

Amanda Savage QC

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A brilliant lawyer, hard working and approachable, and a wonderful team member.

- Chambers & Partners

Amanda Savage QC practises across the range of chambers' work, with a primary focus on professional liability claims, insurance and general commercial litigation.

She was shortlisted for the 'Professional Negligence Junior of the Year' (2019) award by Chambers & Partners UK.

Amanda prides herself on providing an excellent level of service to her clients and those that instruct her and her attention to detail, together with a "no nonsense" approach to litigation.

Amanda has particular experience of claims against lawyers (including applications for wasted costs), being regularly instructed by leading solicitors' insurers and BMIF. Amanda has been involved in several high profile lawyers' claims, including the 'Right to Buy' litigation, *GWM v Templeton*, *Williams v Thompson Leatherdale*, *Daniels v Thompson* and *Brown v Bennett* and was junior counsel in the longest ever hearing before the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal (*SRA v Dennison and others*).

Winner of the prestigious Chambers & Partners *Professional Negligence Junior of the Year* award in 2014, Amanda is rated in Chambers & Partners and Legal 500 as a leading junior in the field of professional negligence and has been described as "*brilliant to deal with - exceptionally bright, very commercial and will speak to clients on their level*", "*her attention to detail is second to none and she has a no-nonsense attitude.*", "*she's not afraid to really test her clients and provides sensible, reasoned and practical advice*", "*very good on detail and a fearless advocate on her feet*", "*fantastic on paper and strong in mediation*", "*proof that the stream of talent [at 4 New Square] never stops flowing...*", "*an extremely thorough junior who presents her work in apple pie order*", "*smart and reliable*", "*extremely popular and deservedly so*" and someone who "*doesn't sit on the fence and is hard-hitting and practical*".

"*Very good legal brain, an eye for detail and is easy to work with*" - Amanda is also ranked as a leading junior in the Legal 500, 2015 for her Insurance and Reinsurance practice. She was junior Counsel in *Milton Insurance Ltd v Brit Insurance Ltd* in the Court of Appeal and at first instance.

Amanda is an assistant editor of Jackson and Powell on Professional Liability (Sweet and Maxwell, 7th edition, 2012) and a member of the Professional Negligence Bar Association, the London Common Law & Commercial Bar Association, The British Insurance Law Association and the Chancery Bar Association.

Privacy Policy

Click here for a **Privacy Policy** for Amanda Savage.



Areas of Expertise

Professional Liability

“She is a spectacular advocate who has held her own against established silks for years.” – *Legal 500, 2021*

“Her pleadings are always well crafted and thorough.” “She’s extremely pleasant to deal with, very hard-working, and I was impressed when I worked against her.” – *Chambers & Partners, 2021*

“Bright, engaging and smart.” – *Legal 500, 2020*

“A formidable advocate” who is “very hard-working, very pleasant and very focused.” “Her strategic overview is really valuable and insightful. When there is a mass of documents, she is the person who will cut through it and say, ‘this is the path we should take.’” – *Chambers & Partners, 2020*

Rated in both Chambers & Partners and Legal 500 as a **leading junior** in this area, Amanda has variously been described as: *“fantastic on paper and strong in mediation”, “extremely popular and deservedly so”, “an extremely thorough junior who presents her work in apple pie order”, “smart and reliable”* and *“doesn’t sit on the fence and is hard-hitting and practical”*.

Professional liability forms a significant part of Amanda’s practice and she has extensive experience of professional liability claims, particularly those involving lawyers, including wasted costs claims and claims against barristers. She recently acted for Leading and Junior Counsel in a claim brought by after the event insurers, culminating in a two week trial in the Commercial Court (*GWM v Templeton, October 2010*).

She is an editor of Jackson and Powell on Professional Liability (Sweet and Maxwell, 6th edition, 2007).

Accountants, Auditors & Actuaries

Amanda has acted for and against accountants and auditors in number of cases concerning liability for audit and accounts preparation and, in particular, taxation advice. She was recently instructed in a substantial claim against a firm of accountants relating to their conduct of a share purchase agreement and acted at trial (as junior to Fiona Sinclair QC) for the former manager of a well known pop singer against a ‘Big 4’ firm relating to tax avoidance advice and the conduct of complex HMRC investigation

Examples of other instructions include:

- acting for a discretionary fund manager in a claim alleging bad investment advice, mismanagement of funds and deceit
- acting for an individual against an IFA in a claim for negligent investment advice following the collapse of an Icelandic bank
- acting for high net worth individuals in a claim against large firm of accountants arising out of tax advice involving capital loss schemes
- acting against a firm of accountants in claims by former clients concerning preparation of and advice in relation to tax returns, including claims brought by non residents and claims involving IHT advice
- acting for the successful defendant at trial in claim against an accountancy firm arising out of tax advice (as junior to Giles Goodfellow QC)
- acting as junior to John Powell QC in a very substantial claim brought by a company against its auditors arising out of its failure to detect and/or report on an extensive and multi faceted fraud

Construction Professionals

Amanda acts in claims involving a variety of construction professionals. Amanda is known for her attention to detail and enjoys the challenge presented by document heavy and complex litigation, attributes which she considers stand her in good stead in this field. She has particular experience of claims against engineers, architects and designers, ranging from claims against heating plant engineers, to claims concerning the design and management of a skate park! Amanda has also been instructed in several cases concerning building/ property management.

Financial Services Professionals

Amanda is regularly instructed in claims concerning pensions and financial investments. She has acted in claims against pensions advisers for pensions mis-selling, investment advice and pensions reviews (acting for both claimants and defendants) and in a claim brought by members of a pension scheme against the underwriter responsible for the administration of the scheme.

Amanda has recently acted for a discretionary fund manager in a claim alleging bad investment advice, mismanagement of funds and deceit, and acted for an individual against an IFA in a claim for negligent investment advice following the collapse of an Icelandic bank.

Insurance Brokers & Agents

Amanda has increasing experience in this field, acting both for and against insurance brokers in claims involving issues of scope and level of cover, exclusions and non disclosure and in the context of a wide range of insurance policies. Amanda's experience of 'pure' insurance disputes, together with her extensive experience of professional indemnity claims across the board, renders her particularly well placed to deal with these claims.

Previous and ongoing instructions include:

- Acting for a recycling business in claim against its broker for failure to advise as to the meaning and effect of various warranties and conditions precedent
- Acting for reinsurance broker against former managing director for alleged breach of duty in relation to mid-term broker change
- Acting for broker defending claim for significant damage arising from lack of cover for property damage and business interruption following a major fire at a brewery, involving issues of breach of warranty, material non disclosure and claims for loss of profit (including issues as to the application of *Sprung v Royal Insurance*)

Lawyers

Claims against lawyers forms the largest part of Amanda's professional liability practice and she has a wealth of experience in this field, including applications for wasted costs against both barristers and solicitors. She is regularly instructed by solicitors, their insurers and BMIF. Amanda has considerable experience of claims against barristers and has acted for Leading and Junior Counsel in a significant number of claims arising from, amongst other things, matrimonial, employment and the coal mining litigation, as well as claims arising from criminal matters. Amanda also specialises –in claims against solicitors involving tax and general chancery issues, "lost" or "under settled" litigation (involving a wide range of underlying disputes) and multi party and contribution claims. She is frequently instructed to advise on limitation issues.

Reported cases include:

- *GWM v Templeton* [2010] EWHC 2679 (Comm): acting for Leading and Junior Counsel in successfully defending a claim brought against them by ATE insurers (led by Michael Pooles QC)
- *Patel v Air India* [2010] EWCA Civ 443: wasted costs claim against solicitors
- *Williams v Thompson Leatherdale* [2008] EWHC 2574; [2009] PNLR 15 (QB) – instructed by BMIF and led by Charles Howard QC (1 King's Bench Walk) in successful defence at trial of leading family silk arising out of settlement of ancillary relief proceedings
- *Daniels v. Thompson* [2004] EWCA Civ 307; [2004] PNLR 33 (CA) – duties owed by solicitors to personal representatives in an inheritance tax context and limitation
- *Brown v Bennett (Nos. 2 and 3)* [2001] 1 WLR 713 – wasted costs against barristers.

Other current and recent cases include:

- Defending a multi-million pound claim brought in the Isle of Man by an individual against her former solicitors alleging under settlement of ancillary relief claim (as junior to Sue Carr QC)

- Defending a claim brought by an individual against her former solicitors alleging negligent conduct of an insurance claim
- Defending a claim brought by an individual against her former solicitors alleging negligence in relation to a settlement deed and tax advice (as junior to Sue Carr QC)
- Defending a claim brought by an individual against his former solicitors alleging misconduct of lengthy commercial litigation
- Acting for company in a claim against its former solicitors in a commercial property transaction involving issues of the interpretation of option agreements and overage
- Numerous claims brought against solicitors arising out of residential and commercial conveyancing including claims involving actual or potential mortgage fraud.

Surveyors & Valuers

Amanda has acted for claimants and defendants in a significant number of claims in relation to both commercial and residential property, including multi party claims and claims brought by banks and mortgage companies as well as by individuals. She has recently been involved in several claims by lenders in respect of actual or potential mortgage frauds and is currently instructed by a bank specialising in the provision of residential development finance and bridging loans in respect of a claim against a firm of valuers who provided valuations of three developments on a residual and gross development value basis.

Insurance & Reinsurance

“Amanda has excellent attention to detail and is particularly skilled at drafting pleadings, while also being good on her feet in court.” – *Legal 500, 2021*

“She is clever and incisive.” – *Legal 500, 2020*

Insurance forms a sizeable and increasingly significant part of Amanda’s practice. This area of her practice dovetails well with Amanda’s increasing experience of claims against insurance professionals and her expertise in the professional liability field. She has advised and acted on insurance disputes involving the construction of policies and coverage issues (both between insurers and between insurers and the insured) both generally and in the professional indemnity context, including cases involving notification issues, what constitutes a ‘claim’ and dishonesty exclusions (particularly involving cases of actual or suspected mortgage fraud).

Amanda was recently junior counsel in a substantial insurance dispute (led by Graham Eklund QC) which was the subject of trial in March 2014 and on appeal in the Court of Appeal in March 2015: *Milton Furniture Ltd v Brit Insurance Ltd* [2015] EWCA Civ 671 (decision at first instance reported at [2014] Lloyd’s Rep. I.R. 540)

Amanda has also acted and advised in disputes arising out of combined commercial insurance policies, critical illness and permanent health insurance policies. She was involved (during part time secondments at CMS Cameron McKenna and RPC respectively) in commercial litigation relating to insurance for film finance (contingent expenses insurance) and with the LMX PA Spiral arbitrations.

Examples of past and ongoing instructions include:

- Acting (with Graham Eklund QC) for insured against insurers in dispute involving interpretation of conditions precedent to liability and allegations of breach of condition relating to an intruder alarm
- Advising and acting in respect of numerous arbitrations between insurers as to when a “claim” was made against a solicitor;
- Advising and acting in respect of numerous arbitrations between insurers involving questions of successor practices including in the context of sole practitioners and the effect of ‘holding out’ on the definition of “sole practitioner” and “transition” within the MTC Rules
- Advising in a coverage dispute between insurers and insured, involving considerations of insolvency law and the nature of a potential claim against company administrators
- Defending underwriters in relation to a claim brought by a tour operator involving multiple holiday insurance claims
- Acting for an individual in a dispute arising out of a repatriation and health cover insurance policy
- Advising on policy interpretation in an employers’ liability claim
- Acting in permanent health insurance and critical illness policy dispute



Amanda's practice also involves acting for insurers in subrogated recovery actions involving property damage. She acted for two businesses in relation to a multimillion pound claim in the 'Buncefield' litigation.

Commercial Dispute Resolution

Amanda undertakes a broad range of general commercial litigation, including disputes regarding the supply and sale of goods, partnership disputes, and a variety of commercial contractual disputes, including in the insurance field. She has a particular interest in disputes concerning the construction of contracts and in case concerning the conflict of laws. Amanda also acts in agency disputes and in this regard advised and acted for a large supplier of pipes and valves to contractors operating in the oil and gas, power and process industries in litigation involving the construction of contracts and the Commercial Agents (Council Directive) Regulations 1993.

Amanda has experience of commercial fraud cases and acted as junior counsel (led by John Powell QC) for a company in administrative receivership in a multi million pound commercial fraud case brought against a former major supplier and its directors. She was recently instructed on behalf of a firm of solicitors in complex litigation arising out of mortgage fraud, dealing with questions of (amongst other things) the application and interpretation of the Insolvent Partnerships Order 1994.

Product Liability

Amanda's first introduction to product liability claims was whilst a pupil, when she was instructed in the Hepatitis litigation. Since then, Amanda has been instructed in several product liability claims including: for a large national company in a claim brought against it for a contribution to a claim arising out of the manufacture, design and installation of a trailer lift axle system, for a Scottish print company in an action against a well known manufacturer of printing presses. Amanda also acted (with Fiona Sinclair) for Renault Trucks UK in the successful defence of a contribution claim arising out of the design and construction of locking systems used in fire appliances: *London Fire & Emergency Planning Authority v. Meritor Light Vehicle Systems (UK) Ltd* [2003] EWHC 2411. She has recently acted in claims against several well known car manufacturers and their distributors in claims arising out of the manufacture, sale and supply of defective vehicles and parts.

Disciplinary

Amanda has wide experience of disciplinary work with a focus on lawyers and financial professionals. She has advised and appeared in disciplinary proceedings before the SDT, Bar Tribunal and the ACCA Disciplinary Committee. Amanda was for many years a member of the Bar Tribunal Disciplinary Panel and regularly sat as a judge on 3 and 5 member number panels, as well as sitting, with a High Court Judge as the Bar member hearing appeals from the Bar Tribunal to the Visitors of the Inns of Court.

Notable instructions include:

- Representing an insolvency practitioner at 5 day hearing before the ACCA Disciplinary Committee in respect of allegations of misconduct and breach of duty of care arising from several cases in which the respondent had acted as Nominee and Supervisor, Trustee or Liquidator.
- Representing a junior barrister alleged to have acted in a manner likely to diminish the trust and confidence of the public.
- Representing a solicitor accused of falsifying time records, misleading his firm and failing to act in the best interests of his client.
- Junior Counsel (to Simon Monty QC) representing the principal respondent at the 9 week hearing dealing with dishonesty and other charges arising out of the TAG litigation (*SRA v Denison and Others*).
- (as Visitor) *Mehey v BSB*, *Craven v BSB*.

Amanda is a member of the Association of Regulatory and Disciplinary Lawyers.

Property Damage

Amanda has been instructed on a number of claims involving property damage caused by fire, explosions, subsidence and construction and repair work. Many of such claims are subrogated insurance recovery claims and her work in this area dovetails with her insurance practice, as well as her professional liability work.



NEW SQUARE

Amanda is currently instructed by the claimant in respect of two claims, each worth several million pounds, involving the collapse of concrete underpinning and the failure of concrete foundations and floor slabs respectively.

Other examples of substantial claims include:

£14 million fire damage claim in a building merchant's premises arising from the negligent installation of a flue to a wood-burning stove (insufficient and inadequate supports to the flue to resist torsional twisting) (led by Graham Eklund QC)

Acting for car dealer and distributors in respect of fire damage and consequential loss caused by electrical defects within cars for sale on the premises

Acting for a number of claimants in the Buncefield Litigation, including a substantial claim for insured and uninsured losses suffered by a printing business.

Qualifications & Memberships

B.C.L. (Oxon.) LL.B. (London)

Insights

Vicarious Liability: whose liability is it anyway?

20 April 2020

Vicarious liability is "on the move", but how far has it gone? Amanda Savage QC and Nick Broomfield explore the development of the doctrine of vicarious liability in light of the recent decisions of *Barclays Bank plc v Various Claimants* [2020] UKSC 13 and *MW Morrison Supermarkets plc v Various Claimants* [2020] UKSC 12.