

Navjot Atwal

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AREAS OF EXPERTISE

International & Travel, Inquests, Aviation

Navjot Atwal is a highly experienced practitioner with a strong reputation in travel litigation and complex personal injury claims arising out of accidents occurring domestically and abroad. He has acted in a number of serious and high value cases (at all court levels) and regularly appears on his own against leading counsel.

Navjot is recognised in the legal directories (both Chambers & Partners and The Legal 500) as a leading junior in travel litigation. He is regularly instructed by major tour operators to defend claims under the Package Travel Regulations and common law. He has particular expertise when it comes to advising on issues relating to the scope of the Regulations, locally applicable standards, excursions and contractual recovery actions by tour operators.

Navjot regularly advises and acts for claimants and defendant insurers in significant cases involving public, employers' and motor liability (including indemnity issues) arising out of severe and catastrophic injuries as well as fatal accident claims. Navjot has considerable experience of cross border claims involving issues of foreign law and in cases where issues of jurisdiction and conflict of laws arise. He frequently acts in claims involving foreign domiciled defendants, overseas insurers and the MIB in relation to accidents abroad. He has particular experience of claims in respect of the Judgments Regulation and Rome II.

Navjot is regularly instructed by air carriers and cruise operators in relation to claims brought under the international carriage conventions (Warsaw, Montreal and Athens Conventions). He has been involved in a broad range of cases involving accidents during embarkation and disembarkation, cases of sexual assault and race discrimination. He recently successfully defended a major airline accused of race discrimination by a large number of passengers during a flight from Jamaica. He is currently acting for the insurer of a well-known cruise company in defending a claim arising out of the death of a passenger on board. He regularly appears in the Admiralty Court.

He has been commended in the directories for his commercial approach to cases and his effective and robust advocacy in court.

Public authorities/abuse claims

Navjot has particular experience of claims against local authorities and government departments arising out of historic allegations of abuse and sexual assault. He has previously represented government departments in defending such claims (including the MoD, Prison Service and Border Force) and is well-versed in common issues arising in such claims including limitation, vicarious liability, disclosure/duty of candour and specific issues arising under the Human Rights Act. Navjot was formerly on the Attorney General's Panel of Counsel and is therefore well-placed to advise on these issues in the private law sphere having regularly dealt with claims involving serious allegations of false imprisonment, excessive use of force and sexual/physical claims of abuse.