

Tom Vonberg

Call: 2004
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AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Personal Injury, Clinical Negligence, International & Travel, Insurance, Product Liability, Professional Negligence, Fraud

Tom is a highly regarded barrister in serious and catastrophic injury. He is also respected for his handling of matters arising from fatality, defective products, clinical and professional negligence and in damages claims involving multiple parties.

Tom is comfortable advising in and presenting the most challenging cases at Court and he has worked alongside some of the country's best-known lawyers in his areas of work.

Over the last twenty years of practice, Tom has been involved in many technical and high value cases both on his own account and with leading KC's.

His work has included claims on behalf of both adults and children for brain or spinal injury, as well as complex orthopedic injury and polytrauma. He is also involved in litigation against healthcare providers for clinical negligence as well as frequently acting against producers of defective products both in the UK and overseas.

Tom routinely deals with difficult liability and quantum issues, including those arising out of group litigation, and he is adept at working with expert witnesses.

Tom is known for his ability to communicate effectively and sensitively with professional and lay clients and for the strength of his written and courtroom advocacy on their behalf.

He travels all over the country to meet and act for his clients.

Tom is identified as a leading barrister in the legal directories Chambers and Partners and Legal 500. The 2024 editions report that:

"Tom is liked by the clients and highly regarded for his technical skill and reliable advice. His eye for detail really stands out, and he is very robust in court."

“He is well known for his handling of high-value personal injury claims.”

“Tom is adept at handling product liability cases” and has “experience of appearing in multi-party litigation.”

Recent previous directory entries have described Tom as:

“A highly approachable and impressive advocate”, who is “calm under pressure with a logical approach to cases and a great client manner”, “Excellent on points of law and advice, strong with clients and very approachable and accessible”, “able to simplify complex technical issues”, “Very good on his feet”, “Bright and good on tactical issues”, “pragmatic with an excellent eye for detail”, “very good with clients”, “organised and meticulous in his attention to detail” and who has a “commercial attitude and impeccable manner with clients”.

Before coming to the independent bar, Tom was a barrister at the leading offshore law firm Walkers Global.

International & Travel

Tom has appeared in several interesting cases with a foreign element to them. They range from illness claims to those involving serious injuries, fatality and where there are multiple claimants.

Cases of interest include the following:

“MS Boudica”. Acted for 35 claimants in claims under the Athens Convention brought in the Admiralty Court against Fred Olsen Cruise Lines following widespread sickness on a cruise ship. The claims were widely reported in the press. Instructed by Irwin Mitchell LLP, Birmingham. News item [here](#).

Acted in the High Court for fifteen student claimants, plus the estates in fatal accident claims, against a tour company under the Package Tour Regulations following the rollover of a safari coach in Swaziland, South Africa. The accident was widely reported internationally.

Acted successfully for Claimants against NutriBullet LLC and the parent company based in the United States. The claims were for burn injuries following boiling liquid expanding vapor explosions – the circumstances of which mirror multiple suits in the US. The United Kingdom claims settled at JSM three weeks before the 5-day liability and quantum trial. Instructed by Tim Annett at Irwin Mitchell, Sheffield.

Acted for the Claimant following serious injuries sustained in a helicopter crash in the UK where the Air Accidents Investigation Branch determined that a cause of the accident was due to maintenance work undertaken by a contractor in the USA.

Advised in a fatal accident claim following criminal injuries sustained on the Costa del Sol, Spain. The claim concerned the ability of dependents to obtain awards under the Spanish equivalent of the CICA regime.