# Michael Lee



Call: 2009

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Michael Lee has a broad practice, with a particular focus on employment and commercial matters. He has extensive advocacy experience and regularly appears in a range of courts and tribunals.

Michael is recommended in the employment sections of all the leading directories, which have described him as “a go-to junior for employment litigation and associated high court work” and as a “go-to counsel, who is hugely responsive and great with clients… always well prepared, never misses a trick, and his advocacy is strong”.

The directories have noted Michael’s strength in “injunctive relief and restraint of trade matters” and in “complex discrimination matters and employment issues with a commercial twist”. The most recent editions describe Michael as someone who “will give you the time, effort and insight you dream of from a real star of the employment Bar”.

> ***Excellent attention to detail, commercial, hardworking and excellent level of legal knowledge***
>
> **LEGAL 500**

# Expertise

## Recent cases

### Aon & Ors v Howden & Ors

(ONGOING)

Acting (led by David Craig KC) for the Defendants to a team move dispute due to be heard over 12 weeks in early 2027.

### A v B

(JANUARY 2026)

Acting (led by Diya Sen Gupta KC) for the Respondent private equity firm in its defence of an equal pay and sex discrimination claim, heard over three weeks.

### C v D

(JUNE 2025)

Acting for the former-employee of an investment bank in a whistleblowing and discrimination claim which settled on the first day of a three-week hearing.

### E v F

(APRIL 2025)

Acting (led by Richard Leiper KC) for a hedge fund defending a disability claim by a former-employee. The proceedings settled shortly before the start of a three-week trial.

### Ahmed v Sainsburys

(2024 & ONGOING)

Acting (led by Daniel Stilitz KC and Julian Milford KC) for the Respondents to a long-running equal pay dispute. The Stage 2 Hearing was heard over 4 weeks between April and July 2024. The Stage 3 hearing is listed for November 2027-January 2028.

### Guy Carpenter v Howden

OCTOBER 2023

Acted (led by David Craig KC) for the Defendants to a team move dispute which settled on the first day of a 6 week speedy trial.

### Maugars v Deutsche Bank

(OCTOBER 2022)

Acted (led by Simon Devonshire KC) for the Claimant in her age and sex discrimination claim against the Respondent investment bank.

### AstraZeneca v Sheldon

[2022] EWHC 2447 (KB)

Acted (led by Daniel Oudkerk KC and Amy Rogers) for AstraZeneca in its application for an interim injunction to enforce a non-compete covenant.

### Tuitt v Richmond Upon Thames LBC

[2022] IRLR 1035

Acted for the Respondent to a TUPE dispute before the ET in 2020 and before the EAT in March 2022.

### G v H (June 2021)

Acted for a financial services institution in its successful defence of a highly publicised whistleblowing claim heard over 9 days.

### Alesco Risk Management Services Ltd v Bishopsgate Insurance Brokers Ltd

[2019] EWHC 2839 (QB).

Acted (led by Richard Leiper KC) for one of the Defendant insurance brokers in an alleged team move conspiracy case heard over 14 days.

### Carpos-Young v Royal Academy of Music

(OCTOBER 2018)

Represented the Claimant lecturer in her high-profile victimisation claim against the Royal Academy of Music.

### Carneiro v Chelsea FC; José Mourinho

(2016)

Acted (led by Daniel Stilitz KC) for the Respondents in defence of claims brought in the ET by a former-doctor, which settled on day 2 of a 10 day hearing.

### Sullivan v Bury Street Capital

[2022] IRLR 159

Acted for the Respondent to a disability discrimination claim in the financial services sector, heard over 9 days by the ET in November 2018, by the EAT in July 2020, and by the Court of Appeal in November 2021.

### Trailfinders Ltd v Travel Counsellors Ltd

[2020] IRLR 448

Represented the individual defendants in a trial concerning misuse of confidential information.

### R (Newby Foods Limited) v Food Standards Agency

[2013] EWHC 1966 (ADMIN) [2013] EWHC 2132 (ADMIN) [2019] UKSC 18

Represented the Defendant in relation to the Claimant's challenge to a European prohibition of certain meat products (led by Clive Lewis KC) and acted for the Defendant in relation to the Claimant's application for interim relief. He later (led by Jason Coppell KC) represented the Defendant before the Supreme Court.

### Ozkaptan v Citibank N.A

(2016 AND 2017)

Represented the Claimant (an FX trader) in a 6-day ET hearing and subsequent remedy hearing.

### Keppel Seghers v Hinds

[2014] ICR 1105

Acted for the Claimant (the Respondent in the EAT) in an appeal concerning the extended definition of "worker" for the purpose of whistleblowing claims.

### Personal Management Solutions Ltd v Brakes Bros Ltd

[2014] EWHC 3495

Acted as sole counsel in a High Court trial concerning breach of confidence.

### Lonmar Global Risks Ltd v West & Ors

[2011] IRLR 138

Represented the Claimant in a 3-week trial concerning team moves, employees' fiduciary duties, and conspiracy (led by Richard Leiper KC).

# Achievements

## Education

Michael graduated with a first-class degree in Law from St Catharine's College, Cambridge University.

## Other

Michael is a member of the Commercial Bar Association, the Employment Lawyers Association, the Employment Law Bar Association and the Constitutional and the *Administrative Law Bar Association.*

> ***The biggest strength is his commitment. He is intellectually top rate and he combines that with sheer hard work and attention to detail. He has been extremely well prepared for everything. He is also very responsive to queries and a team player.***
>
> LEGAL 500

> ***Very down-to-earth and clearly very bright***
>
> CHAMBERS & PARTNERS

> ***He is extremely thorough, very personable and good with the client***
>
> CHAMBERS & PARTNERS

*Very commercial, very sensible and very user-friendly*

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS

*He is extremely hard-working, diligent and is able to pick up the facts of a case very quickly*

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS

*He provides sound and practical advice, and is one to watch*

LEGAL 500

*Good with clients, skilful, confident and persuasive. He is able to adapt his approach appropriately to the claimant, witness and case in hand*

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS

*Responsive, bright and enjoyable to work with. He really gets engaged with the case and makes you feel supported throughout*

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS

*He grasps complicated and complex matters easily*

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