

Charlie Sparling

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Overview

Charlie practises exclusively in personal injury, clinical negligence and costs. He appears for both Claimants and Defendants in matters concerning both liability and quantum disputes. He has a particular specialism in claims involving chronic pain/somatiform disorders and Mild Traumatic Brain Injury.

Charlie is recognised as a Leading Junior in the field of Personal injury by *The Legal 500* and *Chambers & Partners*.

Charlie is a member of PIBA.

Costs

Charlie is regularly instructed to conduct High Court budgeting hearings, attend detailed assessments at the SCCO, and advise on costs recovery issues on behalf of both Claimants and Defendants.

Charlie recently appeared in the matter of *Hassan v Rygor [2019] QB* (Master Brown), in which he successfully resisted an application for a substantial interim payment on account of costs where liability was admitted.

Personal Injury

Charlie is recognised as a leading junior in both *The Legal 500* and *Chambers & Partners*. He appears for Claimants and Defendants, regularly advising on liability in serious or fatal EL/PL and RTA matters. His work includes accidents resulting in brain injury, amputation and reduced life expectancy.

Charlie has a particular specialism acting in cases involving pain conditions, including Chronic Pain and associated disorders such as Chronic Fatigue Syndrome and Fibromyalgia.

Examples of recent work include:

- *L (a minor) v ST [2020] QB* Charlie acts for the Defendant insurer in this RTA matter concerning a minor who sustained life-changing brain injury, partial loss of vision and multiple skull fractures in 2015. The matter is pleaded at £1.5 million and will be listed for trial in 2021.
- *Eccleshall v Haworth [2020] QB* Charlie acts for the Defendant in this High Court RTA claim matter pleaded in excess of £2.5 million.
- *Ramirez v First Eastern Counties* (QB) (Liability judgement, David Pittaway QC LTL 31/10/2017), Charlie acted for the Claimant in this complex brain-injury matter, in which liability was established in a split trial in 2017. Claim involved 12 medical experts, with evidence touching on brain injury classification, validity/effort testing and audio-vestibular sequelae.
- *Tims v Developing London [2019] CC* Acting for the Defendant, Charlie appeared for the Defendant in this liability and quantum claim in which fundamental dishonesty was advanced in relation to both accident mechanism and the Claimant's presentation to the medical experts.
- *Mulroue v Fermor and Others [2018]*, London CC (HHJ Freeland QC). Charlie successfully acted for the Claimant in this multi-party "road rage" matter, in which the Defendant driver alleged that his negligent actions had been incited by the Second Defendant.

Expertise

- CICA
- Clinical Negligence
- Commercial Law
- Costs
- Court of Protection (CoP)
- Inquests & Public Inquiries
- Motor Defence
- Personal Injury
- SHE & Criminal Regulatory

Recommendations

"Charlie works in a collaborative manner from the outset and sets a clear vision and path to achieve successful outcomes. His advocacy skills are impressive: always confident, clear and concise." *Chambers & Partners 2024*

"Charlie is commercially astute, alive to his client's needs and a formidable advocate, whether in a settlement meeting or in court." *The Legal 500 2024*

"Charlie is a very strong advocate and regularly beats silks in court. His advice is of the highest-quality." *The Legal 500 2023*

"Charlie is a fantastic junior who provides commercial advice." *Chambers & Partners 2023*

Key contacts

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Clinical Negligence

Charlie has specialised in multi-track County and High Court personal injury and clinical negligence actions for the past several years. He has particular interest in matters involving complex causation and quantum issues, particularly somatoform and chronic pain conditions.

Charlie has represented families and other properly interested persons at inquests, including those relating directly to standards of medical and supervisory care provided to elderly patients.

His general experience in clinical negligence matters includes pleading, advising on quantum and/or merits on paper, and dealing with the general interlocutory stages at court, including costs and case management hearings. That experience includes matters involving birth injuries, surgical problems and errors in diagnosis.

Charlie also undertakes inquest work on behalf of both claimants and defendants.

Notable Cases

- *Leadbetter v Sheffield CC and Amey Hallam* EWHC QB [2017]
- *Keeble (deceased) v. East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust* EWHC QB [2017]
- *Anderson v Kent CC and Ors* HC EWHC QB [2016] (led by Jane McNeill QC)
- *Douglas v UK Athletics (1) Coni Sevizi SpA (2)* [2016] (led by [Ben Collins KC](#))
- *Martin v British Petroleum* EWHC QB [2015] (led by Nigel Cooksley QC)
- *Bear v Fulton and Baxter* [2015] 1 C.M.L.R. 40 (acting at EAT level in conjunction with [Michael Ford KC](#))
- *Abecrombie and Ors v Rangemaster* [2013] EWCA CIV 1148 (led by [Oliver Segal KC](#))
- *Vignakumar v Churchill Group Ltd* UK EAT/0222/12/LA, 2013, WL 3450754
- *Douglas v O'Neill* [2011] EWHC 601 (QB) (at Court of Protection stage in conjunction with [Ben Collins KC](#))
- *Vignakumar v. Churchill Group Ltd* UK EAT/0222/12/LA
- *Martin v. British Petroleum Plc* EWHC QB [2013]
- *Sobhi v. Commissioner of the Police of the Metropolis* UK EAT/0518/12/BA (as remitted)
- *Hickling v. Skanska Group Plc* (led by [Jane McNeill KC](#))

Professional Recommendations



"Charlie is a great advocate. He likes detail and facts."

Chambers & Partners 2024

"Charlie works in a collaborative manner from the outset and sets a clear vision and path to achieve successful outcomes. His advocacy skills are impressive: always confident, clear and concise."

Chambers & Partners 2024

"He is good with the experts in cross-examination."

Chambers & Partners 2024

"Charlie is commercially astute, alive to his client's needs and a formidable advocate, whether in a settlement meeting or in court."

The Legal 500 2024

“Charlie is a fantastic junior who provides commercial advice.”

Chambers & Partners 2023

“Charlie is a very strong advocate and regularly beats silks in court. His advice is of the highest-quality.”

The Legal 500 2023

“A very thorough and diligent barrister, and a persuasive advocate.”

The Legal 500 2022

“A very capable and competent barrister. He is very effective in cross-examinations and hugely persuasive in his submissions.” “He is clear with his advice and very commercial with his approach. He also has excellent relationships with his peers at the Bar, which makes settlement meetings easier.”

Chambers & Partners 2022

“A charming advocate who is very good in court.”

Chambers & Partners 2021

“Has a fantastic manner with clients and a very balanced view of cases.”

The Legal 500 2021

“He remains level headed when presented with difficult situations to manage.”

The Legal 500 2020