

Matthew Withers

Call: 2016



Matthew Withers has a busy civil practice and regularly accepts instructions in general civil law matters but he has particular experience in employment and property. He continues to be ranked as a “Rising Star” in both of these areas by the Legal 500, with clients citing his diligence and technical knowledge, along with his personable and calm manner coupled with his analytical approach.

Matthew accepts instructions across the full range of general civil work and regularly appears in court in a variety of interim hearings, as well as trials across the small claim, fast and multi tracks on behalf of both claimants and defendants. Matthew has experience in dealing with complex applications, and accepts paperwork instructions to advise and draft documents in a range of matters including personal injury, breach of contract, package holiday, and tort actions, including professional negligence claims.

Matthew has recently represented clients located in other EU member states, including Greece and Spain and deals deftly with the application of EU Regulations as to jurisdiction, as well as the European Orders for Payment regime.

‘Matthew is excellent and extremely knowledgeable. He is commercial and great with clients. At court, Matthew articulates his points succinctly and on point’

Legal 500 2024

‘Matthew is highly skilled in making complex TOLATA matters sound straightforward to clients. He immediately puts clients at ease and is always willing to go above and beyond when queries arise between instructions.’

Legal 500 2024

“Matthew is a talented junior. He readily puts clients at ease, and has a strong ability to grasp complex issues with savvy commercial awareness.”

Chambers & Partners 2024

Property, Landlord & Tenant

Matthew has experience in property litigation, including claims involving the sale of land, residential and commercial landlord and tenant matters including possession claims, service charge disputes and claims for disrepair. Matthew also deals with boundary disputes, and forfeiture matters.

He also regularly represents Housing Association clients in obtaining possession orders, and injunctions to inspect gas appliances. He also deals with anti-social behaviour injunctions.

Matthew's property experience means he is sought after by clients who wish to resolve their trusts of land issues, and he regularly advises in conference and drafts proceedings (part 8 and part 7) for declarations and orders for sale in TOLATA matters.

This experience, and Matthew's commercial nous, means that he also acts in Financial Remedy claims for intervenors, drafting points of claim, or by way of external advice on any property elements of FR proceedings. Matthew also deals with Schedule 1 Children Act matters where they cross with TOLATA matters.

Matthew's diligent technical knowledge is also sought by clients looking to take enforcement actions in proceedings relating to property, including in the family court; Matthew has recently dealt with contempt proceedings, injunctive relief in relation to an order for sale and third party debt orders for significant capital sums.

Matthew's "calm and reassuring" manner in these matters was noted when ranked as a Rising Star by the Legal 500 2022.

Employment & Equality

In employment law Matthew has experience of a wide range of cases in the Employment tribunal, county court and High Court covering claims across the elements of employment law including in TUPE, Discrimination, Equal pay, constructive unfair dismissal.

His breadth and depth of employment law knowledge was cited by Legal 500 2022 when ranking him as a Rising Star in this field.

Matthew acts for both Claimants and Respondents/Defendants.

Selected Cases

- Acted for Respondent firm successfully resisting allegations of direct disability discrimination, harassment and victimisation.
- Advised his senior executive client on her redundancy, against a background of potential actions for sexual harassment and direct sex discrimination.
- Appeared in the Queen's Bench Division resisting an application for an interim injunction in a restraint of

trade matter, Matthew successfully resisted the making of an injunction and negotiating an order compromising the entire action on terms that allowed his client to continue his business.

- Assisted in negotiations on behalf of a former female CEO of an international investment corporate entity against the chair of the entity's group, in her claims which involved sex discrimination.
- Acted for the Respondent accountancy firm in respect of an equal pay claim.
- Advised a firm of solicitors on a restraint of trade matter, concerning their proposed employment of an employee from a competing firm.

Commercial

Matthew regularly acts for companies and their directors and members, advising and acting in cases in relation to all aspects of company and commercial law.

He's employment law knowledge is also of great assistance in advising small businesses and individuals in circumstances where departing individuals engage shareholding, directorship and employment considerations.

Matthew also regularly acts in restraint of trade cases, advising in and responding to applications for interim injunctions and the underlying damages claims.

Police Law

Matthew regularly acts in civil applications and claims brought on behalf of the Police, including applications for return of goods, DVPOs, SPOs and Closure Orders, as well as Civil Injunctions in relation to anti-social behaviour.

Selected Cases

- Matthew has also undertaken work in actions against the police, including acting for a former police officer who brought claims of negligent misstatement against his former employer in relation to his security clearance.

Direct Access

Matthew accepts work from lay clients via [Direct Access](#) and you can read more about his areas of expertise [here](#).

Awards

- Best Speaker, National Insurance Law Moot (2016)
- Prize for best overall performance in Resolution of Dispute outside of Court examination, University of Law (2016)
- Michael Sherrard Scholar/Access to the Bar Award, Middle Temple (2015)
- DMH Stallard Prize for best overall performance on the GDL, University of Sussex (2015)
- Law First Scholarship, University of Law (2015)
- Performance Award, University of Law (2015)

Education

- University of Law, BPTC (Outstanding) (2016)
- University of Sussex, Graduate Diploma in Law (Distinction) (2015)
- The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama, University of London, BA (Hons) (First Class) (2012)

Memberships

- Middle Temple
- MTYBA