



Harrison Denner

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Harrison Denner

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Harrison graduated from Oxford with a BA in jurisprudence, studying at Regent's Park College, where he was also JCR President. He was then awarded a Distinction in the LLM at UCL and an Outstanding on the BPTC.

Prior to joining Chambers, Harrison worked at Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP in Moorgate as a corporate paralegal, undertaking a variety of tasks associated with the completion of mergers and acquisitions, as well as capital market deals.

Harrison is developing a practice across a broad range of Chambers' specialisms and is equally content to act as junior to other members of Chambers or as sole counsel.

For more information about the way barristers at Henderson Chambers work, including our terms of engagement, fee transparency statement and our complaints process, [please click here](#). Barristers are regulated by the Bar Standards Board.

Commercial

Harrison regularly advises on questions of contractual interpretation and litigation tactics in commercial matters more generally and welcomes all commercial instructions. Examples of recent commercial instructions include:

- Advising a major international corporation on the recovery of sums owed to it by an embassy, raising complex questions regarding diplomatic immunity and enforcement.
- Advising companies on the recovery of sums owed where it is said by the paying party that the individual who signed the contract on their behalf lacked the necessary authority to contract.
- Representing consumers claiming pursuant to the Consumer Rights Act 2015.
- Advising on the fairness of contractual terms and the consequences of any unfairness.
- Representing various individuals and corporate entities seeking to recover sums owed by virtue of unpaid invoices, both at first instance and on appeal.
- As junior to Oliver Campbell QC: advising a potential defendant on questions of contractual

interpretation in a proposed claim relating to infrastructure damage.

- As junior to Prashant Popat QC: advising on an arbitration claim for damages for infrastructure damage and performance-related charges arising out of a major train derailment

Group Actions

Harrison welcomes instructions in group actions. Examples of current and recent group action instructions include:

- Acting (alongside Charles Gibson QC, Malcolm Sheehan QC, Andrew Kinnier QC, Adam Heppinstall and James Williams) for GlaxoSmithKline in its successful defence of the Seroxat Group Litigation. This was a Consumer Protection Act group action alleging discontinuation symptoms following the use of a leading antidepressant/anxiolytic. After the trial judge defined the limited scope of the case the claimants were permitted to advance at trial as to why it was alleged that Seroxat was defective, the Court of Appeal dismissed the claimants' appeal. This case was featured as one of The Lawyer's Top 20 cases of 2019.
- Acting for Volkswagen in the *Volkswagen NOx Emissions Litigation*: claims arising out of vehicle emissions testing.
- Acting for thousands of individuals in the *Mortgage Prisoners Litigation* (alongside William Hibbert and Adam Heppinstall), who held mortgages with Northern Rock prior to its nationalisation. The claim alleges that those individuals were, post-nationalisation, treated unfairly in a variety of ways and raises questions of unfair terms, breaches of implied terms and breaches of statutory duty (arising out of the MCOB rules). This ongoing litigation has received widespread media attention (see, for example <https://www.ftadviser.com/mortgages/2019/12/18/mortgage-prisoners-launch-legal-action-against-lenders/>).
- *AAA v Unilever* (as a pupil): a claim brought by workers and visitors to a tea plantation in Kenya against the local Kenyan subsidiary and the English parent company.

Banking, Finance & Financial Services

Harrison has experience acting for a variety of lenders in relation to consumer credit disputes, most notably arising out of allegations of unfairness. Harrison has recently successfully appeared at trial for lenders who seek to argue that a claim brought against them has been fully compromised, and is therefore an abuse of process, by reason of a payment made by them to the claimant under the FCA DISP App scheme and/or that such payment has removed any previously existing unfairness between the parties.

Product Liability

Harrison also welcomes instructions relating to product liability. Examples of current and recent experience

include:

- Acting (as junior to Geraint Webb QC) for a major manufacturer of car parts in its claim for damages against its supplier. This ongoing case raises issues of jurisdiction, choice of law clauses and involves a “battle of the forms” dispute, as well as complex expert evidence relating to engineering and materials science.
- Acting for GlaxoSmithKline in the *Seroxat Group Litigation*.
- Advising a major pharmaceutical company in relation to a potential group action arising out of an allegedly defective drug. Specifically, advising on questions of pre-action disclosure and limitation periods (details confidential).

EU & Competition Law

Harrison has experience in competition law cases, recently acting on behalf of Japanese smart card chip producer Renesas in relation to a follow-on damages claim brought in the High Court by Vodafone in relation to a decision by the European Commission. Harrison has studied economics extensively, including a module on *Economics in Competition Law* during his LLM, and is particularly keen to put that knowledge to use in competition law matters.

Property

Harrison is regularly instructed in property disputes and has appeared frequently in the County Court. He has represented various housing associations and private landlords in possession proceedings. He also has dealt with matters raising complex TOLATA issues, including in relation to offshore trust vehicles.

Personal Injury

Harrison has experienced a great deal of personal injury work during his time in Chambers, advising on both on liability and quantum, as well as frequently appearing in small claims and fast track trials.

Health & Safety

Harrison also welcomes health and safety instructions and recently acted as junior to James Purnell, advising a major manufacturer in its defence of a prosecution brought against it for alleged breaches of health and safety legislation.

Appointments

- Government Legal Department, Junior Junior Scheme (30/05/2018 to 17/09/2022)

Memberships

- Commercial Bar Association
- Personal Injuries Bar Association
- Health & Safety Lawyers' Association

Education

Education

- BA, Oxon (Jurisprudence)
- LLM, UCL (Distinction)
- BPTC, University of Law (Outstanding)

Awards

- Hardwicke Entrance Award, Lincoln's Inn
- Lord Denning Scholarship, Lincoln's Inn
- Buchanan Prize, Lincoln's Inn
- Wolfson Scholarship, Lincoln's Inn
- Performance Award, University of Law
- Ede & Ravenscroft Prize, University of Law
- Diploma in Music Performance (piano) ABRSM
- Orchestral and Choral Scholarships, St John's College Cardiff