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Joshua Hillis



Year of call: **2024**
Degree: **BA History (Oxon, First Class), GDL (City, Distinction), BVS (City, Distinction)**
Languages: **Arabic (working knowledge)**

Joshua accepts instructions in all areas of Chambers' practice, including in commercial disputes, public & regulatory law, EU law and sports law.

Recent highlights of Joshua's experience include the following matters:

- R (Broadbent & Fox) v Secretary of State for the Home Department: acting in a claim for a declaration under s.4 Human Rights Act 1998 that the prohibition on police officers being members of a trade union is incompatible with their rights under Article 11 ECHR (with Tom Hickman KC and Alan Bogg).
- Trustees of AFM SAG-AFTRA & ors v Secretary of State: acting for the Secretary of State in defending claims for Francovich damages brought in a representative capacity under CPR r 19.8 on behalf of approximately 30,000 US Performers concerning the right of musicians to equitable remuneration when sound recordings are broadcast or communicated to the public in the UK (with Ravi Mehta along with Ewan West KC and Will Perry).
- Cofnas v Emmanuel College: represented Emmanuel College, University of Cambridge in a trial defending claims for direct discrimination on the basis of allegedly protected beliefs and unlawful interference with rights under Articles 9 and 10 ECHR in relation to the termination of the Claimant's affiliation with the College following the publication of a blog (with Gemma White KC).
- Secretary of State for the Home Department v IA & ors.: an appeal to the Court of Appeal following the grant of entry clearance to a Palestinian family situated in Gaza which was discussed by the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition in the House of Commons. The appeal concerns applications for entry clearance on the basis of Article 8 ECHR from individuals living in areas of conflict and/or humanitarian crisis (assisting George Molyneaux for the respondent family)

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- AXA France & anor. v Santander Cards UK and anor.: a five-week trial in the Commercial Court in which the claimants were successful in a claim for c.£675 million in respect of historic mis-selling of PPI policies (assisting Andrew Green KC, Fraser Campbell KC and Timothy Lau for the claimants).
- Nox Emissions Group Litigation: [2024] EWHC 2904 (KB): in high-profile group litigation concerning the alleged breach of EU emissions legislation by car manufacturers, the claimants were successful, following a two-week trial, in establishing that certain decisions of the German Federal Motor Transport Authority were not binding on the English Court and the claimants, raising issues of EU law under the EU Withdrawal Act 2018 (assisting Thomas de la Mare KC and Ravi Mehta for the claimants)

During his studies, Joshua won the Lord Slynn of Hadley Moot: the UK Environmental Law Association Senior Moot. He also volunteered assisting clients in a law advice centre. Before coming to the Bar, Joshua worked for NGOs and charities in the Middle East and the UK.

EXPERIENCE

Commercial

Joshua accepts instructions in all areas of commercial law.

Cases

A v B

Acting in proceedings seeking to enforce arbitration awards in excess of $300 million and bringing a related claim under s.423 Insolvency Act 1986, in the Marex tort and in unlawful means conspiracy (with Anthony Peto KC, Daniel Burgess and Timothy Lau).

A v B

Acting for a company bringing claims for specific performance and in conversion for recovery of goods (unled).

Trustees of AFM SAG-AFTRA & ors v Secretary of State

Acting for the Secretary of State in defending claims for Francovich damages brought in a representative capacity under CPR r 19.8 on behalf of approximately 30,000 US Performers concerning the right of musicians to equitable remuneration when sound recordings are broadcast or communicated to the public in the UK (with Ravi Mehta along with Ewan West KC and Will Perry).

AXA France & anor. v Santander Cards UK & anor.

Five-week trial in the Commercial Court in which the claimants were successful in a claim for c.£675 million in respect of historic mis-selling of PPI policies (assisting Andrew Green KC, Fraser Campbell KC and Timothy Lau for the claimants).

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Public Institution for Social Security v Al Rajaan & ors.

A civil fraud claim, alleged to be excess of £1 billion, brought by the Kuwaiti Public Institution for Social Security against its former director and other defendants (assisting Tom Weisselberg KC, Harry Adamson and Rayan Fakhoury for the first and second defendants).

McLaren v Alex Palou

Multi-million dollar claim by McLaren in the Commercial Court against Indy 500 driver, Alex Palou, for breach of contract and unjust enrichment (assisting Paul Goulding KC and Celia Rooney).

The Mirror Newspapers Hacking Litigation

Mirror Group Newspapers (MGN) successfully applied, in the phone-hacking litigation, for a preliminary issue trial on whether the remaining claims are time-barred and for the claimants to provide further information under CPR Part 18 (assisting Harry Adamson for MGN).

Re. amounts due under major share sale contract

Proceedings in the Commercial Court concerning the proper construction of a set of complex contracts arising out of the sale of substantial vacation rental business units (assisting Fraser Campbell KC for the claimants).

Al-Aggad v Al-Aggad

Complex dispute in the Commercial Court between members of a Saudi family involving allegations of unlawful means conspiracy, against the sensitive and politicised background of the Claimant's flight from Saudi Arabia (assisting Shane Sibbel for the Claimant).

Sunny Day Ltd. v Shivdasani & ors.

A fraud dispute in the Commercial Court concerning the sale of property in a Thai luxury resort and political guarantees relating to the death of the King of Thailand, raising issues relating to applicable law, the pleading of allegations of fraud and forum principles (assisting Shane Sibbel for the defendants).

Mandasix & ors. v Associated British Food plc

Group claim brought against a parent company alleging liability for the alleged contribution of its subsidiary company to a flood in Malawi (assisting Shaheed Fatima KC and Celia Rooney for the defendant).

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Hashwah & ors. v Qatar National Bank & ors.

Consequential issues, including disclosure of identity of litigation funder(s), arising out of two sets of proceedings in which the claims, raising allegations of facilitating state sponsorship of terrorism, respectively failed and were discontinued (assisting Celia Rooney for a defendant in both proceedings).

Re. Shareholder dispute in manufacturing business

Applications for an interim injunction and declarations in High Court proceedings involving cross unfair prejudice petitions (assisting Fraser Campbell KC and Barnaby Lowe).

Secretary of State for Business and Trade v [a director]

Significant director disqualification proceedings brought by the Secretary of State (assisting Harry Adamson for the director).

Estate Management and Business Development Company Ltd. v Moonilal & ors.

Proceedings in Trinidad concerning an alleged unlawful means conspiracy whereby the Defendants (comprising a former Minister, former officers at the Claimant and a number of contractors) allegedly colluded to rig procurement bids for the construction and upgrading of various major roads (assisting Shane Sibbel).

[Fashion brand] v [Jewellery brand]

Debt and breach of contract claim arising out of the MET Gala (assisting Celia Rooney for the Claimant).

Re. a partnership dispute

International, multi-jurisdictional litigation and arbitration fraud proceedings giving rise to issues of partnership, receivership and insolvency (assisting Celia Rooney).

Wagner v Bright Station Venture Management Ltd.

Consequential issues arising out of proceedings in which the claimant former director successfully established that he was entitled to be repaid funds advanced to company in distress, and defeating seven-figure counterclaim for alleged breaches of duties (assisting Fraser Campbell KC and Celia Rooney for the claimant).

Henderson & Jones Ltd. v Klas International Ltd. & anor.

Application for amendment to particulars of claim following the defendants' disclosure in a long-running debt claim in the High Court (assisting Fraser Campbell KC for the claimant).

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Civil Fraud, Asset Recovery & Injunctive Relief

Joshua accepts instructions in all areas of civil fraud, asset recovery and injunctive relief law.

Cases

A v B

Acting in proceedings seeking to enforce arbitration awards in excess of $300 million and bringing a related claim under s.423 Insolvency Act 1986, in the Marex tort and in unlawful means conspiracy (with Anthony Peto KC, Daniel Burgess and Timothy Lau).

A v B

Acting for the claimants in proceedings for breach of confidence (with Tom Richards KC).

Public Institution for Social Security v Al Rajaan & ors.

A civil fraud claim, alleged to be excess of £1 billion, brought by the Kuwaiti Public Institution for Social Security against its former director and other defendants (assisting Tom Weisselberg KC, Harry Adamson and Rayan Fakhoury for the first and second defendants).

Al-Aggad v Al-Aggad

Complex dispute in the Commercial Court between members of a Saudi family involving allegations of unlawful means conspiracy, against the sensitive and politicised background of the Claimant's flight from Saudi Arabia (assisting Shane Sibbel for the Claimant).

Estate Management and Business Development Company Ltd. v Moonilal & ors.

Proceedings in Trinidad concerning an alleged unlawful means conspiracy whereby the Defendants (comprising a former Minister, former officers at the Claimant and a number of contractors) allegedly colluded to rig procurement bids for the construction and upgrading of various major roads (assisting Shane Sibbel).

Sunny Day Ltd. v Shivdasani & ors.

A fraud dispute in the Commercial Court concerning the sale of property in a Thai luxury resort and political guarantees relating to the death of the King of Thailand, raising issues relating to applicable law, the pleading of allegations of fraud and forum principles (assisting Shane Sibbel for the defendants).

Re. a partnership dispute

International, multi-jurisdictional litigation and arbitration fraud proceedings giving rise to issues of partnership, receivership and insolvency (assisting Celia Rooney).

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Public & Regulatory

Joshua accepts instructions in all areas of public law.

Joshua is a member of the Government Legal Department's Junior Junior scheme.

Cases

R (Broadbent & Fox) v Secretary of State for the Home Department

Acting in a claim for a declaration under s.4 Human Rights Act 1998 that the prohibition on police officers being members of a trade union is incompatible with their rights under Article 11 ECHR (with Tom Hickman KC and Alan Bogg).

Ancestry v Information Commissioner and National Records of Scotland

Acting for Ancestry in relation to a request to re-use information held by the National Records of Scotland for its genealogical research service (with Tom de la Mare KC and Aislinn Kelly-Lyth). The case raises novel questions of interpretation of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015, and the EU Directive to which they give effect.

Secretary of State for the Home Department v IA & ors.

Appeal to the Court of Appeal following the grant of entry clearance to a Palestinian family situated in Gaza which was discussed by the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition in the House of Commons. The appeal concerns applications for entry clearance on the basis of Article 8 ECHR from individuals living in areas of conflict and/or humanitarian crisis (assisting George Molyneaux for the respondent family).

R (Thakrar) v Secretary of State for Justice

Appeal to the Court of Appeal against the dismissal of a challenge by a prisoner to his removal from association with other prisoners alleging violations of Articles 3, 8 and 14 ECHR (assisting George Molyneaux for the Secretary of State).

R (Barclays Bank & ors.) v Financial Ombudsman Service Ltd.

Judicial review claims by four banks on the scope of the Financial Ombudsman Service's jurisdiction in respect of customer complaints (assisting Monica Carss-Frisk KC and Celia Rooney for the Financial Conduct Authority intervening in the claims).

R (Merrington) v Secretary of State for Justice

Claim for judicial review of the Secretary of State's decision that the claimant should remain in closed prison conditions (assisting George Molyneaux for the Secretary of State).

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R (AW) v Director of the Serious Fraud Office

Judicial review claim concerning the Code of Practice for Victims of Crime in England and Wales (assisting George Molyneaux for the defendant).

The Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority v The First-tier Tribunal

Judicial review proceedings in the Upper Tribunal concerning the First-tier Tribunal's decision that a victim of a dog attack was eligible for compensation under the Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme 2012 (assisting George Molyneaux for the victim).

Telecommunications regulatory proceedings

Regulatory enforcement proceedings against a telecommunications provider (assisting Ravi Mehta for the regulator)

Advertising Standards Authority complaint

Complaint by an NGO to the Advertising Standards Authority concerning environmental claims in adverts (assisting George Molyneaux for the NGO).

Complaint to the Information Commissioner

Complaint to the ICO following a public authority's decision not to disclose the requested information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (assisting George Molyneaux for the complainant).

Advice regarding citizenship

Advising the Secretary of State for the Home Department on questions of nullity in the context of a mistaken grant of citizenship (assisting Shane Sibbel).

Re. potential judicial review

Advising a pharmacy regarding a potential claim for judicial review in the context of discretionary financial assistance (assisting Fraser Campbell KC).

FOIA & EIR Advice

Advising a part of the judiciary on the scope of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (assisting Ravi Mehta)

Advice regarding export licensing

Advising a public body on its procedures and guidance in relation to export licensing including on compatibility with ECHR rights (assisting Ravi Mehta)

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Advice regarding the Motor Insurers' Bureau

Advising a governmental department on potential challenges to decisions of the Motor Insurers' Bureau raising issues of retained EU law, and ECHR rights (assisting Ravi Mehta)

Advice regarding renewable energy resources

Advising an NGO on potential claims for judicial review and/or under the Competition Act 1998 relating to renewable energy resources (assisting Ravi Mehta).

Civil Liberties & Human Rights

Joshua accepts instructions in all areas of civil liberties and human rights.

Cases

R (Broadbent & Fox) v Secretary of State for the Home Department

Acting in a claim for a declaration under s.4 Human Rights Act 1998 that the prohibition on police officers being members of a trade union is incompatible with their rights under Article 11 ECHR (with Tom Hickman KC and Alan Bogg).

Cofnas v Emmanuel College

Represented Emmanuel College, University of Cambridge in a trial defending claims for direct discrimination on the basis of allegedly protected beliefs and unlawful interference with rights under Articles 9 and 10 ECHR in relation to the termination of the Claimant's affiliation with the College following the publication of a blog (with Gemma White KC).

A v B

Acting for an athlete in disciplinary proceedings brought by a sports governing body raising issues as to the scope of an athlete's obligation to cooperate with an investigation by a sports governing body, procedural fairness and rights under Article 6 ECHR (with Adam Lewis KC and Hugo Murphy).

Secretary of State for the Home Department v IA & ors.

Appeal to the Court of Appeal following the grant of entry clearance to a Palestinian family situated in Gaza which was discussed by the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition in the House of Commons. The appeal concerns applications for entry clearance on the basis of Article 8 ECHR from individuals living in areas of conflict and/or humanitarian crisis (assisting George Molyneaux for the respondent family).

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R (Thakrar) v Secretary of State for Justice

Appeal to the Court of Appeal against the dismissal of a challenge by a prisoner to his removal from association with other prisoners alleging violations of Articles 3, 8 and 14 ECHR (assisting George Molyneaux for the Secretary of State).

[Two individuals] v [a housing association]

Disability discrimination claim for failure to provide accessible correspondence to a blind couple (assisting George Molyneaux for the claimants).

Advice regarding export licensing

Advising a public body on its procedures and guidance in relation to export licensing including on compatibility with ECHR rights (assisting Ravi Mehta)

Advice regarding the Motor Insurers' Bureau

Advising a governmental department on potential challenges to decisions of the Motor Insurers' Bureau raising issues of retained EU law, and ECHR rights (assisting Ravi Mehta)

EU & Competition

Joshua accepts instructions in all areas of EU and competition law.

Cases

Trustees of AFM SAG-AFTRA & ors v Secretary of State

Acting for the Secretary of State in defending claims for Francovich damages brought in a representative capacity under CPR r 19.8 on behalf of approximately 30,000 US Performers concerning the right of musicians to equitable remuneration when sound recordings are broadcast or communicated to the public in the UK (with Ravi Mehta along with Ewan West KC and Will Perry).

A v European Commission

Acting for group of companies bringing an action for annulment in the EU General Court against anti-dumping measures imposed by the European Commission (with Ravi Mehta).

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Ancestry v Information Commissioner and National Records of Scotland

Acting for Ancestry in relation to a request to re-use information held by the National Records of Scotland for its genealogical research service (with Tom de la Mare KC and Aislinn Kelly-Lyth). The case raises novel questions of interpretation of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015, and the EU Directive to which they give effect.

Nox Emissions Group Litigation

[2024] EWHC 2904 (KB)

In high-profile group litigation concerning the alleged breach of EU emissions legislation by car manufacturers, the claimants were successful, following a two-week trial, in establishing that certain decisions of the German Federal Motor Transport Authority were not binding on the English Court and the claimants, raising issues of EU law under the EU Withdrawal Act 2018 (assisting Thomas de la Mare KC and Ravi Mehta for the claimants)

Alcatel Lucent SASD v Amazon Digital UK Ltd & Ors

A dispute regarding RAND terms for a licence to standard essential and non-essential patents (assisting James Segan KC and Ravi Mehta for Amazon)

Application to EU General Court

An application to the General Court to annul the grant of a conditional marketing authorisation to a medical product, raising issues of the construction of the technical regulatory scheme, procedural fairness, and the approach to assessing complex scientific and clinical evidence (assisting Ravi Mehta)

FOIA & EIR Advice

Advising a part of the judiciary on the scope of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (assisting Ravi Mehta)

Advice regarding the Motor Insurers' Bureau

Advising a governmental department on potential challenges to decisions of the Motor Insurers' Bureau raising issues of retained EU law, and ECHR rights (assisting Ravi Mehta)

Advice regarding renewable energy resources

Advising an NGO on potential claims for judicial review and/or under the Competition Act 1998 relating to renewable energy resources (assisting Ravi Mehta).

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Sport

Joshua accepts instructions in all areas of sports law.

Cases

A v B

Acting for an athlete in disciplinary proceedings brought by a sports governing body raising issues as to the scope of an athlete's obligation to cooperate with an investigation by a sports governing body, procedural fairness and rights under Article 6 ECHR (with Adam Lewis KC and Hugo Murphy).

McLaren v Alex Palou

Multi-million dollar claim by McLaren in the Commercial Court against Indy 500 driver, Alex Palou, for breach of contract and unjust enrichment (assisting Paul Goulding KC and Celia Rooney).

Premier League compensation claim

Claim for compensation by one Premier League club against another in the context of the Premier League's Profit and Sustainability Rules (assisting Celia Rooney).

Advising a sport governing body

Advising a sport governing body on claims for compensation by member clubs against other member clubs (assisting Ravi Mehta)

Discrimination

Joshua accepts instructions in all areas of discrimination law with a particular interest in cases involving discrimination on the basis of protected beliefs.

Cases

Cofnas v Emmanuel College

Represented Emmanuel College, University of Cambridge in a trial defending claims for direct discrimination on the basis of allegedly protected beliefs and unlawful interference with rights under Articles 9 and 10 ECHR in relation to the termination of the Claimant's affiliation with the College following the publication of a blog (with Gemma White KC).

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[Two individuals] v [a housing association]

Disability discrimination claim for failure to provide accessible correspondence to a blind couple (assisting George Molyneaux for the claimants).

Environment

Joshua accepts instructions in environmental law.

While studying for the Bar, Joshua won the Lord Slynn of Hadley Moot: the UK Environmental Law Moot. The moot raised issues concerning the Environmental Permitting Regulations 2016, enforcement of pollution controls, and broader environmental policy debates.

Cases

Nox Emissions Group Litigation

[2024] EWHC 2904 (KB)

In high-profile group litigation concerning the alleged breach of EU emissions legislation by car manufacturers, the claimants were successful, following a two-week trial, in establishing that certain decisions of the German Federal Motor Transport Authority were not binding on the English Court and the claimants, raising issues of EU law under the EU Withdrawal Act 2018 (assisting Thomas de la Mare KC and Ravi Mehta for the claimants)

Advertising Standards Authority complaint

Complaint by an NGO to the Advertising Standards Authority concerning environmental claims in adverts (assisting George Molyneaux for the NGO).

Advice regarding renewable energy resources

Advising an NGO on potential claims for judicial review and/or under the Competition Act 1998 relating to renewable energy resources (assisting Ravi Mehta).

FOIA & EIR Advice

Advising a part of the judiciary on the scope of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (assisting Ravi Mehta)

Media & Entertainment

Joshua accepts instructions in all areas of media and entertainment law.

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Cases

[Fashion brand] v [Jewellery brand]

Debt and breach of contract claim arising out of the MET Gala (assisting Celia Rooney for the Claimant).

[Music artist] v [Record company]

Advising a high-profile music artist in a dispute with a record company concerning payment of royalties (assisting Celia Rooney).

Re. a music talent company

Claims for unfair prejudice and wrongful dismissal by a director, shareholder and employee of a major music talent company (assisting Celia Rooney).

ACHIEVEMENTS

Education

- BA History (University of Oxford, First)
- Graduate Diploma in Law (City Law School, Distinction)
- Bar Vocational Studies (City Law School, Distinction)

Awards & Scholarships

- Sir John and Lady Sophie Laws Scholarship: Bar European Group (2025)
- Barstow Law Scholarship (4th in the year on BVS): City, University of London (2023)
- Lord Denning Scholarship: Lincoln's Inn (2022)
- Lord Bowen Scholarship: Lincoln's Inn (2021)
- Boulter Prize, Book Prize, William Gurney Prize: Christ Church, University of Oxford (2016-2018)
- Fellowship, Royal Society of the Arts

VAT registration number: 504 4360 25

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