

Paul Newman

Year of Call: 1982
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ADR/NCDR

Building on his principal practice areas of construction and property law, Paul became an ADR Group accredited mediator in 2001. He is also a TecBar listed mediator and is involved with both the Association of South West Mediators and the Association of Wales & Border Counties Mediators. Paul, who has also written extensively on mediation, including several published books, has been involved in a considerable number of mediations, acting either as mediator or as an advocate. Though his mediation practice is substantially based on construction and property disputes he has also mediated disputes in other sectors - general commercial (e.g. franchising, sale of goods and partnership), personal injury, probate, TOLATA and libel.

Paul aims to balance the therapeutic benefit of allowing the parties to get things off their chests with firm but non-confrontational reality testing. As a lawyer with long litigation experience he knows the financial risk and emotional stress litigation brings to most clients. Interested in the psychological drivers underlying disputes Paul actively works to encourage parties to identify where their true interests may lie and to achieve a negotiated outcome.

His recent mediation experience includes two cases relating to the non-payment of rent charges, two employment cases, a boundary dispute, a TOLATA claim and a property misrepresentation claim.

Training and Writing
Paul has lectured and conducted workshops on mediation in the UK, Belgium and Sweden. He is the author of numerous articles as well as being the author of or a contributor to several books on ADR. On request he provides tailored training.

Appointment
If you wish to discuss appointing Paul as a mediator please telephone our Bristol office to discuss fee rates or for a copy of Paul's standard mediation agreement and information to parties.

Recommendations

Paul Newman of 3PB Barristers is an excellent barrister who focuses on handling construction disputes. He is sought out by both individual clients and subcontractors for his adept handling of cases concerning defective works and damages, primarily on residential developments. He also has extensive experience in adjudication, with a track record in working for local councils.

Strengths: "Paul Newman is able to handle the most complex of cases and pulls out the key arguments with precision.""Paul Newman is really effective and proactive, and has a quick response time. He gives good, concise and commercial advice."

Chambers UK 2025/Construction/Western Bar/Band 1

Paul Newman of 3PB Barristers is an excellent barrister who focuses on handling construction disputes. He is sought out by both individual clients as well as sub-contractors for his adept handling of cases concerning defective works and damages, primarily on residential developments. He also has extensive experience in adjudication, with a track record in working for local councils.
Strengths: "He is very knowledgeable regarding the process of adjudication, and was an excellent, calm and reassuring guide for us throughout." "He has very good attention to detail in a fiercely contested construction case."

Chambers UK 2024/Construction/Western Bar/Band 1

Strengths: "Paul Newman always delivers top-class service."
"He is efficient and as knowledgeable as they come, with commercial-based reasoning and client-friendly conclusions."
"Paul Newman's expertise is second to none."
"Paul Newman is flexible and willing to assist, especially on urgent matters with deadlines, whilst still being able to apply an excellent attention to detail."

Chambers UK 2023/Construction/Western Bar/Band 1

Paul Newman is an excellent barrister who focuses on handling construction disputes. He is sought out by both developers and contractors for his adept handling of cases concerning defective works and damages on both residential and commercial developments. He has extensive experience in mediation.
Strengths: "He is one of the go-to people for effective work in construction cases."

Chambers UK 2022/Construction/Western Bar

'...offers contentious and non-contentious services in the construction sphere. He is noted for his litigation work, and is increasingly acting as a mediator in construction matters.
Expertise: "Very impressive advocacy skills. Mr Newman dealt with an application to enforce an adjudicators' decision for us. His advocacy skills were most impressive, and we were granted the enforcement.'"

Chambers UK 2014/Construction/Western Bar

Paul Newman is also a key name, and his practice is a mix of contentious and non-contentious matters, including professional negligence claims against construction professionals.

`Paul is an exemplary barrister who consistently delivers exceptional results. His legal acumen and strategic thinking are unparalleled, dissect complex legal issues and provide innovative solutions.'

Legal 500 2025/Property and Construction/ Western Circuit/ Leading Junior

As an advocate, Paul is charming, persuasive and has that all-important gravitas. He frequently finds an ingenious argument that his peers have not even considered.'

Legal 500 2024/Property and Construction/ Western Circuit/ Leading Junior

Construction law is the core area of expertise for Paul Newman.

`Paul combines excellent attention to detail with a pragmatic approach. He has a very reassuring, steady and calm manner.'

Legal 500 2023/Property and Construction/Leading Juniors/Western Circuit

`His knowledge is second to none, and he has the wisdom to know when to apply it and make it simple and reasonable.'

Legal 500 2022/Property and Construction/Leading Juniors/Western Circuit

`He is able to answer complex issues quickly and succinctly, with sound reason, judgment and wit. His wisdom stands out in a loud regional crowd, as does his willingness to stand up and be counted. He is one who can be counted on to support your position with all the law has to offer.'

Legal 500 2021/Property and Construction/Leading Juniors/Western Circuit

'His practice includes both contentious and non-contentious construction work.'

Legal 500 2020/Construction, planning and environment/Leading Juniors/Western Circuit

'Commercially astute and sharp on his feet.'

Legal 500 2018/19/Construction, planning and environment/Leading juniors/Western Circuit

'He has a cool head and a precise eye.'

Legal 500 2017/Construction, planning and environment/Leading Juniors/Western Circuit

'Extremely helpful, wise, willing and knowledgeable. Flexible and has stepped in last minute a couple of times.'

'...has a solid construction practice and represents developers, suppliers and other parties in construction adjudications."

Legal 500 2016/Construction, planning and environment/Leading Juniors/Western Circuit

'Very personable and approachable'

Legal 500 2015/Construction, planning and environment/Leading Juniors/Western Circuit

'He is very personable and always understands what is required from him.'

Legal 500 2014/Construction, planning and environment/Leading juniors/Western Circuit

''construction industry specialist' Paul Newman is highlighted for his 'excellent advocacy skills'.'

Legal 500 2013/Construction, planning and environment/Leading Juniors/Western Circuit

Barrister Paul Newman has been nominated by his peers and included in **The Best Lawyers guide for Construction Law**.

'Paul Newman – extremely helpful, wise, willing, and knowledgeable … flexible and stepped in last minute a number of times.'
What do clients want from the Bar, Thomson Reuters 2019

'He has a wealth of experience in construction contract disputes, and his knowledge is always up to date.'
Thomson Reuters Report 2017

"We would like to thank you for your valuable contribution you made toward the litigation we were recently exposed to. Your quick grasp … proved a real salve and we are both very grateful."

"It was a pleasure meeting you yesterday and on behalf of this firm and the parties, may we take this opportunity of thanking you for your assistance and perseverance throughout the day."

"Thanks go to you for your invaluable assistance!"
Mediation client testimonials

"He was personable and patient, and excellent at handling the judge. He also took an hour of his time after the hearings to de-brief us, which was very much appreciated."
Client testimonial

'Paul Newman – extremely helpful, wise, willing, and knowledgeable … flexible and stepped in last minute a number of times.'
Paralegal/Trainee Solicitor, South West
***What do Clients want from the Bar?* – Thomson Reuters, October 2017**

Academic qualifications

- Graduate of Clare College, Cambridge (BA; MA) Modern and Medieval Languages Tripos (French & Spanish)
- Diploma in Law, City University, London
- Council of Legal Education, London

Professional qualifications & appointments

- Barrister, England & Wales and Northern Ireland
- RIBA accredited adjudicator
- RIBA Professional Conduct Panel
- UK Adjudicators Panel
- Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators
- ADR Group accredited Mediator
- CMC registered Mediator
- TECBAR listed adjudicator, mediator and arbitrator

Professional bodies

- Barrister, Gray's Inn
- Bar of Northern Ireland; BL of the Honorable Society of the Inn of Court of Northern Ireland
- Chartered Institute of Arbitrators
- Association of South West Mediators
- Civil Mediation Council
- PIBA, PNBA, SCL and TecBar
- Wales & Chester Circuit