

MICHAEL STANDING

Year called 2013

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Michael practises across the full range of chambers' civil liability work with a particular interest in cases where fraud is alleged or suspected.

He undertakes work in insurance fraud; personal injury; clinical negligence; commercial; costs; and regulatory and disciplinary matters. He represents claimants and defendants in trials, applications, interlocutory hearings and CCMCs, as well as providing written advice and pleadings.

He has experience of working as part of a team on high-profile and sensitive investigations, and holds SC clearance.

Prior to coming to the Bar, Michael was employed by a leading city boutique law firm in the Business Crime and Commercial Litigation departments. He also spent time working on policy development for a human rights NGO, campaigning for fairer justice systems.

PRACTICE AREAS

- Insurance Fraud
- Personal Injury
- Clinical Negligence
- Regulatory & Disciplinary
- Commercial
- Costs
- Alternative Dispute Resolution

PRACTICE AREAS

INSURANCE FRAUD

Michael undertakes the full range of Defendant Insurance Fraud work. He is regularly instructed at the outset of

claims where fraud is suspected, to advise on tactics and strategy. Early in his career, Michael gained significant experience prosecuting and defending criminal matters in the Crown Court. Accordingly, he is well accustomed to allegations of the most serious dishonesty, and skilled at cross-examination to expose inconstancy, exaggeration and untruthfulness.

He has recently achieved successful outcomes defending claims involving:

- Exaggerated injuries;
- Malingering;
- Staged accidents;
- Phantom passengers;
- Fabrication;
- Collusion;
- Surveillance evidence;
- Telematics evidence;
- Fraud rings.

He is experienced in the full range of costs argument involving the disapplication of QOCS, and where appropriate, wasted costs arguments.

He regularly gives presentations to both defendant solicitors and insurers on litigation strategy and case tactics.

PERSONAL INJURY

Michael frequently appears in the County Courts on the fast track and multi-track dealing with all aspects of personal injury and associated costs matters.

He has extensive experience of road traffic accidents and occupiers' and employers' liability claims. He provides advice on tactics, liability and quantum, as well as drafting pleadings. He is particularly sought after for cases involving allegations of fraud and fundamental dishonesty and is well experienced in the costs arguments regarding QOCS and s.57 CJCA 2015.

He has experience of acting for both Claimants and Defendants in high value claims involving brain injury, spinal injury and complex regional pain syndrome. He regularly undertakes more complex EL/PL trials with multiple defendants and issues surrounding indemnity.

CLINICAL NEGLIGENCE

Michael is experienced in high value and complex clinical negligence cases, acting for both Claimants and Defendants. He is regularly instructed by the NHSLA, private insurance companies and medical defence organisations.

He has experience of:

- Cases involving delayed diagnosis;
- Cases involving consent issues;
- Negligent treatment cases;

- Birth injury claims;
- Operative failings;
- Optometrist and ophthalmologist negligence.

REGULATORY & DISCIPLINARY

Michael is instructed by both regulators and professionals.

Between 2017 and 2019 he has completed secondments to the Bank of England's Regulatory Action Division, and the Litigation and Enforcement Team acting in four complex and large-scale financial investigations into global banks.

He regularly provides advice to the Professional Standards Authority on the merits of a challenge to Regulators' first instance decision.

He has acted in numerous interim and substantive hearings before the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) and had success in a number of multi-day cases, involving allegations of serious and dangerous misconduct. He recently represented a nurse, securing the dismissal of 5 charges of fraud, and a finding of no impairment in respect of the remaining admitted charges.

He appears before the High Court acting both for regulators and registrants, both to extend and challenge applications for interim orders.

COMMERCIAL

Michael undertakes a wide range of commercial work. He regularly advises and advocates in high value cases concerning: breach of contract; interpretation of contracts; insurance indemnity disputes; loan agreements; misrepresentation and commercial debt.

He provides robust, commercially informed advice, and is a skilled negotiator.

COSTS

Michael has a specialist costs practice, and is increasingly instructed in discrete costs disputes. He has extensive knowledge of all elements of Qualified One-Way Cost Shifting (QOCS) and fundamental dishonesty.

He has experience of:

- Costs and Case Management Conferences (CCMCs);
- Wasted costs applications;
- Indemnity costs applications;
- Advisory work;
- Fundamental dishonesty.

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Michael has broad experience of alternative dispute resolution, building on his practice of personal injury, clinical negligence, commercial and costs disputes. He is regularly instructed by both Claimant and Defendant insurers to act as sole counsel at settlement meetings. He received training from a number of the country's leading Arbitrators prior to joining 39 Essex Chambers' fixed-fee arbitration and adjudication panel.

MEMBERSHIPS

- Personal Injuries Bar Association (PIBA)
- Association of Regulatory & Disciplinary Lawyers (ARDL)

QUALIFICATIONS

- 2013: BPTC, Kaplan Law School – Very Competent
- 2012: LLB Law, University of Exeter – First Class Honours

Prizes and Scholarships

- Advocacy Scholarship, Kaplan Law School
- Winner, Inner Temple Intervarsity Moot Competition
- Paul Heim Prize for top finalist going to the Bar, University of Exeter
- Dean's Commendation, University of Exeter

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