



Michael Standing

Year of call: 2013

Email: michael.standing@39essex.com

Phone: +44 (0)20 7832 1111

“Michael is brilliant in trials, gives excellent written advice, is very approachable and willing to help.” The Legal 500 2023

Michael practises across the full range of chambers’ civil liability and commercial work with a particular interest in cases where fraud is alleged or suspected.

He undertakes work in insurance fraud, personal injury, clinical negligence, commercial and financial services, sports law, costs, and regulatory and disciplinary matters. He represents claimants and defendants in trials, joint settlement meetings (JSMs) and all interim hearings. He has a substantial paperwork practice.

He regularly acts as sole counsel in significant brain and spinal cord injury cases with a value pleaded in excess of £1m, as well as being led in higher value cases.

He has substantial experience of working as part of a larger team on high-profile and sensitive investigations, particularly involving financial institutions, and is currently instructed in a complex banking investigation.

Michael graduated with first class honours in Law, and the prize for the top student pursuing a career at the Bar. He was previously employed by a leading city boutique law firm in the business crime and commercial litigation departments. He also spent time working on policy development for a human rights non-governmental organisation (NGO), campaigning for fairer justice systems.

Areas of expertise

Clinical Negligence

Personal Injury

-- Employers' Liability

-- Insurance Fraud

-- Occupiers' Liability

-- Property Damage

-- Public Liability

-- Road Traffic

-- Sport Injury and Negligence

Banking and Financial Services
Commercial Contracts
Costs Litigation
Data Protection
Misuse of Private Information
Regulatory and Disciplinary

-- Insurance Fraud

Michael undertakes the full range of defendant insurance fraud work. He is regularly instructed at the outset of claims where fraud is suspected to advise on tactics and strategy. Early in his career, Michael gained significant experience prosecuting and defending criminal matters in the Crown Court. Accordingly, he is well accustomed to allegations of the most serious dishonesty, and skilled at cross-examination to expose inconstancy, exaggeration and untruthfulness.

He has achieved numerous findings of fundamental dishonesty in cases involving:

- Exaggerated injuries
- Malingering
- Staged accidents
- Phantom passengers
- Surveillance evidence
- Telematics evidence
- Fraud rings.

He is experienced in the full range of costs arguments including wasted costs applications and/or third-party costs orders.

He has achieved numerous findings of fundamental dishonesty, both at trial, and following discontinuance by claimants.

Cases of note

- **C v DKT Ltd** - Acting for the defendant in an application for a finding of fundamental dishonesty, post-discontinuance of the claim. The claimant attended the hearing and elected to give evidence and be cross examined. The judge found that the claimant had been fundamentally dishonest in substantially exaggerating his claim. An enforceable cost order was made.
- **R v AIOI** - Finding of fundamental dishonesty at trial, regarding a road traffic collision. A significant dispute as to the mechanics of the accident led of a finding that the claimant had fabricated his version of events.
- **B v R** - Successful application for a finding of fundamental dishonesty where the claimant discontinued shortly before trial. Claimant did not attend the hearing or submit any further evidence. The judge was persuaded to a make a finding of fundamental dishonesty and an enforceable cost order.

Recommendations

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Memberships

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- Personal Injuries Bar Association (PIBA)
 - Association of Regulatory & Disciplinary Lawyers (ARDL)
 - LawInSport

Qualifications

Education

- 2013: BPTC, Kaplan Law School – Very Competent
- 2012: LLB Law, University of Exeter – First Class Honours

Scholarships and Prizes

- Advocacy Scholarship, Kaplan Law School
- Winner, Inner Temple Intervarsity Moot Competition
- Paul Heim Prize for top finalist going to the Bar, University of Exeter
- Dean's Commendation for finals results, University of Exeter

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