39 Essex Chambers Tel: +44 (0)20 7832 1111 Email: clerks@39essex.com





Nigel Pleming KC

Year of call: 1971 | Silk: 1992

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"Calm under pressure, unflappable, suave and extremely affable, he is one of [39 Essex Chambers'] stellar senior members" The Legal 500 2021

"A living legend: he fully deserves his reputation as one of the top silks of his generation. Highly knowledgeable and absolutely wonderful to work with, he has no weaknesses." Chambers and Partners 2019

Nigel is ranked and recommended in The Legal 500, Chambers and Partners, and the Chambers 100 in Administrative and Public Law, Environment and Planning, VAT/indirect tax law, and Human Rights and Civil Liberties,

Areas of expertise

Administrative and Public Law

Environment and Planning

VAT/Indirect Tax

Human Rights and Civil Liberties

Arbitration

Administrative and Public Law

Nigel has practised in many aspects of this area over the past 40 years, focusing more recently on regulatory and commercial judicial review cases. He has advised and represented clients in the UK, Hong Kong, Belize and the Caribbean.

Cases of note

- R (on the application of Peak Gen Top Co Ltd) v Gas and Electricity Markets Authority [2018] EWHC 1583 (Admin)
- The Queen (on the application of British American Tobacco Ltd and others) v Secretary

of State for Health [2018] QB 149

- RWE Generation UK PLC v Gas and Electricity Markets Authority [2015] EWHC 2164 (Admin)
- Fortis TCI Ltd v Islandcom Telecommunications Ltd [2014] UKPC 33
- Core Issues Trust v Transport for London [2013] EWHC 651 (Admin); [2014] EWHC 2628 (Admin)
- Bancoult v Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs [2014] EWCA Civ 708, [2014] 1 WLR 2921
- Belize Bank Ltd v Attorney General of Belize [2011] UKPC 36.

Recommendations

- "A very experienced, calm and authoritative presence. He has got a breadth of experience that means nothing is ever a surprise, and there's a very assured touch to his advice." "Excellent strategically." Chambers and Partners 2021
- "Formidable. He has an extremely impressive manner and a persuasive way of structuring arguments." Chambers and Partners 2021
- "He is well respected, very sensible, measured and focused." "A master of VAT law." Chambers and Partners 2021
- "Calm under pressure, unflappable, suave and extremely affable, he is one of the set's stellar senior members." The Legal 500 2021
- "When he speaks, the court listens: he gets straight to the meat of an argument and is amazing at communicating complicated detail" Chambers and Partners 2017
- "He is a very charming individual and good with the court." "He's pragmatic and has a strong understanding of local and central government." Chambers and Partners 2017
- "Always thoroughly prepared and someone with a fantastic court manner. Able to take difficult matters and pare them down to the essential issues, even with really technical subject matter. Very warm and very good client skills. Excellent legal analysis." "An excellent oral advocate and very tactically astute." Chambers and Partners 2017
- "A wonderful advocate with the wisdom of experience" Chambers and Partners 2017
- "He handles really impressive work and is very robust and unflappable." Chambers and Partners 2017
- "In a league of his own and clients love him." The Legal 500 2016
- "He is excellent on his feet without the need to be aggressive and always has the ear of the court."
 The Legal 500 2016

Membership and Appointments

- Judge of the Courts of Appeal of Jersey and Guernsey 2007-2018
- Deputy Judge of the High Court: 1998 2007
- International Arbitrator 2016 to date
- Admitted to the Belize Bar: 2002 to date
- Called to the Bar of BVI: 2013 to date
- Admitted to the Bar of Hong Kong various dates
- Admitted to the Bar of Trinidad and Tobago various dates

Qualifications

- LLM, University College London
- LLB, Kingston University

London

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