

Paige Mason-Thom

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Paige is a dedicated and approachable junior barrister who regularly appears in the High Court and County Court. She accepts instructions across all of Chambers' main specialisms, but has a particular focus on clinical negligence, personal injury, product liability and property damage. Paige has a special interest in cases which involve complex questions of scope of duty, causation and quantum.

Paige is an experienced advocate with a busy Court practice, representing clients both at trial and in interlocutory hearings. She is also frequently instructed in out-of-Court settings, such as Joint Settlement/Round Table Meetings (JSMs/RTMs) and mediations. Paige regularly advises in complex and high-value matters and has considerable experience in handling large volumes of technical and medical expert evidence.

Paige is routinely instructed by local and central Government and is a member of the Attorney-General's 'Junior-Junior' scheme. She is currently acting for His Majesty's Revenue and Customs in the Covid-19 Inquiry where, as Lead Junior-Junior, she has worked closely with Junior and Senior Counsel and with HMRC to design and implement an effective document review system. She now manages and quality assures the main review team, with particular responsibility for sensitive and privileged documents. Paige has also previously been instructed on the Infected Blood Inquiry.

Paige is passionate about access to the Bar and sits on Chambers' pupillage and mooted committees, as well as regularly speaking at law fairs and student events. She is happy to answer questions from students considering the Bar as a career and can be contacted on the email address above.

Prior to joining Chambers, Paige read for undergraduate and Masters' degrees in Law at Emmanuel College, Cambridge where she received a number of scholarships and prizes. She also taught Land Law and Equity and Trusts at the London School of Economics.

Expertise

Clinical Negligence

Paige has a flourishing clinical negligence practice and is regularly instructed in her own right and as junior Counsel alongside prominent KCs and leading Senior Juniors.

Paige has experience of a broad range of clinical negligence claims, such as those related to obstetrics (including wrongful birth, hypoxic brain injuries and still birth), mental ill-health (including suicide and self-harm while under psychiatric care), sepsis and delayed diagnosis of cancer. She also has considerable experience of claims arising out of cosmetic surgery and non-surgical aesthetic treatments. Paige's clinical negligence instructions often cross practice-area boundaries and have included cases involving human rights and data protection legislation.

As sole counsel, Paige's expertise combines drafting, advisory work and advocacy in both the High Court and the County Courts. She has a successful track record of representing clients at Joint Settlement/Round Table Meetings (JSMs/RTMs) and mediations.

Paige is regularly instructed as junior counsel in complex and high-value cases. She is particularly experienced in the assessment of quantum in multi-million pound disputes, where her thoroughness and attention to detail comes to the fore.

Notable Clinical Negligence cases

Z-R v Dr P:

Paige, led by Martin Porter KC, acted for the Defendant in relation to a claim brought by the widow and children of a patient who had committed suicide while under in-patient care. The matter was heard at an eight-day trial in May 2023 and judgment is awaited.

JM v COC NHSFT:

Paige is acting for the Claimant in relation to his claim for damages following a failure to diagnose hypopharyngeal cancer, leading to stage migration and significantly reduced survival prospects.

TL v SCAS NHST:

Paige is representing the Defendant ambulance service in relation to alleged negligence by paramedics in managing an obstructed labour, leading to neonatal death and PTSD on the part of the mother.

OG v MSE NHST:

Paige, led by Martin Porter KC, is instructed on behalf of the Defendant NHS Trust in relation to a claim arising out of the negligent delay in expediting the Claimant's birth. As a result, the Claimant sustained

profound neurological injuries and has a severely impaired life expectancy. The matter is listed for trial in early 2024.

CCC v COC NHSFT:

Paige, led by Michael de Navarro KC, acted for the Defendant Trust in a wrongful birth claim. The Claimant had given birth to twins with profound disabilities, including four-limb cerebral palsy. The claim was pleaded at £21 million and settled at a Joint Settlement Meeting.

NG v CWH NHSFT:

Paige represented the Defendant Trust in a claim concerning the alleged mismanagement of anticoagulation medication leading to severe retroperitoneal haemorrhage. The position on causation was complicated by the Deceased's multiple co-morbidities and a significant delay between the index stroke and her death. The claim was successfully settled at a Joint Settlement Meeting.

Personal Injury

Paige has a busy personal injury practice, frequently being instructed in cases involving fatal or complex injuries. She has significant experience of accidents at work, road traffic accidents and accidents on the highway, along with proceedings brought under the Animals Act 1971 and the Occupiers' Liability Acts. Paige is regularly instructed by local government, national corporations and the Motor Insurers' Bureau (MIB).

Paige is a capable trial advocate in personal injury matters and has extensive experience of cases involving fundamental dishonesty. She is also experienced in out-of-court settlement negotiations, with and without a mediator. Paige is happy to accept instructions from both Claimants and Defendants.

Notable Personal Injury cases

CL v MoD:

acting in a claim against the Ministry of Defence in relation to catastrophic injuries sustained during a military training exercise and the subsequent development of Complex Regional Pain Syndrome (CPRS). Paige is also instructed in the linked claim in negligence against the NHS Trust responsible for amputating the injured limb.

OM v DHL Ltd:

successfully representing the Defendant at a multi-day, multi-track trial of an employee's claim for disabling injury following an accident delivering a washing machine to a third floor flat.

SQ v PH Ltd:

acting for a company providing residential care for adults with severely challenging behavioural needs in a

claim concerning a permanent eye injury sustained during an attack on a member of staff by a service user.

B&S Ltd v RC Ltd:

advising the Defendant regarding a contribution claim brought in relation to a claim for diffuse pleural thickening following historic asbestos exposure.

RG v VES Ltd:

representing the Defendant company in a claim in relation to chemical poisoning and long-term respiratory damage arising out of alleged exposure to Hydrogen Sulphide at work.

SG v FDS Ltd & MIB:

advising on merits, quantum and strategy in relation to a claim arising from a catastrophic leg injury caused by a construction vehicle at a recycling plant.

Paige's personal injury expertise is frequently called into service in her property damage and product liability practice, where bodily injury is sustained alongside damage to property.

Property Damage

Paige has a diverse property damage practice, encompassing a broad range of factual and legal contexts. She acts for Claimants and Defendants in cases arising from damage by fire, flood and sewage. She also has experience of subsidence claims and other damage caused by vegetation. In light of her personal injury expertise, Paige is well placed to advise in 'mixed' cases of injury and/or death arising from property damage.

Paige is a contributing author to the recently published '*Law of Property Damage*'.

Notable Property Damage cases

ICS Ltd v LBTH:

acting for a London Borough in a claim arising out of the ingress of foul water into a commercial property. The Claimant sought damages in excess of £650,000, including claims for the loss of value of the lease and for personal injury due to ammonia inhalation. The claim was successfully settled for less than half its pleaded value.

FC v DBC:

advising in a claim against a Borough Council concerning building damage caused by encroaching tree roots.

PG t/a M v FLC Ltd & Anor:

a claim concerning a significant escape of water at a commercial premises during the Covid lockdown. Advised on liability, in particular the Defendants' responsibilities under the relevant lease, and on quantum.

Paige has experience of applying the doctrine of pure economic loss in complex circumstances and is familiar with addressing questions of contribution and of insurance coverage within the property damage context.

Product Liability

Paige accepts instructions from both Claimants and Defendants across a broad range of product liability matters. In light of her extensive clinical negligence expertise, Paige is particularly well placed to advise in pharmaceutical cases and those involving medical devices.

Notable Product Liability cases

CI v AS Ltd & Anor:

representing the Defendant supplier in relation to a claim arising from a fire extinguisher's failure to operate when needed during a house fire, causing extensive property damage and personal injury. The matter is listed for trial in late 2023.

B v B&M Stores Ltd:

advising the Claimant on their prospects of succeeding under the Consumer Protection Act 2015 or in negligence where the allegedly defective item had been destroyed in the fire that was the subject of the claim.

G v B Ltd:

acting for the Claimant in relation to her claim for damages arising from a house fire caused by a defective dishwasher.

Private International Law

Paige has experience of advising and pleading in cases involving jurisdiction, choice of law and the impact of Brexit. She also is familiar with the interactions between private international law and other areas of Chambers' expertise such as insurance and personal injury.

Commercial

Paige is regularly instructed to advise, plead and appear in a broad range of commercial matters, including insurance, insolvency, and general contractual disputes. Paige has also been instructed in several high value international arbitrations relating to disputes over exclusion of liability, subrogation, and breach of contract.

Awards

- Teaching Excellence Award, London School of Economics (2018)
- Advocacy Exhibition, BPP Holborn (2017)
- Accommodation Award, Lincoln's Inn (2015)
- Lord Denning Scholarship, Lincoln's Inn (2015)
- John Hall Prize, University of Cambridge (2014)
- Senior Exhibition, University of Cambridge (2014)
- Sir David William Prize, University of Cambridge (2013)
- Porter Senior Scholarship, University of Cambridge (2013)
- Rebecca Flower Squire Scholarship, University of Cambridge (2013)

Education

- BPTC (Outstanding), BPP University
- LLM, Emmanuel College, Cambridge University
- BA in Law, Emmanuel College, Cambridge University

Recommendations

"Paige is extremely clever, very diligent and perceptive in her analysis of cases in a way which belies the number of years of her call."

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