorough and an excellent advocate."*The Legal 500 2022
- *"Phenomenally good, his pleadings are a work of art." "He's completely on the ball excellent with clients and an excellent all-rounder". "Excellent relationships with the lay clients and very good at handling expert witnesses".*

Chambers and Partners 2017

- *"Excellent and charismatic; a fighter"*Legal 500 2017
- *"He never loses sight of commercial reality"*Legal 500 2017

Memberships

- Personal Injury Bar Association

Qualifications

- BA (Dunelm)

London

81 Chancery Lane,
London
WC2A 1DD
Tel: +44 (0)20 7832 1111
DX: London/Chancery Lane 298
Fax: +44 (0)20 7353 3978

MANCHESTER

82 King Street,
Manchester
M2 4WQ
Tel: +44 (0)16 1870 0333
Fax: +44 (0)20 7353 3978

SINGAPORE

Maxwell Chambers,
28 Maxwell Road,
WC2A 1DD
04-03 & 04-04, Maxwell Chamber
Suites
Singapore 069120
Tel: +65 6320 9272

KUALA LUMPUR

#02-9, Bangunan Sulaiman
Jalan Sultan Hishamuddin,
50000 Kuala Lumpur,
Malaysia
Tel: +60 32 271 1085

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clerks@39essex.com • DX: 298 London/Chancery Lane • 39essex.com