



## Sadie Crapper

Year of call: 2004

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*"Bright; willing; fierce in your favour; meticulous."* The Legal 500 2021

*"She is always well prepared and is excellent in cross-examinations."* Chambers UK 2021

Sadie Crapper's practice concentrates on personal injury and clinical negligence and police law. She is ranked by the legal directories for both fraud and Personal Injury.

Sadie has a nationwide practice and is always pleased to attend conferences and to give seminars and lectures at her clients' convenience.

## Areas of expertise

Personal Injury

Fraud

Clinical Negligence

Administrative & Public (inc. Police Law)

Regulatory and Disciplinary

Alternative Dispute Resolution

## Personal Injury

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*"One of the rising stars at 39 Essex Chambers."* Chambers and Partners

*"She is very straight-talking, and will stick her neck out. She is a phenomenal barrister in terms of her technical argument and her ability to tailor them to different people."* Chambers and Partners

*"A client-focused, tenacious and pragmatic litigator."* Legal 500

Sadie is a senior junior whose personal injury practice concentrates on catastrophic injury work and fraud. She is adept at handling complicated liability disputes concerning road traffic accidents (particularly those involving vulnerable road users), employer liability and related claims, and is known for providing detailed, forensic and realistic advice in difficult claims.

Her sound judgment is recognised by claimant and defendant lawyers alike and she is regularly instructed as sole Counsel in multimillion pound claims: in 2020 Sadie achieved settlements totalling over £12m for

two catastrophically injured claimants.

Sadie is particularly adept at managing claims involving pain syndromes and enjoys getting involved in such cases at an early stage in proceedings to assist with planning tactics and strategies.

As a leading name in PI fraud work, Sadie's practice in this area is focused on defendant work and she has been instructed in many of the major cases in recent times including ***Summers v Fairclough Homes, Fari v Homes for Haringey*** (the first strike out using the power declared by the Supreme Court in ***Summers***) and ***Sandip Atwal v Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS Trust*** (discontinuance in the face of overwhelming evidence of fraud followed by the first committal brought by the NHSR).

Sadie has extensive experience of group litigation. She is currently leading a team of juniors within Chambers on hundreds of police overtime claims arising from the Court of Appeal decision in *Allard and others v Chief Constable of Devon and Cornwall Constabulary*. Sadie also has experience of dealing with over 30 linked professional negligence cases relating to the police pension scheme, and was a junior on the *Capper Pass Claims Review Scheme*, a multi-million pound scheme established by Rio Tinto plc to deal with multiple industrial diseases claims arising from a metal reclamation plant in Humberside.

Recent cases include:

- BGR v AJ (2020): above knee amputation case. Sole Counsel. Settled pre-litigation for over £3.5 million
- KT v JP (2020): serious pelvic injuries to pregnant claimant with pre-existing chronic fatigue syndrome. Case settled at virtual JSM at significant saving for defendant.
- BG v RM and EUI Ltd (2019/2020): serious lower limb injuries to motorcyclist. Schedule in excess of £2m. Case settled on a commercial basis after Sadie prevailed at a contested application for evidence concerning co-morbid issue of sarcoidosis.
- MG v KCC, FD, SP (2019): complicated liability case involving black ice and winter maintenance issues concerning two accidents in quick succession which led to a below knee amputation. Primary liability not admitted. Contributory negligence in issue. Sole Counsel instructed against two Silks and Senior Junior of 25+ years Call. Pre-litigation mediation failed but the case settled for £1m+ shortly after Sadie's pleadings were served.
- Everett v Dyer [2019] EWHC 2049 (QB) – liability trial of motorcycle vs van claim acting for the claimant who had paraplegia as a result of the accident. Silk opposition. Deduction for contributory negligence limited to 25% and claimant bettered his own Part 36 offer. Case proceeds as regards quantum.

## Historic abuse cases

Sadie has experience in handling historic sexual abuse claims acting for both claimants and defendants. She has advised on claims involving grooming and the abuse of children, and sexual assault involving adults. Sadie is sensitive to the needs of her clients, whether they be the alleged victim or perpetrator, and gives practical and commercial advice in clear terms in order to assist in the appropriate resolution of any claim.

## Inquests

Sadie has extensive experience in the Coroner's Court including inquests involving deaths in custody, deaths in the workplace and road traffic accidents.

## Reported cases

Reported cases include:

- *Everett v Dyer*[2019] EWHC 2049 (QB) – liability trial of motorcycle vs van claim acting for the claimant who had paraplegia as a result of the accident. Deduction for contributory negligence limited to 25% and claimant bettered his own Part 36 offer.

- *Summers v Fairclough Homes Ltd* [2012] 1 WLR 2004 – landmark fraud case in the Supreme Court establishing power to strike out claims for fraud
- *Fari v Homes for Haringey* (Central London CC, Oct 2012) and *Homes for Haringey v Fari* (QBD, Jan 2013) – first strike out of personal injury claim using the *Summers* powers and contempt proceedings which followed
- *Dowson & anors v The Chief Constable of Northumbria Police* [2010] All ER (D) 191 (Oct) – 6 week trial of a £1.8million claim by CHIS handlers under the Protection from Harassment Act 1997

Other notable cases include:

- *Police overtime claims litigation*, 2015 to date. Sadie acts on behalf of hundreds of police officer claims in litigation concerning overtime claims made by CHIS Handlers and other police officers following the decision of the Court of Appeal in Sadie's case of *Allard and others v The Chief Constable of Devon and Cornwall Constabulary* [2015] EWCA Civ 42; [2015] ICR 875. She is led by Martin Westgate QC.
- *PLA v NDLB*, 2018-2019 Sadie was instructed as junior Counsel to Colin McCaul QC in this significant asbestos and mesothelioma litigation concerning contribution proceedings in historic asbestos and mesothelioma cases. Sadie continues to be instructed by the NDLB in other associated claims.
- *KC v AN Ltd*, 2017-2019. Sadie was instructed by the Defendant in a long running case involving alleged contralateral spread of Complex Regional Pain Syndrome and allegations of fundamental dishonesty.
- *C v S*, 2018-2019. Instructed by the Defendant in a fatal accident claim in particularly tragic circumstances with elements of complication relating to the toxicology of both the driver and the deceased. Settled at JSM pre-issue.
- *T v S*, 2018 in Jersey. Sadie was instructed on behalf of a UK insurer to work with a local advocate to defend a claim brought by an aspiring model and actor in Jersey. The case involved complicated allegations of contributory negligence and claims for future losses associated with alleged missed opportunities for substantial career progression and was settled on favourable terms at a JSM in Jersey.
- *Maini v LB Enterprises Ltd*, Finding of fundamental dishonesty and claim dismissed pursuant to section 57 of the Criminal Justice Act 2015.
- *FS v S Ltd*, Sole Counsel for the claimant in a cyclist vs. lorry collision which settled at JSM for a seven figure sum.
- *AS v M Ltd*, Sadie Crapper was instructed on behalf of Zurich concerning of a fraudulent claim involving exaggeration fraud in which the Claimant claimed over £1million for lifelong disability and loss of earnings. Claim was discontinued after the Defendant's evidence of fraud was served.
- *DL v DXG*, 2017-2018. The case concerned a claimant who alleged he had suffered an eye injury causing impairment of the sight in one eye with lifelong disability and earnings loss. A combination of surveillance and expert evidence proved the lie. Sadie Crapper was instructed before proceedings commenced to give early advice on how best to manage the claim to a successful, low-cost conclusion.
- *Sikand v CS Lounge Suite Ltd and others*, CLCC, DJ Avent, 14 July 2016 – entire personal injury action struck out on an interlocutory application using *Summers v Fairclough Homes Ltd* where a wannabe lawyer signed false statements of truth in pursuit of a fraudulent claim.
- *White v Derby Phoenix Motorcycle Club* – claim totalling in excess of £1.7 million with fraud elements which settled at significant reduction before trial
- *Hogwood v Sunderland City Council* – one of 150+ linked claims alleged to be part of a major fraud ring in the North East. Claim discontinued

## Recommendations

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- Chambers UK 2021:
  - Personal injury (Band 2) – *'She is meticulous and has great attention to detail.' 'She is always well prepared and is excellent in cross-examinations.'*
  - Motor insurance fraud (Band 1) – *'She's very good on paper, has an eye for detail and is extraordinarily thorough. I have the highest respect for her.'*
- Legal 500 2021:
  - Personal injury (Leading Junior, Tier 3) – *'Bright; willing; fierce in your favour; meticulous.'*
  - Insurance fraud (Leading Junior, Tier 1) – *'Bright; willing; fierce in your favour; meticulous.'*
- Chambers UK 2020:
  - Personal injury (Band 2) – *'She's commercially minded but up for a good fight if matters need to be taken to trial. She's very thorough and will give you good, sensible advice.' 'Sadie is incredibly thorough and covers every single base to ensure the best settlement possible for every client. She's excellent in conference and is particularly good at putting experts at ease. She shows great empathy, and her professionalism gives her clients a great deal of confidence.'*
  - Motor insurance fraud (Band 1) – *'Displays excellent attention to detail when reviewing complex pieces of evidence. She spots points others miss and is tactically astute.'*
- Legal 500 2020:
  - Personal injury (Leading Junior, Tier 3) and Insurance fraud (leading junior) – *'Junior counsel of choice in difficult cases.'*
- Chambers UK 2019:
  - Personal injury (Band 2) – *'Sadie is a highly intelligent and skilled barrister. Her strategic approaches are very well appreciated.' 'She is very tough against her opponents; she is a no-nonsense advocate who is always on the ball.'*
  - Motor insurance fraud (Band 1) – *'An excellent barrister in court.' 'She is brilliant. She's full of common sense and she does this extremely well.'*
- Legal 500 2019:
  - Insurance fraud – (Leading Junior, Tier 1) – *'Incisive, has an excellent and personal approach to clients.'*
  - Personal injury – (Leading Junior, Tier 4) – *'She is a leading junior who is extremely good at cutting through the issues.'*

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