

James Hume

Year of Call: 2023

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Commercial

James Hume's commercial practice focuses on contractual disputes, insolvency, property and construction matters, and procedural applications in commercial contexts. He regularly advises and represents corporates, charities, private individuals, and trustees.

James' practice encompasses a broad range of commercial disputes, including matters involving contract interpretation, breach of warranty, subcontractor liability, professional obligations, and procedural and jurisdictional challenges. He has developed significant experience in navigating multi-party disputes, including Part 20 claims, contribution claims, and insolvency-related proceedings, and is adept at balancing legal strategy with commercial outcomes.

Before joining 3PB, James worked as an Aviation officer in The Fleet Air Arm of the Royal Navy and more recently as the Doctrine Lead and Expert to Maritime Warfare Centre. During this time, James gained front-line experience concisely conveying information to NATO command structures of varying language ability and was regularly required to communicate and advise Senior Officers on key deliverable commercial contracts.

Recent and Ongoing Work

- Acting in proceedings involving enforceability of personal guarantees, default judgment, and bankruptcy-related considerations, with a focus on procedural strategy and recovery of debts.
- Acting for Trustees in bankruptcy in sale and possession applications, including managing TOLATA claims by family members and protecting the estate's assets.
- Representing claimants in matters involving enforceability of conditions in agreements, such as rights in transfers of property or chattels.
- Advising on and making applications under CPR Part 11 (jurisdiction disputes), Part 24 (summary judgment), and restoration of claims, including forum non conveniens arguments, default judgment challenges, and reinstatement applications.
- Acting for clients in disputes arising from residential building works and services, including advising on contractual entitlement, assessing defective work, and counterclaims.
- Representing clients in matters requiring compliance with Companies Act provisions, including registration of legal charges and associated procedural safeguards.
- Representing subcontractors and their insurers in claims alleging negligent works and consequential damage, including allocation of liability between parties in multi-tier contracts.

Academic qualifications

- BSc (Hons) Physics with Astrophysics, University of York
- Military Aviation Studies, Foundation Degree, The Open University
- LLB (Hons), Second Class Honours, The Open University
- Level 7 Diploma, Merit, Paralegal Practice, National Paralegal College
- The Bar Course LLM, City Law School

Professional qualifications & appointments

- CMI Level 5 Certificate in Management and leadership (CQF) from the Chartered Management Institute (2011).
- CMI Level 3 Diploma in First Line Management (CQF) from the Chartered Management Institute (2011) ;
- Divisional Officer Qualification (CMI Level 6 Equivalent) from the Royal Naval Leadership Academy (2015) ;
- Human Factors Facilitator & Instructor Qualification from the Military Aviation Authority (2015) ; Human Factors Supervisor Qualification from the Military Aviation Authority (2020).