

RICHARD LANDER

Year of call: 1993

Clerked by: Harry Young

AREAS OF EXPERTISE:

Banking & Finance Company Private Client, Trusts and Probate
Insolvency Partnership Professional Negligence Real Estate
Litigation



Real Estate Litigation

Richard is a seasoned property litigator. His practice includes all areas of landlord and tenant litigation, notably lease renewals, disrepair claims and possession claims. A substantial part of his practice consists of providing advice and representation to developers (and warring neighbours!) concerning restrictive covenants, boundaries and easements. He also deals with disputes over property ownership, between former cohabitants, business partners and insolvency practitioners.

Significant Reported Cases

Higson v Guenault [2014] EWCA Civ 703 (Court of Appeal). This was a boundary dispute concerning access to a tennis club, which had been decided at first instance on the basis of the wrong title documentation. The appeal concerned the circumstances in which the Court of Appeal should admit further evidence as to title. Once the evidence had been admitted, the issue turned from a boundary dispute to a right of way dispute.

Smith v Bottomley and another - [2013] All ER (D) 376 (Jul)(Court of Appeal). This was a complex claim by a former cohabitant concerning interests in several substantial properties vested in the name of her former partner and the company of which he was a director.

Sikorski v Sikorski and another [2012] EWHC 1613 (Ch) (Briggs J). This was an unfair prejudice petition in the context of a family company, where the relief sought and obtained (unusually) was an order requiring the defendant director to restore funds and regulating future conduct rather than a buyout of shares. The underlying issue was whether the remaining director of the family company was entitled to renege on an agreement to charge a certain rent to his other company, which occupied the family company's premises.

Perriam Limited v Wayne and Daly [2011] All ER (D) 05 (Mar)(Coulson J). This case involved the construction of a badly drafted deed of variation affecting repairing of covenants in a lease of substantial commercial premises.

Tingle v Crutchley REC/2008/0007 (2009, Land Registry Adjudicator). This case concerned the basis upon which a contract and conveyance could be rectified in favour of a successor in title.

Inclusive Technology Limited v Williamson [2009] 3 EGLR 49 (Court of Appeal). This is the first significant decision concerning a tenant's right to compensation pursuant to section 37A of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954, when vacating commercial premises as a result of a landlord's misrepresentation during the lease renewal process.

Re Felton Homes Limited [2004] EW Lands LP_3_2003 (Lands Tribunal). This was an application to vary a restrictive covenant of a type imposed upon a large number of properties in the Wirral village of Caldby.

Profile

Richard joined the Chancery and Commercial team as a pupil in 1994, having previously worked on property law reform at the Law Commission.

Richard's practice covers most aspects of chancery and commercial law, but with a particular emphasis on real estate litigation (commercial and residential) and associated areas such as professional negligence, banking, Inheritance Act claims, administration of estates and corporate and personal insolvency. He is at home dealing with individual clients, major banks or anyone in between.

As well as carrying out drafting and advisory work, Richard has extensive experience of trial work and other litigation in the County Court, High Court and Court of Appeal, as well as before the Property Tribunal.

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Areas of Expertise

Banking & Finance

Company

Insolvency

Partnership

Private Client, Trusts and Probate

Professional Negligence

Real Estate Litigation

Memberships

Chancery Bar Association

Northern Chancery Bar Association

Northern and North Eastern Circuits

Qualifications

University: Cambridge (Downing College)

Degree: MA Hons (Law)

Awards: University ECS Wade Prize for Administrative Law

Harris scholarship

Lincoln's Inn Tancred and Hardwicke Scholar 1994

Recommendations

Chambers UK 2021

"He offers superb legal advice with commercial common sense at the forefront." "Clients like him because of his attention to detail and he gets respect from judges."

"He is prepared to get into the nitty gritty." "He's a very intelligent barrister, completely straight up, and he does a good job for his clients."

Legal 500, 2021

"An excellent advocate, incisive and extremely good with clients."

Legal 500, 2020

"Completely reliable and always thoroughly prepared."

Chambers UK 2020

"He is very practical and judges like his court manner. He is very concise deals with difficult matters in a cool and analytical way." "He is very approachable and has a very good manner with clients."

"He is immensely knowledgeable, very thorough and prompt in providing clear written opinions and advice." "He has a good bedside manner and is also a terrific trial advocate."

Chambers 2019

"Very helpful, analytical, measured and thorough."

Legal 500 2019

"A compelling advocate."

Chambers UK 2018

"Very dependable and exceptionally knowledgeable on different technical areas. He also has a great rapport with clients and a great affinity to understand the legal issues straightaway."

Legal 500 2018

"Very experienced in property litigation."

Chambers UK 2017

"Shows a masterful grasp of the issues. Great on his feet and will drive points home." "Very impressed, he is highly intelligent."

Legal 500 2017

"He gains the total confidence and respect of the client."

Chambers UK 2016

"Shows a masterful grasp of the issues. He is great on his feet and will drive points home."

"He is extremely intelligent, extremely creative in his thinking and very clear in his advice."

