

Will Cook

Call: 2019

+442078222000 w.cook@4newsquare.com

Clerk: Tom Woolsey

t.woolsey@4newsquare.com

+4402078222039



Will joined 4 New Square in October 2020 following the successful completion of his pupillage under the supervision of Shail Patel, Tim Chelmick and Lucy Colter. He is developing a broad commercial practice in line with Chambers' core areas of work. He is currently instructed as a junior in a £1.3 billion fraud claim in the Chancery Division and in a complex construction dispute in the Technology and Construction Court.

Prior to commencing pupillage, Will read Philosophy, Politics and Economics at Oriel College, Oxford, where he was awarded an Academic Scholarship and graduated with First Class Honours (7th highest in year). He completed the Graduate Diploma in Law at City, University of London with Distinction (4th highest in year) and also won the Jean Monnet Prize for EU Law, before undertaking the Bar Professional Training Course as a Lord Justice Holker Scholar of Gray's Inn. While at school, Will represented England at the World Schools Debating Championships, winning the tournament in 2014 while also being named the best individual speaker.

Areas of Expertise

Civil Fraud

Will is currently instructed as part of a large Counsel team defending a £1.3 billion fraud claim arising out of the collapse of a Russian bank. His experience in this area also includes:

- Assisting in a £50m conspiracy claim arising out of the sale of vintage cars (during pupillage)
- Assisting in a claim brought against a bank under s. 90A FSMA 2000 concerning the publishing of misleading statements (during pupillage)
- Assisting in the contested administration of an estate involving allegations of fraud and dishonesty (during pupillage)
- Assisting in a \$500m claim against a major firm of solicitors arising out of CIS litigation involving allegations of fraud and conspiracy (during pupillage)

Commercial Litigation

Will has a particular interest in this area and has experience of a wide range of commercial disputes, including:

- Acting as part of a Counsel team defending a £1.3 billion fraud claim arising out of the collapse of a Russian bank
- Assisting in a \$500m claim against a major firm of solicitors arising out of CIS litigation involving allegations of fraud and conspiracy (during pupillage)
- Assisting in a multi-million dollar international arbitration concerning the termination of a distribution agreement and giving rise to complex conflict of laws issues (during pupillage)
- Assisting in a claim brought by HNW individuals concerning the disputed ownership of a West London restaurant (during

pupillage)

- Assisting in the defence of a claim brought by a bank under personal guarantees (during pupillage)
- Assisting in a \$5m claim brought by a bank in relation to the international sale of steel (during pupillage)
- Assisting in a \$3m claim brought by a Maltese aviation company in relation to unpaid charter fees (during pupillage)

Construction & Engineering

Will's current instructions in this area include:

- Acting in a £9m construction arbitration relating to a large housing development in London (led by Lucy Colter)
- Acting in a £12m claim in the TCC relating to the design of a slipform rig (led by Lucy Colter)

Insurance

During pupillage Will gained experience of a wide range of policies and insurance matters, including coverage disputes, subrogated claims and claims against insurance brokers. Examples include:

- Instructed by insurers in relation to issues arising from the Business Interruption insurance test case: *FCA v Arch Insurance (UK) Ltd & Ors* [2020] EWHC 2448 (Comm)
- Instructed by professional indemnity insurers defending a claim brought under the Third Parties (Rights Against Insurers) Act 2010
- Instructed by public liability insurers in a claim relating to damage at residential property in Central London
- Assisting in a £1m subrogated claim brought by property damage insurers concerning a fire at commercial property in North London
- Assisting in a coverage dispute concerning a trade credit insurance policy (during pupillage)
- Assisting in a coverage dispute concerning an income protection policy (during pupillage)
- Assisting in a dispute concerning the termination of a life insurance policy (during pupillage)

Professional Liability

During pupillage Will assisted with the conduct and defence of claims against a wide range of professionals, including lawyers, accountants, architects and insolvency practitioners. His experience in this area has included:

- Assisting in a \$500m claim against a major firm of solicitors arising out of CIS litigation involving allegations of fraud and conspiracy (during pupillage)
- Assisting in the defence of a claim against tax advisers arising out of a failed tax scheme (during pupillage)
- Assisting in claims brought by companies against their former solicitors arising out of multi-million pound valuers' negligence litigation (during pupillage)
- Assisting in a claim brought by a HNW individual against his former solicitors arising out of the unsuccessful defence of a conspiracy claim (during pupillage)
- Assisting in the successful strike-out of a £1m claim brought against a City firm of solicitors by their former client (during pupillage)
- Assisting in a claim brought by the management company of a central London property against its managing agents (during pupillage)
- Assisting in the defence of a £250m claim against the former administrators of an insolvent SPV (during pupillage)
- Assisting in a £12m claim against a firm of solicitors arising out of the alleged mis-sale of Interest Rate Hedging Products (during pupillage)
- Assisting in a claim brought against an IFA and IFA network arising out of a failed collective investment scheme (during pupillage)

Qualifications & Memberships

Education: BA, Philosophy, Politics & Economics, Oriel College, Oxford (First Class Honours); GDL, City, University of London (Distinction); BPTC, City, University of London



Scholarships & Awards: Academic Scholarship (Oriel College, Oxford); CPE Scholarship, Lord Justice Holker Scholarship (Gray's Inn); Jean Monnet Prize in EU Law (City, University of London)