



OUR PEOPLE

William Harman

CALL 2016

LEGAL 500

“A remarkable barrister who is not only consistently on top of the detail and willing to get ‘stuck in’, but he thinks creatively and strategically and adds value throughout.”



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Will Harman specialises in commercial litigation and arbitration. His broad practice encompasses business disputes, civil fraud, professional liability and sports law.

“Will’s knowledge and expertise is formidable. A huge asset to any team.” – Legal 500

“He has a sharp intellect with the ability to think very quickly on his feet.” – Chambers & Partners

Privacy Policy

Click here for a [Privacy Policy](#) for Will Harman.

Transparency Statement

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Expertise

Commercial Dispute Resolution

Will acts in a range of complex commercial disputes before courts and international arbitral tribunals. His work has a particular emphasis on financial services litigation, shareholder disputes and commercial group actions.





Alongside his busy practice, Will co-authored the banking and arbitration chapters in the fourth edition of *Toulson & Phipps on Confidentiality*.

Featured Commercial Dispute Resolution cases

- Financial List proceedings by institutional investors against major international bank. Claiming £1.5 billion under ss. 90 and 90A FSMA. Included multiple hearings before the Court of Appeal.
- ICC Arbitration relating to the funding agreements behind a multi-year nuclear power plant project.
- Commercial Court proceedings arising from a sponsorship agreement between a Premier League football club and a major international petrochemical group.
- Derivative claim in Chancery Division by minority shareholder alleging breach of fiduciary duty by a company director.
- Financial List proceedings against a major mining conglomerate arising from allegations of bribery and price fixing. One of The Lawyer's Top 20 Cases in 2026.
- LCIA Arbitration arising from alleged loans by a Georgian bank.

Will is a member of COMBAR.

Civil Fraud

Will is ranked as a leading barrister for civil fraud by Legal 500.

He acts in the full range of dishonesty claims and has a particular interest in securities fraud having been involved in a substantial number of the leading cases under ss. 90 and 90A FSMA issued in the UK in recent years.

Featured Civil Fraud cases

- Financial List proceedings by institutional investors against major international bank. Claiming £1.5bn under ss. 90 and 90A FSMA. Included multiple hearings before the Court of Appeal.
- Substantial fraud proceedings arising from the collapse of a high-profile property development scheme. Included contempt proceedings against one defendant.
- Financial List proceedings against a major mining conglomerate arising from allegations of bribery and price fixing. One of The Lawyer's Top 20 Cases in 2026.
- High-profile fraud proceedings relating to the collapse of a Russian bank pleaded at more than £1bn.
- Financial List proceedings against well-known online retailer alleging dishonest market disclosures.
- Claim for *Norwich Pharmacal* relief on behalf of a South Korean university following a substantial APP fraud.
- Conspiracy claim against multiple national law firms pleaded at £130m.

Will is a member of the Commercial Fraud Lawyers Association.

Professional Liability

Will is ranked as a leading barrister for professional negligence by Legal 500.

He has extensive experience in a wide range of professional liability work, with a particular emphasis on claims against solicitors, barristers and accountants.

As a co-author of *Toulson & Phipps*, he has particular expertise in confidentiality and privilege issues arising from professional retainers.

Featured Professional Liability cases





- Commercial Court claim against international property consultants arising from collapse of substantial UK property investment fund.
- Conspiracy claim against multiple national law firms pleaded at £130m.
- Defending international auditors in high-value claims arising from the administration of a Guernsey investment fund.
- Acting for major international law firm defending claims arising from £500m arbitration proceedings.
- Defending criminal silk in claims by former client accused of multi-million-pound investment fraud.
- Commercial Court proceedings against accountants arising from failed tax investment schemes.
- Acting for insurance broker in a dispute over the proper construction of an accident policy.

Will has also appeared in the SDT in regulatory proceedings following the administration of a well-known law firm.

Sports Law

Will is ranked as a leading barrister for sports law by Chambers & Partners and Legal 500.

He receives instructions in a range of matters involving the sports industry with a particular focus on anti-doping, match fixing and financial fair play. Will is also regularly instructed in complex commercial disputes with a sports context.

Featured Sports Law cases

- Acting for the International Tennis Integrity Agency in multiple match-fixing cases at first instance and before the Court of Arbitration for Sport.
- Commercial Court proceedings arising from a sponsorship agreement between a Premier League football club and a major international petrochemical group.
- Acting for a Premier League football club in multiple contractual disputes with player agents.
- Financial fair play proceedings against a Championship football club.
- Defending a national anti-doping organisation against WADA charges relating to non-compliant national anti-doping rules.
- Rule K arbitration between a Premier League player and his former agent involving allegations of breach of fiduciary duty.
- Part of a solicitor and barrister team conducting a governance review on behalf of a major national governing body.
- Defending a claim for unlawful means conspiracy by the organisers of a prestigious sporting event against ticketing companies.

Will is a member of the British Association for Sports Law.

Awards



Directory Rankings





Chambers & Partners

- Sport

Legal 500

- Professional Negligence
 - Fraud: Civil
 - Sport
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Qualifications

Before joining 4 New Square, Will undertook the Bar Professional Training Course (graded Outstanding) and the Graduate Diploma in Law (with Distinction) at City Law School. He was called to the Bar by Lincoln's Inn as a Lord Denning Scholar, Hardwicke Scholar and Buchanan Prize winner.

Will previously worked as a journalist in Rome covering the 2013 Italian election. He also holds a first class degree in Modern and Medieval Languages from the University of Cambridge, where he received the prize for the best performance in Italian.

Education – BA, Cambridge (First Class Honours); GDL, City (Distinction); BPTC, City (Outstanding)

Memberships –COMBAR, CFLA, PNBA, BASL

