

Brian McCluggage

Call: 1995
mccluggage@12kbw.co.uk



AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Personal Injury, Insurance, Fraud, Clinical Negligence, Property, Property Damage

JUDICAL APPOINTMENTS

Fee-paid Employment Judge (2010 to date); Bar Disciplinary Tribunal (2017- 2024)

Brian McCluggage is a leading practitioner in high-value insurance litigation with thirty years' experience at the Bar. He acts principally for insurers and defendant solicitors in catastrophic personal injury claims, complex liability disputes, and substantial property damage and indemnity work.

He is regularly instructed as sole counsel in claims valued up to £15 million. His practice is characterised by meticulous evidential preparation, command of technical and scientific material, and a direct, strategically focused approach to case management. He is recognised for his courtroom advocacy, particularly his cross-examination of expert witnesses and his willingness to take difficult points at trial.

Brian's early years at the Bar saw him develop a broad civil and regulatory practice. He was junior counsel to the Crown for twenty years and gained experience across professional negligence, contractual disputes, indirect taxation, and injunctive relief. This grounding informs his current more specialised practice.

He is also a tenant at Nine St John Street Chambers in Manchester.

Property Damage

Brian accepts instructions in substantial property damage disputes and related coverage work. His practice encompasses claims arising from damage to infrastructure and commercial property, including railway bridges and high-value structures; fire damage claims, including disputes concerning *Rylands v Fletcher* liability and *ignis suus*; and claims involving goods damaged or lost in the custody of third parties, where issues of bailment and sub-bailment arise.

Notable property work includes defending claims of over £30 million arising from the Lancashire Business Park fire and litigating disputes involving prestige and collectible vehicles valued in excess of £1 million.

Qualifications

MA (Cantab)

LL.M. (Toronto)

Middle Temple Harold G Fox Scholar