



Craig Barlow

Year of Call: 1992

Practice Summary

Craig is recognised by those who instruct him for his sharp legal analysis, strategic approach and ability to identify and explain the key issues in complex cases. He is highly regarded for the quality of his written work and is an effective and persuasive advocate, both in the courtroom and in negotiations.

He prides himself on being approachable and accessible to both lay clients and professional clients. Craig combines high-quality legal advice with a pragmatic and strategic approach, ensuring that complex legal issues are explained clearly and in a way that is accessible and commercially or practically focused.

Craig has extensive experience of high-value and complex civil litigation and has acted in cases involving substantial documentary evidence and multiple parties. He was involved in aspects of the Lloyd's litigation and acted as lead counsel for the Second Defendant in *Accident Exchange v Broom*, a multi-handed civil contempt case involving more than 10,000 pages of documentation and understood to be one of the longest civil contempt trials in English legal history.

His clients include litigants in person (under the Direct Public Access scheme), public authorities, small and medium-sized businesses, financial institutions and major PLCs. He has represented clients in arbitrations and mediations, as well as before a wide range of judicial and quasi-judicial bodies, from the Magistrates' and County Courts through to the High Court and Supreme Court.

Craig's extensive experience appearing before professional disciplinary committees and tribunals has also led to instructions as Special Counsel in professional healthcare and medical disciplinary proceedings. He brings to these matters a detailed understanding of both the substantive issues and the procedural and evidential complexities involved in professional regulation

Commercial Chancery

Craig's philosophy on business disputes is to try and resolve them quickly and as economically as possible. Good advice from an early stage is key to meeting a client's objectives.

Landlord & Tenant

Craig has extensive experience in landlord and tenant disputes, advising and representing both landlords and tenants across a broad range of residential and commercial property matters. His

experience includes disputes concerning covenants, deeds and deposits, disrepair, eviction and forfeiture, notices, possession, prescriptive rights, lease renewals, rent and service charges, rights of way and light, and disputes involving squatters and tenants.

His wider land and property practice encompasses disputes relating to boundaries, bona vacantia, easements, escheat, equity, leases, nuisance, proprietary estoppel, rectification, trespass and registered land. He also advises on rights of way and other property rights, with particular experience in complex disputes concerning the ownership, use and enjoyment of land.

Wills, Trusts & Estates

Craig has experience in a broad range of contentious probate matters, including challenges to the validity of Wills and claims under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependants) Act 1975. His practice encompasses disputes concerning the administration of estates and estate accounts, the appointment and removal of executors and trustees, beneficiaries, testamentary capacity, undue influence, fraud, gifts and donatio mortis causa.

He also advises on caveats, grants and revocation, the interpretation and rectification of Wills, knowledge and approval, loss and claims concerning the validity of testamentary documents. Craig has experience in matters involving complex disputes between beneficiaries, executors and trustees, as well as applications arising from the administration and distribution of estates.

Professional Discipline & Regulatory

Craig has considerable experience in public and administrative law, regularly acting for local authorities including the London Borough of Southwark. He was appointed Standing Counsel in Adult Social Care Law to Denbighshire County Council in 2014 and subsequently to Gwynedd Council and Conwy County Borough Council in 2016.

His Court of Protection practice covers both the health and welfare and property and financial affairs jurisdictions. He advises and represents both applicants and respondents in best interests applications concerning medical treatment and procedures, residence and care arrangements, as well as challenges and objections relating to Attorneys and Deputies. He also advises in applications concerning the execution of Statutory Wills and other matters arising from the exercise of the Court's jurisdiction.

Craig also has substantial experience in professional disciplinary and regulatory proceedings. He has appeared before a range of professional regulatory tribunals and panels, including the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal, General Medical Council, General Osteopathic Council and General Council of Chiropractors.

Noteworthy Cases

Venkov v Metropolitan Police [2023] EWHC 913 (KB) - third party disclosure

R (Parul) v Home Secretary [2022] EWHC 2145 (Admin) - judicial review

Accident Exchange v Broom [2017] EWHC 579 (Admin)- civil contempt

Schomberg v Taylor [2013] EWHC 2269 (Ch) -Wills undue influence

Desor v Patel [2010] EWHC 3965 (QB) - costs

Kumar v Got [2009] EWHC 2961 (QB) - Sale of Goods

D'Souza v Law Society [2006] EWHC 987 (Admin) - Disciplinary

Society of Lloyds v Henderson [2005] EWHC 850 (Comm)- Commercial law

Moody v General Osteopathic Council [2004] EWHC 967 (Admin) - disciplinary

R(Rosen) v Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal [2002] EWHC 1323 (Admin) - judicial review of unlawful policy.

El Naschie v Pitt Place (1999) 34 HLR 278 - property law

Areas of Expertise

- Commercial
- Chancery
- Property
- Professional Discipline And Regulatory
- Administrative Public Law