

Simon Teasdale

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Simon Teasdale has a specialist costs law practice, which sits alongside a broader commercial practice including professional liability and international arbitration work. In addition to being led by Silks in chambers, he regularly appears as sole counsel at hearings and trials in the High Court, Senior Courts Costs Office, and County Court.

Simon is also a co-author of the 4th edition of *Toulson & Phipps on Confidentiality*, in which his writing has had a particular focus on legal professional privilege, issues of confidentiality which may arise in the conduct of litigation, and the relationship between lawyers and their clients.

For examples of his recent experience and ongoing work, please see the individual practice areas below.

Privacy Policy

Click here for a **Privacy Policy** for Simon Teasdale.

Areas of Expertise

Costs

Simon's practice focuses heavily on costs litigation, and he is developing a particular specialism in solicitor-client disputes.

Examples of his recent instructions include:

- Being led by Nicholas Bacon QC for the successful solicitors in *Mr H TV Limited v Archerfield Partners LLP* [2019] 10 WLUK 499, detailed assessment proceedings brought by a former client. A three-day preliminary issue trial in the SCCO was held in May 2019 on the question of whether £3.6m of costs had been 'approved' for the purposes of CPR 46.9(3)(a) and (b).
- Being led by Nicholas Bacon QC in a claim brought in the Commercial Court by a major city firm against former clients. Simon acted for two defendant trustees that were alleged to be liable for unpaid fees and interest totalling more than £6m. The litigation involved issues of wrongful termination of retainer, quantum, and holding hearings in private.
- Being led by Roger Mallalieu QC on behalf a client bringing multi-million-pound assessment proceedings against a city firm, including a challenge to the enforceability of the firm's CFA.
- Being led by Robert Marven QC in an application for security for costs within a Solicitor Act assessment.
- Being led by Nicholas Bacon QC in high-value solicitor-client proceedings, centred on the enforceability of the firm's CFA and the availability of severance, quantum meruit and/or the retention of sums paid to date.
- Advising in relation to solicitors' liens, delivery up of clients' files, charging orders pursuant to section 73 of the Solicitors Act 1974, and disclosure obligations in detailed assessments.

- Acting as sole counsel (and led) for major city firms seeking to bring claims against former clients for the payment of fees. Simon has substantial experience in advising on the status of statute bills, the pleading of claims for recovery of fees, and acting in litigation between solicitors and their former clients (both in the High Court and County Court).
- Routinely acting as sole counsel in all forms of inter partes hearings, from interim applications to detailed assessments, both in the SCCO and County Court.
- Successfully defending a Part 35 Expert against an application for the third-party costs order.
- Advising and appearing in applications regarding points of principle in the application of Protocol costs, Part 45 and Part 36.
- Advising a magic circle firm on its standard terms and conditions for billing, led by Nicholas Bacon QC.
- Advising in relation to the prospects of improving on the results of inter partes provisional assessments, and advocacy at oral review hearings.
- Drafting Points of Dispute/Replies to Points of Dispute in a high-value detailed assessments.
- Dealing routinely with cost budgeting at CCMCs and the summary assessment of inter partes costs (whether or not instructed in the litigation more widely).
- Advising on the application of QOCS to ‘mixed’ claims, following the decision in *Siddiqui v University of Oxford* [2018] EWHC 536 (QB).
- Acting in claims by policyholders and solicitors against legal expenses insurers.
- Acting on behalf of a barrister who had been made subject to a wasted costs order within the bankruptcy proceedings of a former client.

Qualifications & Memberships

Simon read Law at New College, Oxford, graduating in 2014 with first class honours. He went on to complete the Bar Professional Training Course, for which he was graded Outstanding. Simon was called to the Bar in 2015 by Lincoln’s Inn, having been awarded a Lord Denning Scholarship, Hardwicke Scholarship, and Buchanan Prize.

Prior to commencing pupillage, Simon also worked as a Legal Editor at FromCounsel, a specialist online company law service, where he gained a broad experience of corporate law. In particular, Simon’s work involved detailed research into the law of agency, parent and subsidiary company relationships, and the changes introduced by the Small Business, Enterprise and Employment Act 2015. This knowledge and understanding continues to be useful wherever company law issues arise within his practice.

During pupillage, Simon attended the Worshipful Company of Arbitrators’ 2017 Arbitration Weekend, where he was awarded the prizes for Best Advocate as chosen by the arbitrators and Best Advocate as chosen by the delegates.

Education: BA, Oxford (First Class Honours); BPTC, City (Outstanding).

Memberships: COMBAR, TECBAR, SCL, YIAG and PNBA.

Insights

‘The Death Clause’ – can basic charges be recovered under a Conditional Fee Agreement in the event of a client’s death?

29 October 2019

On Thursday 24 October 2019, Mr Justice Pushpinder Saini handed down his judgment in *Higgins & Co Lawyers Ltd v Evans* [2019] EWHC 2809 (QB), an appeal from a decision of Master McCloud sitting in the SCCO. Roger Mallalieu appeared for the successful Appellant. Simon Teasdale explains the facts, the court’s rulings and the implications of the decision.