

James Pickering

Call: 2013
jpickering@12kbw.co.uk



AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Personal Injury, Industrial Disease, International & Travel, Abuse, Insurance, Military Claims, Group Litigation

James is a leading junior in cases involving serious injuries and fatal accidents, with expertise in international and group litigation. He acts in complex and cutting-edge litigation, often with a cross-border element.

Chambers UK and The Legal 500 describe him as “really excellent”, “razor-sharp”, and “a brilliant lawyer”. “James has a Rolls Royce brain and eye for detail.” “His tactics and strategy always result in favourable outcomes.”

The legal directories rank him as a leading junior in Group Litigation, Personal Injury, Industrial Disease, International Personal Injury, and Motor Insurance Fraud.

James was junior counsel in the Military Deafness Litigation, one of The Lawyer's Top 20 Cases of 2025.

James leads 12KBW's Band 1-ranked International & Travel Team. He edits the key practitioner textbooks in his areas of practice: *Occupational Illness Litigation* (Sweet & Maxwell), *Asbestos: Law & Litigation* (Sweet & Maxwell), and *Butterworths Personal Injury Litigation Service (Accidents Abroad)* (LexisNexis UK).

Qualifications & Awards

BCL (Distinction), Exeter College, University of Oxford
BPTC, City, University of London
BA Jurisprudence, Saint Peter's College, University of Oxford

Inner Temple Pegasus Scholarship
London Common Law & Commercial Bar Association Essay Prize
Law Faculty Prize for Criminal Justice and Human Rights
Ralph Chiles Award for Comparative Human Rights
Middle Temple Colombos Law Prize
Exeter College Tobias Prize in Law
Times Law Awards, 2nd Prize
Oxford Postgraduate Internship Award
Exeter College Internship Grant
Saint Peter's College Law Essay Prize

Memberships

Personal Injuries Bar Association

Pan European Organisation of Personal Injury Lawyers

London Common Law & Commercial Bar Association

Publications

Occupational Illness Litigation (Sweet & Maxwell) (Editor)

Asbestos: Law & Litigation (Sweet & Maxwell) (Co-Editor)

Butterworths Personal Injury Litigation Service (Accidents Abroad) (LexisNexis UK) (Editor)

'*Asbestos Product Litigation*', *Journal of Personal Injury Law* (2021, 1, pp. 17-24)

Directories

James is very thorough, with a great eye for detail, tactic and strategy which always results in favourable outcomes – I've been really impressed. – Chambers & Partners, 2026

James is a brilliant lawyer. He is a great speaker and great operator for group litigation as he's seen a lot of it, and is a specialist in industrial disease and international litigation. – Chambers & Partners, 2026

I'm always amazed by his level of expertise and technical knowledge on cross-border matters. He is certainly a fine advocate who deserves strong recognition. – Chambers & Partners, 2026

He is very thorough and has a great eye for detail. His tactics and strategy always result in favourable outcomes. – Chambers & Partners, 2026

James has a Rolls-Royce brain and eye for detail. – Chambers & Partners, 2026

James Pickering is very reliable. He is thoughtful, thorough and extremely good in conference when advising clients on highly sensitive and emotive subjects. – Chambers & Partners, 2026

James is unbelievably brainy and very good at distilling difficult issues into simple, clear digestible notes and advice. – Chambers & Partners, 2026

He is a very erudite barrister able to cut through to the issues quickly. – Chambers & Partners, 2026

He is really good, very experienced and practical. – Chambers & Partners, 2026

James is a super junior with a massive future. He is incredibly bright, meticulous and approachable. – Chambers & Partners, 2025.

James is really excellent – a technical and effective advocate. – Chambers & Partners, 2025.

He gives excellent advice, delivered with an attention to detail and a reassuring, calming demeanour. – Chambers & Partners, 2025.

Quietly understated due to his modesty, James nonetheless possesses a towering intellect and is able to master the law in a wide range of areas from international law to English procedural law before deploying it with lethal effect. – Legal 500, 2025.

James is razor-sharp and super responsive. – Legal 500, 2024.

He is truly an encyclopedia of knowledge. He is across law, fact and history. – Chambers & Partners, 2024.

James is pragmatic and meticulous, and always on hand in the most difficult of cases. His presence at your side is a reassuring one. – Chambers & Partners, 2024.

James is an excellent barrister. – Chambers & Partners, 2023.

James has a brilliantly analytical yet creative legal intellect which he brings to bear in the most legally challenging of claims, with jurisdictional issues being a particular forte of his. – Legal 500, 2022.