clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

Ben Jaffey KC

"He is the best barrister at the Bar across the board. There is no one better."

– CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS, 2026



Year of call: **1999**
Appointed to silk: **2017**
Degree: **MA Hons (Cantab)**

Ben Jaffey is a silk with a wide-ranging Claimant and Defendant public law, financial services and regulatory law practice and great experience of complex, novel and high-profile litigation. He is ranked in both of the leading legal directories.

Ben is recognised as a leading silk in the latest editions of both the leading legal directories, Chambers UK and Legal 500, for his expertise in admin and public, group litigation, civil liberties and human rights, data protection and financial services. Recent comments include:

- "He is the best barrister at the Bar across the board. There is no one better." - Chambers and Partners, 2026
- "Ben is one of the most in demand barristers practicing today, he dissects the most complex cases in minutes and his cross-examination is a thing of beauty. Instruct him if you can." - Legal 500, 2026
- "Ben is the biggest legal brain in any room and the first person to go to in a legal crisis. His advocacy is a master-class."- Legal 500, 2025
- "Ben knows an answer to any question you can think of. He's a superstar."- Chambers & Partners, 2025

Previous comments include:

- "Ben is excellent. He is extremely clever, thinks very quickly on his feet, is great with clients, and very collegiate to deal with."- Legal 500, 2024
- "The outstanding barrister of his generation. We try to get him in most cases with complex issues. He distils the problems and makes them seem simple. It's an art and he is the outstanding person doing it."- Chambers & Partners, 2024
- "A talented silk who never has a bad day. Always outstanding. Ben is frighteningly excellent and relentless."- Legal 500, 2023
- "Ben Jaffey is a class act in the field of contentious regulatory cases. He's extremely bright and all over the detail, whilst retaining a brilliant grasp of the bigger picture and overall strategy of a case."-Chambers UK, 2023
- "Ben Jaffey is encyclopedic on the law and the processes. He understands them and is fantastic to work with. He is crisp and gets to the point in his advocacy."- Chambers UK, 2023

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

EXPERIENCE

Public & Regulatory

Ben has a wide-ranging public and regulatory practice. He appears for and advises claimants and defendants, including companies, central government, local authorities, public interest groups, individuals and regulators. Before taking silk, he was a member of the Attorney General's A Panel and the Attorney General's Public International Law A Panel.

"Ben Jaffey is just exceptional. His cross-examination is absolutely devastating and it is one of the most impressive things I have ever seen in the courtroom."

— CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS, 2026

Cases

The King (on the application of VT) (Sri Lanka) v Commissioner for the British Indian Ocean Territory

BIOT SC 15&16/2023

The Supreme Court of the British Indian Ocean Territory found that a group of migrants were unlawfully detained on the island of Diego Garcia from their arrival in October 2021 for more than three years.

Weider & Guarnieri v UK

The European Court of Human Rights held that the Claimants who were resident outside of the UK had a right of privacy under Article 8 in relation to GCHQ's bulk surveillance operations. The Court held for the first time that a person outside the UK enjoys protection from invasions to privacy committed in the UK. Ben acted for the Applicants in the European Court of Human Rights and the UK Investigatory Powers Tribunal.

Big Brother Watch v UK

Ben acted for the NGO applicants in the Grand Chamber of the European Court of Human Rights in the leading case on bulk surveillance. Ben also acted in all of the ongoing litigation on the same issues in the UK Investigatory Powers Tribunal.

R (Hillingdon) v Mayor of London (ULEZ Expansion)

[2023] EWHC 1972 (Admin)

Ben acted for the Mayor of London and TfL in defending the lawfulness of the extension of the ULEZ to the whole of Greater London.

R (CAAT) v Secretary of State for International Trade

Ben acted for Campaign Against Arms Trade in a challenge to the lawfulness of arms exports to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Divisional Court

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

R (VT and others) v Commissioner for the British Indian Ocean Territory

Successfully established right to legal aid for migrants seeking refugee status in the British Indian Ocean Territory.

R (Liberty) v SSHD (Investigatory Powers Act 2016 Challenge

Acted for Liberty in ongoing challenge to the lawfulness of parts of the Investigatory Powers Act 2016. Currently pending on remittal from the Court of Appeal to the Divisional Court.

Re A (Parental Responsibility)

Acted for Lord Chancellor in the Court of Appeal successfully defending provisions of Children Act that provide that parental responsibility is irrevocable in some cases.

R (Open Rights Group & The3Million) v SSHD

Acted for ORG and 3Million in two judicial reviews, both in the Court of Appeal about the immigration exemption to the rights in the General Data Protection Regulation.

R (Marouf) v SSHD

Acted for Palestinian refugee in Supreme Court claim about the territorial scope of the Public Sector Equality Duty.

R (All the Citizens) v SSDCMS

Acted for AtC in challenge to the failure to adequately preserve WhatsApp and other ephemeral and automatically deleting messages in government.

Butler-Sloss v Charity Commission

Acted for Charity Commission in test case concerning challenge to Charity Commission guidance about ethical investment and climate change.

JR87 (Religious Education in Northern Ireland)

[2022] NIQB 53

The High Court in Northern Ireland held that the Northern Irish school curriculum for religious education is in breach of the ECHR rights of a child and her father. The Court held that the curriculum is not sufficiently objective, critical and pluralistic. Ben acted for the Claimant.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

R (Eric Kind) v Secretary of State for Home Department

[2021] EWHC 710 (Admin)

The Divisional Court quashed the Home Office's decision to refuse of security clearance to Mr Eric Kind, who was offered the position of Head of Investigations for the Investigatory Powers Commissioner's Office. Ben acted for the Claimant.

R (Reprieve & Ors) v Prime Minister

[2022] QB 447

Acted for the Claimants in this judicial review challenge to the Prime Minister's decision not to order an independent judge-led inquiry into UK complicity in torture and rendition. Court of Appeal.

R (McConnell) v Registrar General

[2021] Fam 77

The Court of Appeal upheld the Administrative Court's decision that a trans man who gave birth to a child must be registered as the child's mother. The Court held that this did not breach the Gender Recognition Act 2004 or Articles 8 or 14 of the ECHR. Successfully acted for the Registrar General and the Secretaries of State.

R (Simonis) v Arts Council

Successfully represented Arts Council in resisting attempt by owner of Giotto painting to remove it from the UK and EU and prevent its return to Italy. Appeal pending in the Court of Appeal.

Third Direction (Privacy International and others v Security Service)

Challenge to previously secret policy of authorising MI5 agents to commit serious criminal offences in the UK. Representing Privacy International, Reprieve and others. Court of Appeal.

Heathrow Third Runway Litigation (R (Plan B Earth) v SST

[2020] PTSR 1446

Acting for Mayor of London in Court of Appeal challenge to authorisation of a Heathrow Third Runway.

R (Privacy International) v Investigatory Powers Tribunal

Successfully challenged 'ouster' clause in Supreme Court preventing judicial review of decisions of the Investigatory Powers Tribunal.

R (Bancoult & Hoareau) v Foreign Secretary

Challenge to refusal of government to allow the Chagossian people to return to British Indian Ocean Territory. Court of Appeal.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

R (TT) Registrar General

Leading transgender rights case. Should a transgender man (female to male) who gives birth to a child be recorded as 'father' or 'mother' on the child's birth certificate? Successfully acted for Secretaries of State arguing that a trans man was a 'mother'.

McCloud and others v Lord Chancellor

Successfully represented 6 High Court and Court of Appeal judges in Equality Act 2010 age and race discrimination challenge to reduction in judicial pensions (Court of Appeal).

R (ClientEarth No. 2) v SSEFRA

Successfully acted for ClientEarth in challenge to the UK's failure to meet air quality standards in London and other major urban areas. At present, it is estimated that over 20,000 early deaths each year are caused by the UK's failure to meet EU air quality standards. The Court ordered a full reconsideration of the air quality plans for the entire country. The Government has accepted the decision and new clean air zones will be introduced across the UK.

R (Public Law Project) v Lord Chancellor

Supreme Court (2016)

Successfully acted for PLP in Supreme Court challenge to the residence test for judicial review.

Mountstar v Charity Commission / Cup Trust

(2016)

Representing Charity Commission in litigation concerning the use of a charity to facilitate £176m tax avoidance scheme.

R (KPMG) v Holmcroft

[2020] Bus LR 203

Successfully acted for Barclays in judicial review of the 'decision' of KPMG as independent reviewer of the sale of Interest Rate Hedging Products by Barclays. Court of Appeal.

ClientEarth

Supreme Court (2015)

Successfully acted for ClientEarth in EU law challenge to the UK's failure to meet air quality standards in London and other major urban areas.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

R (Davis & Watson) v Secretary of State for Home Department

(2016)

Acting for David Davis MP and Tom Watson MP in Court of Justice of the European Union in challenge to the requirements of the Data Retention and Investigatory Powers Act 2014.

R (Roberts) v Secretary of State for the Home Department

(2015)

Successfully acted for SSHD in challenge about stop and search under s. 60 CJPOA 1994. Supreme Court.

R (Serdar Mohammed) v Ministry of Defence

(2016)

Acted in several Supreme Court appeals arising out of UK detention operations in Afghanistan and Iraq, and 'extraordinary rendition' operations.

Belhaj & others v Security Services

(2015)

Successfully acted for Libyan families in claim in the Investigatory Powers Tribunal about the protection of legal professional privilege when individuals may be under surveillance. First claim where a complaint to the IPT against the Security and Intelligence Services has ever been upheld.

Belhaj & Boudchar v Jack Straw MP & others

(2015)

Successfully acted for Libyan family in Supreme Court in claims about UK involvement in rendition and torture.

Privacy International v Security Services

(2017)

Successful reference to the CJEU in case about mass collection of 'bulk communications data'. The CJEU held that the UK arrangements were contrary to EU law.

R (JK) v Registrar General

(2015)

Successfully acted for the Registrar General defending claim by male to female transsexual who wished to change her name and gender as recorded on her childrens' birth certificates.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

R (Evans) v Attorney General

(2014)

Successfully acted for Guardian journalist in freedom of information case about Prince Charles' letters to Ministers (Supreme Court).

Rahmatullah v SSFCA

[2013] 1 AC 614, Supreme Court (2013)

A successful claim for habeas corpus for a detainee in Bagram, Afghanistan.

Ladele v UK

European Court of Human Rights (2013)

Acting for a marriage registrar who refused to conduct civil partnerships on grounds of religious belief.

MS (Pakistan) v Secretary of State for the Home Department

[2020] UKSC 9

Acted for the AIRE Centre in support of the appeal to the Supreme Court in this important human trafficking and modern slavery case.

Shagang Shipping

[2020] 1 WLR 3549

Acted for Liberty in Supreme Court case concerning the admissibility of evidence that may have been obtained by torture.

R (United Trade Action Group) v Mayor of London

[2021] EWCA Civ 1197

Acted for Mayor of London in successfully defending challenge to emergency pandemic road measures in the City of London. Court of Appeal.

Civil Liberties & Human Rights

Ben has a wide-ranging Civil Liberties and Human Rights practice. He appears for and advises claimants and defendants, including companies, central government, local authorities, public interest groups, individuals and regulators. Before taking silk, he was a member of the Attorney General's A Panel and the Attorney General's Public International Law A Panel.

"Ben is a superlative advocate with an encyclopaedic knowledge of human rights and international human rights law."

— CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS, 2026

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

Cases

Weider & Guarnieri v UK

The European Court of Human Rights held that the Claimants who were resident outside of the UK had a right of privacy under Article 8 in relation to GCHQ's bulk surveillance operations. The Court held for the first time that a person outside the UK enjoys protection from invasions to privacy committed in the UK. Ben acted for the Applicants in the European Court of Human Rights and the UK Investigatory Powers Tribunal.

Big Brother Watch v UK

Ben acted for the NGO applicants in the Grand Chamber of the European Court of Human Rights in the leading case on bulk surveillance. Ben also acted in all of the ongoing litigation on the same issues in the UK Investigatory Powers Tribunal.

R (Hillingdon) v Mayor of London (ULEZ Expansion)

[2023] EWHC 1972 (Admin)

Ben acted for the Mayor of London and TfL in defending the lawfulness of the extension of the ULEZ to the whole of Greater London.

R (CAAT) v Secretary of State for International Trade

Ben acted for Campaign Against Arms Trade in a challenge to the lawfulness of arms exports to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Divisional Court

R (VT and others) v Commissioner for the British Indian Ocean Territory

Successfully established right to legal aid for migrants seeking refugee status in the British Indian Ocean Territory.

R (Liberty) v SSHD (Investigatory Powers Act 2016 Challenge

Acted for Liberty in ongoing challenge to the lawfulness of parts of the Investigatory Powers Act 2016. Currently pending on remittal from the Court of Appeal to the Divisional Court.

Re A (Parental Responsibility)

Acted for Lord Chancellor in the Court of Appeal successfully defending provisions of Children Act that provide that parental responsibility is irrevocable in some cases.

R (Open Rights Group & The3Million) v SSHD

Acted for ORG and 3Million in two judicial reviews, both in the Court of Appeal about the immigration exemption to the rights in the General Data Protection Regulation.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

R (Marouf) v SSHD

Acted for Palestinian refugee in Supreme Court claim about the territorial scope of the Public Sector Equality Duty.

R (Marouf) v SSHD

Acted for Palestinian refugee in Supreme Court claim about the territorial scope of the Public Sector Equality Duty.

R (All the Citizens) v SSDCMS

Acted for AtC in challenge to the failure to adequately preserve WhatsApp and other ephemeral and automatically deleting messages in government.

Butler-Sloss v Charity Commission

Acted for Charity Commission in test case concerning challenge to Charity Commission guidance about ethical investment and climate change.

JR87 (Religious Education in Northern Ireland)

[2022] NIQB 53

The High Court in Northern Ireland held that the Northern Irish school curriculum for religious education is in breach of the ECHR rights of a child and her father. The Court held that the curriculum is not sufficiently objective, critical and pluralistic. Ben acted for the Claimant.

R (Eric Kind) v Secretary of State for Home Department

[2021] EWHC 710 (Admin)

The Divisional Court quashed the Home Office's decision to refuse of security clearance to Mr Eric Kind, who was offered the position of Head of Investigations for the Investigatory Powers Commissioner's Office. Ben acted for the Claimant.

R (Reprieve & Ors) v Prime Minister

[2022] QB 447

Acted for the Claimants in this judicial review challenge to the Prime Minister's decision not to order an independent judge-led inquiry into UK complicity in torture and rendition. Court of Appeal.

R (McConnell) v Registrar General

[2021] Fam 77

The Court of Appeal upheld the Administrative Court's decision that a trans man who gave birth to a child must be registered as the child's mother. The Court held that this did not breach the Gender Recognition Act 2004 or Articles 8 or 14 of the ECHR. Successfully acted for the Registrar General and the Secretaries of State.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

R (Simonis) v Arts Council

Successfully represented Arts Council in resisting attempt by owner of Giotto painting to remove it from the UK and EU and prevent its return to Italy. Appeal pending in the Court of Appeal.

MS (Pakistan) v Secretary of State for the Home Department

[2020] UKSC 9

Acted for the AIRE Centre in support of the appeal to the Supreme Court in this important human trafficking and modern slavery case.

Third Direction (Privacy International and others v Security Service)

Challenge to previously secret policy of authorising MI5 agents to commit serious criminal offences in the UK. Representing Privacy International, Reprieve and others. Court of Appeal.

Qatar Financial Centre Regulatory Authority v First Abu Dhabi Bank

Successfully acted for QFC Regulatory Authority in application to commit major UAE bank for contempt for non-compliance with Court orders, and successful applications for cross-jurisdictional disclosure in investigations of allegations of currency manipulation during Qatar-UAE blockade.

Heathrow Third Runway Litigation (R (Plan B Earth) v SST

[2020] PTSR 1446

Acting for Mayor of London in Court of Appeal challenge to authorisation of a Heathrow Third Runway.

R (Privacy International) v Investigatory Powers Tribunal

Successfully challenged 'ouster' clause in Supreme Court preventing judicial review of decisions of the Investigatory Powers Tribunal.

R (KPMG) v Holmcroft

[2020] Bus LR 203

Successfully acted for Barclays in judicial review of the 'decision' of KPMG as independent reviewer of the sale of Interest Rate Hedging Products by Barclays. Court of Appeal.

R (KPMG) v Holmcroft

[2020] Bus LR 203

Successfully acted for Barclays in judicial review of the 'decision' of KPMG as independent reviewer of the sale of Interest Rate Hedging Products by Barclays. Court of Appeal.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

R (Bancoult & Hoareau) v Foreign Secretary

Challenge to refusal of government to allow the Chagossian people to return to British Indian Ocean Territory. Court of Appeal.

R (TT) Registrar General

Leading transgender rights case. Should a transgender man (female to male) who gives birth to a child be recorded as 'father' or 'mother' on the child's birth certificate? Successfully acted for Secretaries of State arguing that a trans man was a 'mother'.

Belhaj v Straw and others

Acting for Libyan family subject to 'extraordinary rendition' from the Far East to Gaddafi's Libya. Claim against HM Government, Jack Straw MP and MI6 senior official. Succeeded in Supreme Court.

McCloud and others v Lord Chancellor

Successfully represented 6 High Court and Court of Appeal judges in Equality Act 2010 age and race discrimination challenge to reduction in judicial pensions (Court of Appeal).

R (ClientEarth No. 2) v SSEFRA

Successfully acted for ClientEarth in challenge to the UK's failure to meet air quality standards in London and other major urban areas. At present, it is estimated that over 20,000 early deaths each year are caused by the UK's failure to meet EU air quality standards. The Court ordered a full reconsideration of the air quality plans for the entire country. The Government has accepted the decision and new clean air zones will be introduced across the UK.

R (News Media Association) v Press Recognition Panel

Successfully acted for PRP in challenge to recognition of IMPRESS under the Leveson Royal Charter Scheme for press regulation.

Serdar Mohammed v Ministry of Defence

Acted for Afghan detainee in Supreme Court case about the legality of British armed forces detention operations abroad. Successful in Supreme Court.

R (Public Law Project) v Lord Chancellor

Supreme Court (2016)

Successfully acted for PLP in Supreme Court challenge to the residence test for judicial review.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

Mountstar v Charity Commission / Cup Trust

(2016)

Representing Charity Commission in litigation concerning the use of a charity to facilitate £176m tax avoidance scheme.

ClientEarth

Supreme Court (2015)

Successfully acted for ClientEarth in EU law challenge to the UK's failure to meet air quality standards in London and other major urban areas.

R (Davis & Watson) v Secretary of State for Home Department

(2016)

Acting for David Davis MP and Tom Watson MP in Court of Justice of the European Union in challenge to the requirements of the Data Retention and Investigatory Powers Act 2014.

R (Hottak) v Secretary of State for Defence

(2016)

Acting for Afghan interpreters who worked for British forces in challenge to resettlement scheme. Court of Appeal.

Privacy International and others v GCHQ

(2015)

Acted in Investigatory Powers Tribunal for Privacy International in case concerning the legality of arrangements for computer hacking by GCHQ.

Caroline Lucas MP & Baroness Jones v Security Services

(2015)

Acted for Parliamentarians in challenge to Security Services' arrangements for protection of MPs communications under the 'Wilson doctrine'.

R (Roberts) v Secretary of State for the Home Department

(2015)

Successfully acted for SSHD in challenge about stop and search under s. 60 CJPOA 1994. Supreme Court.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

R (English Bridge Union) v Sport England and others

(2015)

Acting for Secretary of State in judicial review claim about whether Sport England acted lawfully in declining to recognise bridge as a sport.

R (Serdar Mohammed) v Ministry of Defence

(2016)

Acted in several Supreme Court appeals arising out of UK detention operations in Afghanistan and Iraq, and 'extraordinary rendition' operations.

Belhaj & others v Security Services

(2015)

Successfully acted for Libyan families in claim in the Investigatory Powers Tribunal about the protection of legal professional privilege when individuals may be under surveillance. First claim where a complaint to the IPT against the Security and Intelligence Services has ever been upheld.

Belhaj & Boudchar v Jack Straw MP & others

(2015)

Successfully acted for Libyan family in Supreme Court in claims about UK involvement in rendition and torture.

Privacy International v Security Services

(2017)

Successful reference to the CJEU in case about mass collection of 'bulk communications data'. The CJEU held that the UK arrangements were contrary to EU law.

R (JK) v Registrar General

(2015)

Successfully acted for the Registrar General defending claim by male to female transsexual who wished to change her name and gender as recorded on her childrens' birth certificates.

R (Evans) v Attorney General

(2014)

Successfully acted for Guardian journalist in freedom of information case about Prince Charles' letters to Ministers (Supreme Court).

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

R (Public Law Project) v Lord Chancellor
(2014)

Acting for PLP in challenge to the residence test for legal aid.

R v Crawley (Operation Cotton)
(2014)

Successfully acted for the FCA in Court of Appeal challenge to decision of trial judge to stay criminal proceedings due to Very High Cost Case dispute with counsel.

R (Pressbof) v Culture Secretary
(2014)

Successfully acted for Secretary of State in Court of Appeal challenge by Pressbof to Royal Charter press recognition body.

Gleaves & Grant v Secretary of State for the Home Department
(2014)

Acting for the Home Secretary in actions brought by large numbers of prisoners concerning prison sanitation.

Rahmatullah v SSFCA
[2013] 1 AC 614, Supreme Court (2013)

A successful claim for habeas corpus for a detainee in Bagram, Afghanistan.

Ladele v UK
European Court of Human Rights (2013)

Acting for a marriage registrar who refused to conduct civil partnerships on grounds of religious belief.

Financial Services & Banking

Ben has an extensive regulatory law practice and has considerable experience before numerous regulatory tribunals, including the RDC and Upper Tribunal. He acts for individuals, firms, the FCA and foreign regulators.

Ben is currently instructed by regulators, financial institutions and individuals in relation to allegations of mis-selling, market abuse, LIBOR issues and systems and controls failures. Many of these cases are confidential and cannot be referred to here.

"He is an incredibly quick thinker and a very bright advocate. Ben has the ear of the court, presents arguments very persuasively and thinks strategically."

— CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS, 2026

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

Cases

Whitestone, Seiler & Raitzin v FCA

[2023] UKUT 133 (TCC)

Successfully acted for a director of Bank Julius Baer in lengthy trial in the Upper Tribunal, defeating all of the FCA's allegations, including a lack of integrity.

R (Shawbrook Bank) v Financial Ombudsman Service

[2023] EWHC 713 (Admin)

Acted for Barclays in challenge to timeshare mis-selling test case decisions by the Financial Ombudsman.

Utilita v GEMA

Acting for Ofgem in challenge to its decision to introduce minimum capital requirements for UK energy companies.

R (Zai Corporate Finance) v London Stock Exchange

[2017] Bus LR 2139

Successfully acted for LSE in defending challenge to lawfulness of steps taken by the AIM Disciplinary Committee.

Qatar Financial Centre Regulatory Authority v First Abu Dhabi Bank

Successfully acted for QFC Regulatory Authority in application to commit major UAE bank for contempt for non-compliance with Court orders, and successful applications for cross-jurisdictional disclosure in investigations of allegations of currency manipulation during Qatar-UAE blockade.

Law Debenture Trust v Ukraine

Acting for State of Ukraine defending a $3 billion claim brought by Russia for non-repayment of Eurobonds. Successful in Court of Appeal. Pending in Supreme Court. Cases raises issues of foreign act of state and justiciability of the threats made against Ukraine by Russia.

R (KPMG) v Holmcroft

[2020] Bus LR 203

Successfully acted for Barclays in judicial review of the 'decision' of KPMG as independent reviewer of the sale of Interest Rate Hedging Products by Barclays. Court of Appeal.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

Disciplinary proceedings
(2016)

Disciplinary proceedings before FRC Tribunal concerning collapse of large UK company.

Financial Reporting Council v Deloitte & Touche and Einollahi
(2014)

Successfully acted for D&T before FRC Appeals Panel and in claim for judicial review in disciplinary proceedings arising out of the takeover of MG Rover by the Phoenix Four.

Noujaim v Qatar Financial Centre Regulatory Authority
(2014)

Acted for QFC Regulatory Authority in appeal by regulated person to QFC Tribunal.

R v Crawley (Operation Cotton)
(2014)

Successfully acted for the FCA in Court of Appeal challenge to decision of trial judge to stay criminal proceedings due to Very High Cost Case dispute with counsel.

R (Willford) v Financial Services Authority
[2013] EWCA Civ 674

Judicial review against FSA for failure to give proper reasons in a decision notice.

FCA v Hobbs
(2013)

Acted for Respondent in appeal by FCA to the Court of Appeal in prohibition order and market abuse case.

Kashif Chaudhry and (2) Seifelden Abdelkareem v Qatar Financial Centre Regulatory Authority
(2012)

Successfully acted for the Qatar Financial Centre Regulatory Authority ("QFCRA") in the first challenge before the QFC Regulatory Tribunal by individuals to a decision notice of the QFCRA. The appeals concerned the collapse of Al Mal Bank LLC.

Commercial

Ben is regularly instructed in major commercial disputes, especially those with a financial services or civil fraud element.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

He has particular experience in commercial fraud cases and cases requiring without notice interim relief including freezing orders, search orders and obtaining Norwich Pharmacal relief.

For example, Ben acted for Lebara Mobile in urgent interim injunction proceedings about IP blocking by Lyca Mobile (Lebara v Lyca [2015] EWHC 3318 (Ch)) and obtained Norwich Pharmacal relief for Karren Brady of West Ham Football Club against accountants engaged by Tottenham Hotspur who had obtained her bank and telephone records (Brady v PKF & Hill [2011] EWHC 3178 (QB)). He was the counsel for the Claimant in Campaign Against Arms Trade v BAE Systems Plc (2007), obtaining extensive Norwich Pharmacal relief (and the first without notice protective costs order) to force BAE to explain how and why it had obtained CAAT's privileged legal documents. He also obtained a Norwich Pharmacal order for Binyam Mohamed requiring the Security Service to disclose evidence they held about the Claimant's mistreatment by or on behalf of the USA.

Ben has particular experience in media disputes. He has acted for broadcasters, collecting societies, telecoms companies, record companies, film finance and distribution companies, artists, performers and managers in regulatory, commercial and employment disputes.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Education

Degree

MA Hons (Cantab)

Awards

Liberty's Human Rights Lawyer of the Year

In 2015, Ben won Liberty's Human Rights Lawyer of the Year award.

Chambers UK Top Junior Bar 100

In December 2013, Ben was ranked as one of Chambers UK's Top Junior Bar 100, in their inaugural listing of the top barristers practising at the Bar of England & Wales. "Combines being very clever with also being very practical. He is quick, responsive, very clear, and an excellent all-rounder for someone still quite young."

Memberships

- COMBAR
- ALBA
- FSLA
- HRLA
- Liberty
- Justice

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

Ben is the Chair of the board of trustees of the Public Law Project, the legal charity promoting access to public law remedies.

Ben is a member of the Equality & Human Rights Commission's Panel of Counsel.

Selected earlier reported cases

Public & Regulatory and Civil Liberties & Human Rights

- R (Binyam Mohamed) v Foreign Secretary [2011] QB 218
- R (Secretary of State) v Deputy Coroner (2010)
- R (E) v JFS [2010] 2 AC 728
- Northern Rock [2009] EWHC 227 (Admin)
- R (Corner House Research & Campaign Against Arms Trade) v Serious Fraud Office [2009] 1 AC 756, House of Lords

Financial Services

- Sea Containers [2008] UKPRT 5
- Jabre v FSA [2006] UKFSM 36
- Legal & General v FSA [2005] UKFSM 12

VAT registration number: 757125131

Barristers regulated by the Bar Standards Board