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## Benjamin Tankel

Year of call: 2009

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*"A most impressive lawyer with a penetrating and subtle mind"* The Legal 500, 2022

Benjamin Tankel practises in public law, regulatory law, professional discipline, financial services, and procurement.

Ben always strives to understand the needs and wishes of his clients, to give pragmatic and practical advice, and to achieve the best possible outcome in the most cost-effective way. He enjoys working collaboratively as part of a team.

He represents central government, local authorities, NHS bodies, regulators, education bodies, and claimants. He has been involved in some of the most significant public law cases of recent times, including the Charlie Gard case and challenges to the prohibition against assisted dying.

He regularly appears in all levels of court and tribunal, including six appearances in the Supreme Court.

Ben graduated with a double first in History from Sidney Sussex College at Cambridge University, where he came top of his year in a number of papers and won several prizes and scholarships.

## Areas of expertise

Administrative and Public

Disciplinary

Regulatory

Banking and Financial Services

Procurement

Healthcare

Court of Protection - Welfare

Community Care and Mental Health

Medical Treatment Cases

Education

## Disciplinary

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Ben is ranked as a leading junior in professional disciplinary and regulatory law by The Legal 500 and Chambers.

He frequently acts for the Solicitors Regulation Authority, Bar Standards Board, General Medical Council, other healthcare regulators, NHS England, and Professional Standards Authority, in all matters relating to professional discipline. He also acts for local authorities on standards issues, and for those who are facing disciplinary proceedings or investigations.

Ben is equally comfortable acting at first instance, on appeals, and in claims for judicial review.

He is a contributor to the latest edition of Disciplinary and Regulatory Proceedings (ed. Gregory Treverton-Jones KC).

### Cases of note:

- ***Guise v Solicitors Regulation Authority* [2022] EWHC 124 (Admin)** - Ben represented the SRA in an appeal brought by a well-known City solicitor, who had been struck for dishonesty.
- ***Professional Standards Authority v General Dental Council* [2021] EWHC 3230 (Admin)** - Advising the General Dental Council ("GDC") regarding an orthodontist who offered "jaw realignment" treatment in the genuine belief that it could cure a wide range of serious physical and mental conditions, but without a reasonable body of medical opinion to support his claims.
- ***Solicitors Regulation Authority v Claire Matthews* [2021]** - Ben represented the SRA in this dishonesty claim against a solicitor who left a briefcase with confidential case papers on a train, and then lied to her supervisor about it. The claim became a widely reported example of SRA prosecutions of junior solicitors suffering with mental health difficulties.
- ***R(Simon Bramhall) v General Medical Council* [2019] EWHC 3525 (Admin)** - Simon Bramhall was a renowned and well-respected surgeon, who "branded" his initials on the livers of a number of his patients. Ben advised the GMC in his judicial review of the GMC's decision to prosecute him for a second time following his criminal conviction.
- ***SRA v Vay Sui Ip* [2018] EWHC 957 (Admin)** - This was the first in a wave of cases in which the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal ("SDT") considered the conduct of immigration solicitors referred to the SRA by the court following Hamid hearings. Mr Ip was found to have abused the process of the court and brought serial totally without merit ("TWM") claims. Ben acted for the SRA, at first instance and on appeal.

## Recommendations

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- *"A most impressive lawyer with a penetrating and subtle mind"* (*The Legal 500, Administrative Law and Human Rights, 2023*)
- *"balances clear legal advice with thoughtfulness about the impact of a case"* (*The Legal 500, Professional Disciplinary and Regulatory Law, 2023*)
- *"demonstrates a strong level of commercial vision"* (*Chambers, Administrative & Public Law 2023*)

## Qualifications

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### Education

- 2007: BA (History), Double First, Sidney Sussex College, University of Cambridge.
- 2008: Graduate Diploma in Law, City University.
- 2009: Bar Vocational Course, BPP.

### Prizes & Scholarships

- 2008: Astbury Scholarship (Middle Temple).
- 2007: Diplock Scholarship (Middle Temple).
- 2007: Peachey History Prize for highest first in College.
- 2006: Peachey History Prize for highest first in College.
- 2006: Parry Dutton Scholarship for North American History.

## Memberships

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- Constitutional and Administrative Law Bar Association (ALBA)

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