



NEW SQUARE

Patrick Lawrence QC

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A towering courtroom presence ... superb in heavyweight cases, known for razor-sharp mind and ability to take a witness apart

- Chambers & Partners

Former Chambers & Partners Professional Negligence QC of the year, Patrick has appeared in many leading cases at appellate level.

If you believe the Directories: “a wonderful advocate”, “extremely bright and very personable – a formidable opponent” [Chambers]. “He is fantastic on his feet and I have the utmost confidence in him.” “One of, if not THE best for professional negligence claims. He is calm, tactical and holds his nerve.” [Chambers] “A Rolls-Royce silk ... able and approachable in equal measure, one of the most in demand professional indemnity barristers ... a towering courtroom presence .. superb in complex heavyweight cases, known for razor-sharp mind and ability to take a witness apart.” [Chambers] “very charismatic and good with clients; he is able and approachable in equal measure” [Chambers]. “He is a brilliant lawyer with a real appreciation of the ‘human’ side of cases”, “a superb advocate, who always manages to engage the court and present arguments in a compelling fashion”, “highly persuasive” and “can make complicated arguments understandable” [Legal 500]. “He has a fantastic manner and outstanding judgement”, “Inspires great confidence and tackles problem with the minimum of stress” [Legal 500].

He practises principally in the commercial and company law sectors. This work fits well with his expertise in auditors’ negligence and his involvement in claims against pensions advisers, tax advisers, and other financial services professionals. He is numerate (as barristers go). He is retained in cases where effective cross-examination is considered critical. Many of his cases involve allegations of impropriety in the commercial world, and he is prepared to read closely large amounts of material in order to find out what really went on, and then – if necessary – to go to court to prove it. He has acted in many leading cases involving the development of equitable rules concerning fiduciary obligations in a commercial context, and the interplay between trust, contract, and fraud.

There is an obvious connection between his professional liability work and disciplinary proceedings involving professionals, and he has acted for complainants and respondents in relation to conduct issues concerning solicitors, barristers, accountants and surveyors. He has conducted a number of substantial hearings involving allegations of misconduct against auditors on behalf of the bodies responsible for investigating complaints against auditors in cases raising issues of public interest.

Patrick operates also in the field of public law, specialising in A1P1 cases. He appeared in the Supreme Court in UKIP v Electoral Commission, and in Court of Appeal in the leading A1P1 solar panel claims against DECC; Breyer v DECC.

He is a co-author of the chapter on solicitors’ negligence in the Lloyds looseleaf on Professional Negligence.

Privacy Policy



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Areas of Expertise

Sports Law

'He has a fantastic manner and outstanding judgement' – The Legal 500, 2015.

Patrick Lawrence comes from a racing family. He has conducted a number of hearings before the BHA's Disciplinary Panel, and for a period sat on the Panel as one of its three legally qualified members. He has acted in many cases concerning sports spread betting, and has drafted the standard terms used by the members of the Sports Spread Betting Association. Cases include: (i) *McGarel Groves v Glyn*; action arising out of death of international dressage horse; (ii) *BHA v Warwick Racecourse*; 2day hearing arising out of abandonment of racing at Warwick; (iii) *BHA v Wigham & MacKay*; 2 day hearing into Rule 155/157 complaints.

He appeared for the successful defendant in *Venturi v Coral Eurobet* [2012] EWHC 2139, a claim brought by an internet gambler who alleged that he had turned 20 euros into 700,000 euros in 2 hours.

In 2011 he obtained an injunction on the morning of Derby day to restrain Kieren Fallon from riding in the Derby; *Araci v Fallon* [2011] EWCA Civ 668.

In 2017-19 he acted in a number of claims brought against gambling operators by parties who claimed that their money had been used, and lost, by a gambler who should not have been allowed to bet. The claims involved the development of equitable principles to circumvent the obstacles created by the decision in *Calvert v William Hill*.

Cases

- *Venturi v Coral Eurobet*
- *Vefa Ibrahim Araci v Kieren Fallon*
- *Glyn (t/a Priors Farm Equine Veterinary Surgery) v. McGarel-Groves*
- *Exterior Profiles Ltd v. Curragh Bloodstock Agency Ltd*

Qualifications & Memberships

Christ Church, Oxford, 1st class degree in P.P.E