

Alex Ivory

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Alex joined Chambers in 2022, following the successful completion of his pupillage. He has established a busy practice across all of Chambers' specialisms. He is particularly interested in clinical negligence, product liability, property damage and insurance disputes. Alex is an experienced advocate, appearing both as sole counsel and junior counsel in interlocutory hearings and trials.

Alex is a member of the Attorney-General's 'Junior-Junior' scheme. He is currently instructed in the Thirlwall Inquiry. He was previously instructed as a Junior-Junior for HMRC in the COVID-19 Inquiry.

Before joining Chambers, Alex graduated from the University of Oxford with a First Class degree in Law and attained a Distinction in the BCL the following year. Alex subsequently worked as an international arbitration clerk at a US law firm.

Expertise

Insurance

Alex has experience of acting and advising in a wide variety of insurance matters, including aviation insurance, COVID-19 business interruption, and fraud.

Notable Insurance cases

Instructed as part of a counsel team (led by Charles Dougherty KC and Ruth Kennedy) for a war-risks insurer in litigation arising out of the insurance of commercial aircraft leased in Russia.

Acting for the insurer in a coverage dispute under a travel insurance policy for losses arising from travel restrictions imposed during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Advising the insurer in respect of the merits of invoking fraud in a coverage dispute.

Advising the insurer as to its position following undisclosed settlement of a subrogated claim by an insured.

Assisting (as a pupil) Charles Dougherty KC and Timothy Killen in *Various Eateries Trading Limited v Allianz Insurance Plc* [2022] EWHC 3549 (Comm), a case concerning issues of policy coverage, causation and aggregation in relation to business interruption losses caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Clinical Negligence

Alex acts in clinical negligence matters both led and unled. As sole counsel, Alex regularly settles pleadings in both the High Court and the County Court. He also has experience of advising on liability and quantum, in writing and in conference. The broad range of clinical negligence cases in which Alex has acted or advised include those related to cauda equina syndrome, stillbirth, hypoxic brain injury, sepsis, multiple limb amputation, delayed diagnosis of cancer, suicide while in a psychiatric care facility, failure to obtain informed consent, cosmetic surgery and hair transplants.

Alex is also often instructed by NHS Trusts in claims which cut across practice areas, including data protection, human rights and employers' liability.

Alex recently acted (led by Caroline Harrison KC) on behalf of the Defendant NHS Trust in a claim arising from alleged failure to act on a CTG leading to hypoxic brain injury. The matter was heard at a five-day trial in the High Court in January 2024 and judgment is awaited.

Property Damage

Alex has a busy property damage practice. He acts in a variety of property damage and construction disputes, including damage by fire, flood and tree roots. He is regularly instructed by Claimants and Defendants and has experience in acting in and advising on cases involving alleged damage to utilities services such as gas and electricity.

Notable Property Damage cases

Representing the successful defendant at trial in a claim arising from damage allegedly caused by railway dust.

Representing the successful local authority at trial in a claim brought for alleged damage to a residence from arboricultural debris.

Assisting in a c.£1m subrogated claim against gas companies for property damage following a gas explosion deliberately caused by a third party.

Assisting with advising on a contribution claim brought under the Construction Plant-hire Association Model Conditions.

Product Liability

Alex accepts instructions in a range of product liability work.

He is currently instructed (led by Toby Riley-Smith KC and Anna Hughes) in a number of claims brought by patients against a manufacturer of a female sterilisation product.

During pupillage, Alex assisted in advising on a proposed novel claim against a global online marketplace for a defective product sold via its website.

He recently acted as sole counsel in a claim involving an allegedly defective boiler.

Public Inquiries

Alex has an established practice in public inquiry work. He is currently instructed as part of the counsel team for the Thirlwall Inquiry. He was previously instructed as a Junior-Junior for HMRC in the COVID-19 Inquiry. As a pupil, he assisted on behalf of a core participant in the Grenfell Tower Inquiry.

Commercial

Alex accepts instructions across all areas of Chambers' commercial work. Alex recently assisted in a US\$ 130m arbitration governed by ADCCAC rules and seated in Abu Dhabi.

During pupillage, he assisted Timothy Killen with a claim brought in the DIFC courts arising out of alleged

breaches of a joint venture agreement.

Private International Law

Alex welcomes instructions in private international law matters. He has experience of advising on, and settling pleadings in, actions against foreign insurers, including advising on service out of jurisdiction.

Alex recently acted for the successful Defendant in an application for strike-out of a claim defectively brought against a Romanian haulage company.

Personal Injury

Alex has experience of advising, drafting and appearing at trial in personal injury matters including road traffic accidents and accidents at work. Alex frequently acts for both Claimants and Defendants in cases where fundamental dishonesty is alleged.

Notable Personal Injury cases

Successfully resisting an appeal against dismissal of a claim brought by a cyclist for personal injury arising from a road traffic accident.

Acting as a 'junior-junior' in a fact-heavy stress at work claim, involving allegations spanning a number of years.

Assisting Niazi Fetto KC in a multi-million pound claim arising out of the alleged unlawful immigration detention of a Sri Lankan sexual abuse victim.

Awards

- Cynthia Terry Scholarship and Residential Award, Gray's Inn
- Fountain Court Chambers Scholarship for the BCL
- Harris Prize for Law Finals, Keble College
- Law Faculty Prize for Media Law, University of Oxford
- Des Voeux Chambers Junior Scholarship
- Deirdre Tucker Memorial Prize in Law, Keble College

Education

- BA Jurisprudence (First Class), University of Oxford
- Bachelor of Civil Law (Distinction), University of Oxford
- Bar Training Course (Distinction), BPP University