



NEW SQUARE

Graham Chapman QC

Call: 1998

Silk: 2014

+442078222000

g.chapman@4newsquare.com

Clerk: Tom Woolsey

t.woolsey@4newsquare.com

+442078222039

+447841344153



He consistently provides robust and commercial advice, as well as advocacy of the highest quality.

- Chambers & Partners

Graham Chapman QC specialises in commercial litigation and arbitration (domestic and international), with a particular focus on commercial fraud, investment disputes, offshore work, insurance disputes and professional liability claims in a commercial context. Graham took silk in 2014 at the age of 38.

Recognised as a Leading Silk in the directories for Commercial Litigation, Offshore, Civil Fraud and Professional Negligence, Graham is described as someone who "combines excellent technical abilities with commercially savvy and practical advice." "He is approachable, a pleasure to work with and someone who always sees solutions to problems." (Chambers & Partners, 2021: Commercial Litigation). "He is impressive, analytical, competitive and strategic." "A very good barrister who is very user-friendly." (Chambers & Partners, 2021: Offshore). "Very attentive and user-friendly, and an excellent advocate. He is able to give great advice because he sees the strategic reasons for doing things." "He is helped by his previous experience as a solicitor and as a result, comes up with very practical and commercial solutions." (Chambers & Partners, 2021: Professional Negligence). "He provides enormous confidence that no stones have been left unturned." (Legal 500 2021: Professional Negligence). "Excellent intellect and very user friendly." (Legal 500 2021: Commercial Litigation). "An intellectual heavyweight with first-rate advocacy skills." (Legal 500 2021: Offshore). "Our leading counsel of choice on large value, complex fraud claims; works well as part of a team and has strong advocacy skills." (Legal 500 2021: Civil Fraud). "Graham Chapman QC is held in high esteem by peers thanks to his impressive advocacy in commercial and civil fraud litigation." (Who's Who Legal: Civil Fraud and Professional Negligence).

Previous editions have described Graham as "fiercely bright, a gentleman with instructing solicitors and clients, and a tactful and robust advocate in the courtroom" (Chambers & Partners, 2019: Commercial Litigation). "Exceptionally bright, a great strategist and someone who is fantastically good with clients." "He's hands-on, responsive, and someone with a good eye for detail" (Chambers & Partners, 2019: Offshore). "Charming with clients and utterly dedicated to winning. He cuts through cases and picks out the right strategy every time" (Chambers & Partners, 2019: Professional Negligence). "Incredibly bright and very easy to work with" (Legal 500 2019: Professional Negligence). "Absolutely brilliant. He puts in the hard work and is also a really nice bloke. Authoritative and clever" (Chambers & Partners, 2018: Professional Negligence). "He's energetic, very easy to work with and very experienced in commercial disputes", "always thinks about ways to get the other side's attention"(Chambers & Partners, 2018: Commercial Litigation). "He's a very statesmanlike person, who's great with clients and delivers clear, succinct messages very effectively. Working with him is an enormous pleasure. He's absolutely on the ball the whole time, and he's very practical." (Chambers & Partners, 2018: Offshore). "A tough and no-nonsense operator, and extremely user friendly and supportive" (Legal 500, 2017: Commercial Litigation). "Technically excellent and very client-friendly" (Legal 500, 2017: Professional Negligence). "Utterly brilliant - he has terrific focus and brain power and his communication couldn't be clearer. He is very commercial and sensible and clients just love him"; "he has extraordinary gravitas for someone who's only just ceased to be a junior - when you meet with him you know you're talking to someone who's highly skilled in the advice he gives"(Chambers & Partners, 2016: Professional Negligence). "A ferociously hard worker who will rapidly rise through the ranks" (Legal 500, 2015: Commercial Litigation). "Extremely impressive and invaluable in complex high-value litigation" (Legal 500, 2016: Commercial Litigation).

Before taking silk he was described as "The first choice of junior for many", "thorough, robust and in complete control", "so good that he is doing work far beyond his years of call" and as being "consistently involved in high-profile cases". Graham has a broad commercial practice which falls into three core areas: commercial litigation, professional liability claims in a commercial context and construction and engineering law. Graham has been described as "very able", "quick and hardworking" and "intellectually gifted". He appears in Court and arbitrations and has a growing advisory practice in the field of financial services regulation.

"He's never afraid to make a decision and he's well able to lead a devastating forensic attack on his opponent's case" - Chambers & Partners 2015; "He has a growing presence in high-value claims." - Legal 500 2015

"He gets through voluminous and complex instructions at impressive speed, and consistently provides robust and commercial advice, as well as advocacy of the highest quality." "He is quietly spoken, but his words are powerful and his advice is terrific." - Chambers & Partners 2015

Graham's commercial practice spans the full range of commercial disputes and often his cases have an international dimension to them. His professional liability work includes claims against accountants and auditors, construction professionals, financial service professionals, insurance brokers and agents, lawyers and surveyors and valuers. He also has experience of professional disciplinary matters. His practice includes insurance and reinsurance work and he is regularly instructed in cases concerned with the interpretation of policy-wording and coverage disputes. In the construction field he has acted for and against contractors, architects and engineers in claims concerning projects both in the UK and overseas. He has experience of acting in domestic and international arbitrations both in the commercial and construction fields.

Graham is a contributor to the 6th Edition of Jackson & Powell on Professional Negligence (Sweet & Maxwell 2006) and is the co-author of the chapter on tort in the Construction Law Handbook (Thomas Telford).

Graham has been called to the Bars of the Grand Court of Cayman, of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court (BVI) and of the Isle of Man.

Privacy Policy

Click here for a [Privacy Policy](#) for Graham Chapman QC.

Areas of Expertise

Offshore

"An intellectual heavyweight with first-rate advocacy skills." – *Legal 500, 2021*

"He is impressive, analytical, competitive and strategic." **"A very good barrister who is very user-friendly."** – *Chambers & Partners, 2021*

"Very smart, incisive and effective." – *Legal 500, 2020*

"He's excellent to work with and is exceptionally helpful." **"He is very smooth at getting to know his tribunal and adapting submissions based on responses."** – *Chambers & Partners, 2020*

"Exceptionally bright, a great strategist and someone who is fantastically good with clients." **"He's hands-on, responsive, and someone with a good eye for detail."** – *Chambers & Partners, 2019*

"He's a very statesmanlike person, who's great with clients and delivers clear, succinct messages very effectively. Working with him is an enormous pleasure. He's absolutely on the ball the whole time, and he's very practical." – *Chambers Global, 2018*



Graham has a significant offshore practice and has been instructed in cases in BVI, Cayman, DIFC, Guernsey and the Isle of Man. Much of his work is investment or trusts related and his recent experience has included claims considering the duties of directors and trustees, as well as professional advisers. Recent and current cases include the following:

- Acting for liquidators of a collapsed investment fund in proceedings against the fund's former directors and investment managers, including as regards related winding up proceedings.
- Acting for a fund manager in the defence of a claim brought by the liquidators of a failed investment fund.
- Acting for defendant auditors in arbitration and litigation arising from the failure of two investment funds said to have been caused by frauds.
- Acting for the claimants in a very substantial claim against their former lawyers concerning breaches of duty (including fiduciary duty) in connection with major multi-jurisdictional disputes (including both criminal and civil claims).
- Acting for a company in proceedings seeking to protect and preserve confidential and privileged material relating to high value litigation.
- Acting for the defendant auditors in a c.US\$500m claim relating to the collapse of an offshore investment fund caused by fraudulent transactions.
- Acting for claimant investors in claims relating to investment products.
- Acting for a defendant professional trust company in a claim concerning the investment of trust property.
- Advising and acting in substantial offshore trust disputes arising out of commercial transactions and structuring.
- Acting for the defendant auditors in a claim concerning the collapse of linked Closed-End Investment Cells.
- Acting for a defendant financial institution in proceedings concerning the closing out of CFD positions.

Qualifications & Memberships

Graham has been called to the Bars of the Grand Court of Cayman, of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court (BVI) and of the Isle of Man.

B.A. (Oxon.) (First Class)

Insights

Lessons in Wiful Default after Weaving (Turkish Commercial Law Review, June 2015)

1 June 2015

An article in the Turkish Commercial Law Review, June 2015 written by Justin Fenwick QC, Graham Chapman QC and Michael Ryan

Londograd calling: Jurisdiction Battles in the English Courts, Dispute Resolution International, 2014, 8(1), 25-36.

15 May 2014

The authors focus upon applications for permission to serve a claim form outside the jurisdiction and, further, on applications to serve on a defendant who is not domiciled within one of the states of the European Union.

"Taking Care of Family Business"

12 January 2005

A search for consistency following *Wade v. Grimwood*