



James Vatcher

(2006) Barrister

Specialist Areas

Public Law Children: Care Proceedings and Adoption

Private Law Children: Residence and Contact

Family: Finance

Chancery and Commercial

Personal Injury & Clinical Negligence

Property

Out of Court Solutions (NCDR)

Who is James Vatcher?

James returned to the Bar at the start of 2016 having been employed by a UK top 40 Law Firm as a Solicitor-Advocate. James is an established family law specialist who appears before all levels of Judge in the Family Courts. He has a family practice which is broad, covering both public and private law children proceedings and cases covering financial remedies following the breakdown of a marriage.

In public Law proceedings James acts for Parents, Guardians and Local Authorities covering interim, fact finding and final hearings. During his time at The Bar he has dealt with many lengthy hearings where the issues have included Non-Accidental Injury, Neglect & Sexual Abuse.

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No.18 Chambers is a distinguished set of barristers based in Southampton, recognised for its strong reputation and presence across the South Coast of England. Our expertise cover a range of practice areas, including Family Law (Care Proceedings and Adoption, Private Law Children, Matrimonial Finance), Employment, Chancery and Commercial Law, Property Disputes, together with Dispute Resolution and Mediation. Our members are committed to delivering expert legal advice and representation to clients nationwide, offering extensive experience in handling both complex and sensitive matters.



Legal Expertise

For more information or to get in touch with James please contact the clerks room who will be happy to assist you.

Private Law Children: Residence and Contact

James has been regularly instructed on behalf of Local Authorities, parents, children, extended family members and interveners in public law children matters. In particular, he has experience of acting in the following circumstances:

- Emergency contested applications where a Local Authority seeks the removal of a child.
- Applications under s34(4) and s38(6) Children Act 1989.
- Fact finding hearings where sexual, physical or emotional abuse is alleged.
- Cases concerning alleged neglect.
- Placement Order and Adoption Proceedings.
- Special Guardianship and Wardship applications.
- Cases concerning parents or children with Special Educational Needs, cognitive impairment or capacity issues.
- Cases where drug and alcohol abuse or mental health concerns are a significant issue.
- Secure Accommodation Orders.

Private Law Children: Residence and Contact

Private Law Children: Contact and Residence Disputes Under the Children Act 1989

James has an extensive private law practice and covers the spectrum of child law matters involving Child Arrangement Order, Specific Issue Order and Prohibited Steps Orders and Enforcement proceedings. He is particularly experienced in matters of relationship breakdowns involving intractable contact and residence disputes.

James has acted in cases involving allegations of domestic and sexual abuse, psychiatric disorders and issues of alcoholism and drug misuse; he deals with complex medical evidence and has conducted lengthy fact finding and final hearings.

Domestic Violence & Injunctions

James acts for both applicants and respondents in relation to ex-parte and on notice applications for non-molestation orders and has experience of prosecuting those in breach of such orders on behalf of the CPS.



Legal Expertise Continued

For more information or to get in touch with James please contact the clerks room who will be happy to assist you.

Family: Finance

Divorce & Separation

James has accepted instructions to appear in all stages of proceedings for financial remedies including at final hearings. He also takes instruction in other ancillary applications relating to divorce and financial relief. James is comfortable with enforcement of financial orders for both respondents and applicants. James civil background provides him with the experience of cross-over work including insolvency, commercial or familial intervening within proceedings. James enjoys advising and representing former marital partners in financial order proceedings and cohabitants in disputes under TLATA and also has experience of advising family members, dependants, former marital partners and cohabitants in actions concerning the administration of estates.

Chancery and Commercial

Traditional Chancery

Contractual disputes

James has accepted instructions to appear in all stages of proceedings for financial remedies including at final hearings. He also takes instruction in other ancillary applications relating to divorce and financial relief. James is comfortable with enforcement of financial orders for both respondents and applicants. James civil background provides him with the experience of cross-over work including insolvency, commercial or familial intervening within proceedings. James enjoys advising and representing former marital partners in financial order proceedings and cohabitants in disputes under TLATA and also has experience of advising family members, dependants, former marital partners and cohabitants in actions concerning the administration of estates.

Private Law Children: Residence and Contact

James has over 9 years experience in personal injury (road traffic accidents, public and employers' liability claims), fatal accidents, product liability and clinical negligence claims.

James has a broad range of experience extending from whiplash injuries and cases of alleged Low Velocity Impact to allegations of fraud and catastrophic injury claims and in particular cases involving the Animals

Act 1971 which often lead to serious and life changing injuries.

James is well versed in the Pre-Action Protocol Low Value Personal Injury Claims in Road Traffic Accidents, Employers' Liability and Public Liability Claims and the operation of the on-line portals.

James is happy to advise as litigation is considered and progressed on complex issues in respect of liability, quantum and causation and the evidential hurdles which need to be overcome.

In addition, he has experience of inquests.



Legal Expertise Continued

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Family: Finance

Real Property

James has experience of advising in relation to nuisance and trespass, easements and boundary and title disputes.

Landlord and Tenant

James will represent both landlords and tenants at all stages in relation to allegations concerning disrepair; surrender and breach of tenancy agreements.

Out of Court Solutions (NCDR)

Private FDR

Single Joint Advices/Early Neutral Evaluation

Round Table Meetings/Joint Conferences

Merits, Advice, Drafting And Support Package



Professional Info

For more information or to get in touch with James please contact the clerks room who will be happy to assist you.

Membership

Personal Injury Bar Association

Personal Info

Away from Chambers, James enjoys spending time with his young family and walking the family dog in the South Wiltshire countryside. James is a keen sailor, skier and hiker having climbed Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania and trekked in the Annapurna region in Nepal.



Reviews

For more information or to get in touch with James please contact the clerks room who will be happy to assist you.

Thank you so much for your help over the course of this hearing. You are a very skilful advocate who demonstrated a detailed knowledge of the case through diligent preparation and a detailed knowledge of employment law. You showed through cross examination a masterclass in how to manage a difficult claimant and delicately and smoothly elicited from her concession after concession in her evidence. In short a very nice job well done. Please thank Mark Windebank also for his efforts in helping us to have your help on this case. - *Stuart Seagrove - Biscoe's*
