

James Pickering

Call: 2013
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AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Personal Injury, Industrial Disease, International & Travel,
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” and “a super junior with a massive future. He is incredibly bright, meticulous and approachable.” He “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.”

He is ranked as a leading junior in Personal Injury (Chambers UK and The Legal 500), Industrial Disease (Chambers UK), and International Personal Injury (Chambers UK).

James specialises in group litigation. He is instructed in the Military Deafness Litigation, one of The Lawyer’s Top 20 Cases of 2025. He was Junior Counsel for the Claimants in *Adams v Ministry of Defence* [2024] EWHC 1966 (KB), the leading authority on the use of “omnibus” Claim Forms in large-scale personal injury actions.

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).

Cases

Adams v Ministry of Defence [2024] EWHC 1966 (KB): The leading authority on the use of “omnibus” Claim Forms in large-scale personal injury actions.

Woodward v Mapfre Espana Compania de Seguros y Reaseguros [2022] Lexis Citation 1433: A key case on the recovery of Spanish penalty interest in the English Courts, eventually appealed to the Court of Appeal: [2024] EWCA Civ 718.

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

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