



Daniel Laking

Year of call: 2015

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“Daniel is incredibly sharp, with an ability to absorb and analyse large volumes of information quickly and accurately, following which he formulates sound advice and strategy.” The Legal 500 2024

Daniel has a broad civil litigation and public law practice, specialising principally in the fields of personal injury and clinical negligence, insurance fraud, costs and litigation funding, inquests, inquiries and investigations, and health and safety. He is ranked in The Legal 500 in the areas of clinical negligence and costs.

He is a proficient and experienced advocate, having appeared in tribunals, County Courts, the Crown Court, the Coroner’s Court, and in the High Court, both led and as sole counsel. Alongside his court work, he has a busy advisory and paperwork practice.

Daniel is familiar working for a wide range of clients, from individuals to corporations and government departments. He is currently instructed as junior counsel to the Grenfell Tower Inquiry and is appointed to the Attorney General’s C Panel.

Daniel is a specialist contributor to Bullen & Leake’s Precedents of Pleadings, a contributing expert to Lexis Nexis PSL in the fields of personal injury, clinical negligence and dispute resolution, and is a trustee of Pro Bono Community, a charity that provides training and placements to law students in advice centres across London. He also volunteers for the Independent Provider of Special Education Advice (IPSEA), a charity offering legal advice to parents of children with special educational needs.

Areas of expertise

Personal Injury

-- Insurance Fraud

-- Product Liability

-- Health and Safety

Clinical Negligence

Investigations

Inquests

Costs and Litigation Funding

-- Insurance Fraud

Daniel has a great deal of experience in fraudulent claims. He has been successful at trial in securing numerous findings of fraud or dishonesty, and has been instructed to advise at an early stage as to whether fraud/dishonesty should be alleged. He is familiar pleading defences raising fraud and taking such cases to trial. His practice extends to standalone applications for fundamental dishonesty after discontinuance.

Daniel is praised for his attention to detail and meticulous cross-examination in such cases, as well as his robust advice. He is frequently involved in cases where surveillance evidence has been obtained or late disclosure reveals inconsistencies.

His experience includes:

- Phantom passengers
- Staged accidents
- Exaggeration
- Medical causation
- Inconsistent evidence/accounts

As a specialist costs practitioner, Daniel is also well-placed to advise and represent defendants in costs applications arising in fraud cases, such as applications under CPR r44.15 (strike out) and 44.16 (fundamental dishonesty).

Memberships

- Personal Injury Bar Association
- South Eastern Circuit

Qualifications

Education

- New College, Oxford: BA (Hons) Music
- City University, London: GDL (Commendation)
- City Law School, London: BPTC (Outstanding)

Scholarships

- Buchanan Prize
- Shelford Scholarship
- Lord Denning Scholarship
- Lord Haldane Scholarship
- Hardwicke Entrance Award

Additional Information

Appointments

- Trustee, Pro Bono Community
- Lexis Nexus Panel Expert
- Executive Committee, Personal Injury Bar Association
- Author, Bullen & Leake's Precedents of Pleadings, Product Liability

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