

## Thomas Banks

Call: 2010

banks@12kbw.co.uk



### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Personal Injury, Military Claims, Insurance, Fraud, Inquests, Clinical Negligence, International & Travel, Industrial Disease, Product Liability, Contract / Commercial, Credit Hire, Costs, Sport, Property, Property Damage

Tom is ranked as a Personal Injury Leading Junior in Legal 500. He specialises in catastrophic, complex and high value Personal Injury claims, Insurance Law, Inquests, Military claims, Fraud and Costs.

His specialist personal injury practice focuses on Brain and Spinal Injuries, Fatal Accidents, Motor Insurance and Indemnity Law, International and Travel Law, Public and Employers Liability and Industrial Disease

As former Tank Commander and Intelligence Officer in the British Army, he is also recognised as an established specialist Counsel in Armed Forces Claims.

Tom has also been instructed in High Court Defamation proceedings.

### Personal Injury

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Tom regularly acts as sole Counsel for Claimants and Defendants in serious and complex high value personal injury claims in the High Court and County Courts.

His expertise includes the full range of Public Liability, Employers' Liability and Accidents at Work, Product Liability, claims against Highway Authorities, and Road Traffic Accidents. He is experienced in claims under the Fatal Accidents Act 1976, claims for psychiatric injury, brain injuries and pain syndromes. He has also been involved in several cases involving dangerous sports/pursuits and the use of firearms.

Examples of his recent case load include:

- **James v White Lion Hotel [2021] EWCA Civ 31.** Tom was instructed by the Defendant as junior Counsel in this fatal accident claim in which an RAF Senior NCO died after he fell from a window in a hotel. He represented

the Defendant at the JSM following the liability trial where the claim settled for £315,000.

- **C v C.** A £6.5 million claim by a young Claimant rendered disabled with serious lower limb injuries following a fall down steps in D's premises. Tom was instructed by the Defendant insurer. The claim settled following a JSM for £1.4m
- **S v D, B v D.** Conjoined multi-party Fatal Accident and catastrophic brain injury claims in which a wife was killed, and her husband suffered a life-changing injuries, when both were hit by an unsecured load falling from an HGV. Tom was instructed in behalf of the wife's estate and the husband in both claims (led by Mike Rawlinson QC) which settled at JSM for £2million.
- **N v P.** Tom was instructed by the Defendant motor insurer in a £1.85 million claim for lifelong disability when the Claimant was thrwn from his motorbike. The claim settled at JSM for £420,000
- **B v S.** A £1million pound Employers Liability injury claim where the Claimant suffered catastrophic burns, neurological injury and loss of mobility when he was electrocuted on a building site. Tom was jointly instructed by both Defendants and settled the claim at a JSM for £480,000.
- **B v G.** Tom was instructed by a major motor insurer in a claim by a C5 tetraplegiac who claimed loss of his remaining arm function following a road traffic accident.

Tom will consider Claimant work on a CFA basis where appropriate.

## Qualifications & Awards

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BA (Hons) Keble College, Oxford University

GDL (Oxford Brookes University)

BVC (BPP Law School)

Lord Haldane Scholar (Lincoln's Inn)

Cassell Scholar (Lincoln's Inn)

Hardwicke Scholar (Lincoln's Inn)

## Memberships

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PIBA

TATLA