

HELEN GARDINER

Year of call: 2007

Clerked by: Paul Clarke

AREAS OF EXPERTISE:

Company Dispute Resolution Employment Insolvency
Property



Insolvency

Helen's practice incorporates all aspects of insolvency and restructuring litigation, with particular emphasis on:

- solvent and insolvent liquidations;
- winding up on the just and equitable ground;
- administration orders;
- transactions at an undervalue;
- misfeasance;
- preference;
- orders for sale of property by the liquidator;
- bankruptcy; and
- annulment applications.

Profile

Helen is regularly instructed in high-value commercial matters, particularly breach of warranty claims and matters of banking and securities. She also regularly acts in equine cases, particularly involving title to horses, purchase and sale disputes (with particular emphasis on the Consumer Rights Act 2015), and veterinary negligence.

Helen's significant experience of employment law means she is well placed to act and advise where there is a crossover between commercial and employment law, such as cases involving company insolvency and the transfer of undertakings. She has particular expertise in restraint of trade and directors' duties. She is also regularly instructed in all areas of employment law, particularly discrimination and whistleblowing.

Helen's commercial outlook ensures she is well able to understand the drivers and concerns for litigants in high value and urgent work. She provides robust, practical and direct advice and representation to clients whilst retaining excellent rapport.

Year of Call: 2007

Areas of Expertise

Company

Dispute Resolution

Employment

Insolvency

Property

Memberships

Employment Lawyers Association

ELBA

Industrial Law Society

Qualifications

Lincoln College, University of Oxford 2003-2006, 2:1 in Jurisprudence

Manchester Metropolitan University, Bar Vocational Course 2006-2007, Very Competent

Bacon Award, Grays Inn

Recent Cases

Led by Ed Peppercall QC, defending a complex \$76 million breach of warranty claim heard over 5 weeks in the TCC.

Obtaining an ex parte worldwide freezing injunction and passport order against an Afghan citizen.

Obtaining an injunction on behalf of a property developer against a bank to restrain appointment of receivers, and acting in the claim for over £1 million against it for alleged misrepresentation and breach of loan facility agreements.

Acting in the Crown Court for a bank and successfully protecting its security over a property which was the subject of a confiscation order pursuant to the Proceeds of Crime Act.

Representing a director of a company accused of breaching his duties, conspiring by unlawful means with his new employer, inducing breaches of customer contracts and breaching confidentiality obligations.

Representing a city council against a claim by a former employee for various forms of race and disability discrimination, harassment and victimization. All allegations were dismissed following a 10 day hearing.

Representing a servicewoman in her claim against the Ministry of Defence for disability and sex discrimination.

Successfully representing a pharmacist dismissed for gross misconduct following his failure to notify his employer of malicious allegations made against him to his regulatory body.

Recommendations

"Very approachable and a pleasure to work with." and "Painstaking and self-assured." Legal 500 2019

"Very bright, approachable and excellent on her feet." - Legal 500 2017 and 2018

