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Romilly Cummerson

Year of call: 1998

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"Very astute, commercial and strategic. She is very easy to partner with in a team and achieves fantastic results" Chambers and Partners 2022

Romilly specialises in personal injury, clinical negligence, professional negligence and related insurance issues. She represents Claimants and Defendants in respect of a wide range of complex and high value claims and has a particular interest and aptitude for cases involving complex issues of medical causation and/or substantial medical evidence.

Highly regarded for her attention to detail, and pragmatic, constructive, approach to litigation, Romilly has an approachable manner, which enables her to communicate effectively with a wide range of clients, opponents and tribunals. She is experienced in group litigation and has a particular reputation for the effective cross-examination of expert witnesses.

Romilly is recommended as a leading junior in The Legal 500 and Chambers and is regularly instructed by firms recognised as leading personal injury and clinical negligence solicitors in the legal directories.



Areas of expertise

Clinical Negligence

Personal Injury

Professional Negligence

Personal Injury

Romilly's personal injury practice is weighted towards defendant work. She is a senior junior, experienced in dealing with high value and complex claims, including catastrophic injury claims, multi-party claims and

group litigation. She is particularly adept at cases involving difficult causation issues and extensive medical evidence. She has a wide range of experience in all aspects of personal injury litigation including employers' liability, industrial disease, sports injuries, product liability, occupiers' liability, public liability, road traffic claims and aviation accidents.

Romilly is experienced in dealing with claims in which issues of fraud and fundamental dishonesty arise and associated committal proceedings

Cases of note

- ***Various Claimants v CNG and Cadent*** - Romilly is instructed by Eversheds Sutherland and led by Derek O'Sullivan QC in this substantial group of claims arising out of the New Ferry gas explosion in 2017. The explosion was caused by the deliberate, criminal actions of a third party, in respect of which a criminal conviction has been secured. The claim therefore raised interesting questions regarding the scope of the duty owed by the Defendants to the Claimant as suppliers/distributors of gas.
- ***DP v Randhawa*** - Quantum only claim arising out an RTA in which the Claimant sustained multiple injuries, including moderate traumatic brain injury, cranio-facial fractures and psychiatric injury. The key issues in the claim concerned the Claimant's alleged dishonesty with regard to exaggeration of the ongoing effects of her injuries and quantification of the claims for loss of earnings and pension losses in the context of a young Claimant at the start of her working life. Romilly was instructed by DAC Beachcroft on behalf of the Defendant's insurers.
- ***NG v PG*** - Romilly represented the Claimant in this claim for damages arising out of an accident that occurred when the Claimant was hit by a car driven by a family member. The accident occurred on C's driveway and resulted in her becoming trapped between the vehicle and her home. C sustained catastrophic injuries to the lower limbs, necessitating a trans-tibial amputation to one leg.
- ***DB v Marks & Spencer PLC*** - Romilly was led by Derek O'Sullivan QC in this Occupiers' Liability Act claim arising out of what appeared to be a minor slipping incident in the Defendant's store. C sustained minor soft tissue injuries in the accident but subsequently developed a functional dystonia of the right lower limb resulting in almost total loss of mobility and significant long-term care and accommodation needs. The claim settled following a JSM. Romilly represented the Defendant at several interlocutory hearings and achieved a number of key strategic victories for the Defendant, in particular with regard to defining and restricting the expert evidence reasonably required to resolve the claim.
- ***MJ v Jones*** - Romilly was led by Neil Block in this high value brain injury claim arising out of an RTA. It was alleged that, in addition to the anticipated effects of any severe brain injury, the injury caused the Claimant to engage in serious criminal behaviour and that 24-hour care/supervision was required to prevent further offending behaviour. C was resistant to the level of supervision suggested by his medico-legal team. The claim, therefore, raised complex issues of criminal responsibility, potential deprivation of liberty and the interplay between civil proceedings and the role of the Court of Protection in the life of a protected party.

Recommendations

- *"In Court her advocacy skills shine. She is tenacious and really fights for her clients"*The Legal 500 2022 – Clinical Negligence
- *"Very astute, commercial and strategic. She is very easy to partner with in a team and achieves fantastic results"*Chambers 2022 – Personal Injury
- *"Really impressive – she is very client-focused and has a good eye for detail"*Chambers 2022 – Personal Injury
- *"Romilly is a very personable barrister, thorough in her preparation and strategically aware"*The

Legal 500 2022 – Personal Injury

- *"Diligent, intelligent, pragmatic, and excellent in dealing with novel cases"*The Legal 500 2021 – Clinical Negligence
- *"Romilly is a very cool customer, calm under pressure, very well prepared and organised and always finds the sweet spot on court positioning. Always willing, she is very easy to work with as part of a coordinated defence"*The Legal 500 2021 – Personal Injury
- *"Excellent at evaluating the nuances of the medical records"*The Legal 500 2020- Clinical Negligence
- *"She is an extremely intelligent and skilful junior barrister involved in large-scale cases"*The Legal 500 2020 – Personal Injury

Memberships

- Professional Negligence Bar Association
- Personal Injury Bar Association

Qualifications

Education

- 1997-1998 Inns of Court School of Law BVC
- 1996-1997 University of Cambridge LLM
- 1993-1996 University of Cambridge BA (Hons) Law

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