



Thomas Westwell

Year of Call: 2018

Tom specialises in personal injury, employment and consumer finance work. He appears regularly in courts and tribunals and has a thriving advisory practice. He is ranked by Legal 500 as a Leading Junior in personal injury. He prides himself on his persuasive advocacy, clear drafting style, exceptional diligence and ability to research complex points of law to achieve results for his clients.

Tom has appeared in the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeal (led by other counsel) and in the High Court (as sole counsel). His appellate experience includes several important cases in personal injury and consumer finance:

- Johnson v FirstRand Bank Limited (t/a MotoNovo Finance) – acting in the Supreme Court (judgment awaited) and the Court of Appeal ([2024] EWCA Civ 1282) for the claimants in these appeals concerning undisclosed commissions paid to car dealers when arranging finance on behalf of customers (led by Robert Weir KC and Jonathan Butters) – one of The Lawyer’s “Top 10 appeals of 2025”;
- Griffiths v TUI [2023] UKSC 48, [2023] 3 WLR 1204
– win for the claimant in the Supreme Court in appeal on fairness and the duty to cross-examine (led by Robert Weir KC and Stephen Cottrell);
- Miller v Irwin Mitchell LLP [2024] EWCA Civ 53, [2024] 4 WLR 27
– whether a firm owed duties to a personal injury claimant when advising via its free legal helpline (led by Robert Weir KC).

Tom was previously a solicitor at Freshfields, where he spent four years after qualification as an associate in the employment, pensions and employee benefits team. In 2019-20, Tom was the judicial assistant to Lord Wilson and Lord Burrows at the Supreme Court.

Recommendations

'He has outstanding knowledge and his preparation is outstanding. He is tactically astute and an excellent negotiator.' - Personal Injury, Legal 500 2025

Academic

Bachelor of Civil Law (BCL), St Cross College, Oxford – Distinction

GDL and LPC, BPP Law School, London – Distinction

BA Classics, Brasenose College, Oxford – Double First

King's College School, Wimbledon

Western Province Preparatory School, Cape Town

Memberships & Associations

APIL, PIBA, ELA, ELBA