



# Richard Wheeler

**Year of Call:** 2004

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## Clinical Negligence

Richard Wheeler has a broad civil practice focussed on personal injury, clinical negligence, public and coronial law. Richard has been a member of the Attorney General's Panel of Junior Counsel since 2012. In September 2015 he was appointed to the Attorney General's London B Panel.

As a member of the Attorney General's Panels for 6 years, Richard has advised and represented a range of other Government Departments and Agencies from the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Defence, the Home Office, the Prison Service, the Crown Prosecution Service, and the UK Border Agency.

During the last two and a half years Richard has been acting for the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in the multi-million pound Kenyan Emergency Group Litigation in which more than 40,000 individuals have brought claims arising from their experiences during the Mau Mau Emergency in Kenya in the 1950s. In this case there are multiple allegations of torture, beatings, rape, breach of international conventions including ECHR and the Forced Labour Convention 1930. The litigation involves wide ranging issues of law including personal injury, negligence, vicarious liability, common design, false imprisonment, breach of human rights, trespass to the person. Richard is led by Guy Mansfield QC and Neil Block QC.

Richard also has extensive experience in personal injury claims acting for claimants and defendants in all areas, including clinical negligence, with particular emphasis upon employer's liability for accidents, stress at work, industrial injury and illness litigation. Many claims have been valued in excess of £1m.

He sits as a Deputy District Judge (civil and family) in Central London County Court and across the South Eastern Circuit.

### Recent notable cases include:

- Acting for man diagnosed with terminal lung cancer, alleged missed diagnosis on several chest images. Breach causation in dispute. C. £100k claim.
- Acting for family of deceased lady who suffered hypoxic brain injury following surgery. C. £100k claim  
Acting for MOD (Army) in alleged late diagnosis, and incorrect treatment for shin splints. C. £200k claim.  
Acted for young girl who suffered facial paralysis following maxillofacial surgery. Causation in dispute. C. £200k claim.
- Acted for Claimant who suffered delayed diagnosis and avoidable continuing pain arising from negligent wrist surgery.
- Acted for Ministry of Justice in claim brought by prisoner who allegedly contracted HIV in a prisoner on prisoner assault. Alleged negligence in failing to screen for HIV after the fight and failing to prescribe prophylactic medicine. Issues: causation, prognosis, quantum.

## Academic qualifications

- Warwick University Philosophy and Literature First Class, 2000

- CPE, Merit, 2003
- BVC, Very competent, 2004
- Inner Temple Horace Avory scholar 2004

## **Professional qualifications & appointments**

- Appointed Recorder, South Eastern Circuit 2019
- Accredited Mediation Advocate
- Appointed Western Circuit Representative to the Inner Temple Bar Liaison Committee 2013
- Appointed by Attorney General to Treasury Council Regional Panel 2012
- Appointed Legal Assessor to the General Council of Osteopaths 2014
- Appointed Deputy District Judge (Civil) South Eastern Circuit 2015
- Junior Counsel to the Crown (B panel) from September 2015
- New practitioner advocacy trainer, Inner Temple

## **Professional bodies**

- Personal Injury Bar Association