Zac Sammour



Call: 2014

E: Zac.Sammour@11kbw.com
T: +44 (0)20 7632 8500

Zac is sought-after as both junior and sole counsel across a wide range of practice areas, including commercial, data protection, defamation, employment, privacy, public, public international and sports law.

Zac is recommended in the legal directories in six of his practice areas: civil liberties and human rights; employment, data protection, defamation and privacy, public and administrative law and sport. He is recommended for:

- **His advocacy**: "*He is an excellent, confident advocate*" (Chambers & Partners 2026); "*He is one of the best cross-examiners in the business*" (Legal 500 2025); "*His advocacy skills are some of the best I've seen*" (Chambers & Partners 2025);
- **His analytical ability**: "*Zac's ability to analyse complex legal issues is incomparable.*" (Chambers & Partners 2026); "*Zac Sammour has a brilliant mind*" (Chambers & Partners 2026); "*Zac is an exceptional barrister. He is smart, insightful, thoughtful and tactically brilliant*" (Legal 500 2026)

> ***Zac has an excellent grasp of the law across a number of areas; he is an all-round barrister that is commercial and a pleasure to work with***
>
> **CHAMBERS & PARTNERS, DEFAMATION AND PRIVACY, 2026**

- **His ability to work in a team**: *"Zac has fantastic leader qualities in someone who is so junior. He ensures the team operate effectively and he really delivers with high-quality work"* (Chambers & Partners 2026); *"Zac is a brilliant tactician and works seamlessly with solicitor teams to provide timely pragmatic and commercial advice"* (Legal 500 2026); *"He is down to earth, bright, and speaks clear, simple English. He is commercial and pragmatic"* (Chambers & Partners 2026).

Zac has appeared in high profile and complex cases in all of his practice areas, dealing with matters from free speech in the workplace (***Miller v University of Bristol***) to the regulation of online platforms (***TikTok v ICO***); arms exports during armed conflict (***Al Haq v Secretary of State for Business and Trade***) to large-scale team moves involving software copying and document misappropriation (***SS&C v Zilo***); and racism in sport (***Yorkshire Cricket Disciplinary Proceedings***) to the international obligations of occupying powers (*ICJ* ***advisory opinion proceedings***).

Expertise

Procurement / Competition

Zac acted for the Claimant in ***Serco v Secretary of State for Defence*** , a large and complex procurement challenge relating to a substantial contract worth c. £1billion. The claim settled before trial, and following a successful application by the Claimant for specific disclosure (on which the Claimant was awarded its costs on the indemnity basis: [2019] EWHC 515 (TCC)) and an unsuccessful application by the Defendant for strike out ([2019] EWHC 549 (TCC)). Zac acted for Serco throughout the proceedings, led by Joseph Barrett and instructed by DWF.

Zac has also acted as both junior and sole counsel in a number of other procurement matters. He acted for Camelot in an interlocutory hearing before O'Farell J in the ***IGT v Gambling Commission*** litigation ([2023] EWHC 1420 (TCC)).

Zac also has experience in competition law. He acted for the Claimant in ***Balmoral Tanks Limited v CMA*** in both the CAT ([2017] CAT 23) and the Court of Appeal ([2019] 4 CMLR 25; [2019] EWCA Civ 162)), the first decision of the UK courts on information exchange infringements.

Zac has experience with EU law issues outside of the context of procurement and competition law. Zac acted for a claimant in a claim for judicial review which argued that guidance issued by the Secretary of State was contrary to the IORP Directive ***R (on the application of the Palestine Solidarity Campaign) v Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government*** (led by Nigel Giffin KC).

During pupillage, Zac gained extensive experience on competition cases, including ***Sky v Ofcom*** [2015] CAT 9 (assisting David Scannell) and ***Speed Medical Examination Services v Secretary of State for Justice*** [2015] EWHC 3585, a judicial review challenging reforms to the process for handling soft tissue whiplash claims on the basis (inter alia) that they gave rise to breaches of competition law (assisting Gerard Rothschild).

Zac also gained experience during pupillage in the following areas:

- EU sanctions;
- The Common Agricultural Policy and;
- Challenges to decisions of the European Medicines Agency.

Achievements

Education

London School of Economics, LLB (First Class)

Oxford University, BCL (Distinction)

Awards

- Sweet and Maxwell Prize for Best Performance in final year exams (LSE)
- Clifford Chance Prize for Best Performance in Property II (LSE)
- Archibald Jackson Prize (Somerville College, Oxford)
- Denning Scholarship (Lincolns Inn)
- Hardwicke Entry Award (Lincolns Inn)

Other

Zac enjoys combat sports and competed for several years at an amateur level in boxing and Muay Thai. Zac competed for Oxford in the 2013 Varsity Match, where he beat the Cambridge captain and won Oxford's award for Best Technical Boxer. He now competes (recreationally) in Brazilian Jiu Jitsu. He is a fan of Newcastle United FC.

> ***An excellent advocate who demonstrates abilities well beyond his year of call. Both a razor-sharp mind and a natural manner with clients. A barrister who solicitors always trust to do a good job – a real star of the employment Bar***
>
> **LEGAL 500, EMPLOYMENT, 2022**

> ***Zac is exceptionally bright, has an incredible work ethic and demonstrates abilities well beyond his year of call. Zac is a complete star and absolutely someone you want on your team***
>
> **LEGAL 500, DATA PROTECTION, 2023**

> ***He does an excellent job and is very bright***
>
> **CHAMBERS & PARTNERS, EMPLOYMENT, 2021**

Zac is very flexible and will go the extra mile. He really thinks outside the box and is incredibly imaginative but has a down-to-earth demeanor

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS, EMPLOYMENT, 2024

Zac provides an excellent level of service for us in complex tribunal cases

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS, EMPLOYMENT, 2024

Zac is responsive, has great attention to detail, puts clients at ease and has strong advocacy skills

LEGAL 500, EMPLOYMENT, 2024

Brilliant mind with a good eye for detail. Works very hard – prepares assiduously

LEGAL 500, SPORTS LAW, 2024

Zac's cross-examination approach is tenacious and gives confidence that he is in complete control of the witness on the stand. His submissions are well crafted without being unnecessarily verbose; and he is excellent at managing lay clients, ensuring they feel involved and understand what is happening

LEGAL 500, EMPLOYMENT, 2023

Zac is very personable and is a very strong team player. He has a first-class knowledge and intellect and is very good on paper. He is a superb advocate and is definitely a junior star

LEGAL 500, DEFAMATION AND PRIVACY, 2023