Michael Lee



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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”.

> ***Michael is clear and responsive and draws on his breadth of experience to give persuasive and detailed advice. His natural, relaxed advocacy style finds favour with judges.***
>
> CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS

Expertise

Commercial Litigation

Michael undertakes a range of commercial work. He is frequently instructed in cases involving injunctive relief and restraint of trade issues, conspiracy and economic tort claims, and cases involving breaches of directors' duties, fiduciary duties and duties of confidence. Chambers and Partners has stated that Michael "is noted for his work on injunctive relief and restraint of trade matters", whilst Who's Who Legal has commented that he is "lauded as 'a go-to junior for employment litigation and associated High Court work'".

> ***Michael Lee is very smart, committed, and he has excellent judgement. He rolls up his sleeves and gets involved and produces excellent-quality work.***

Michael's work in this field includes a speedy trial concerning a team-move, led by David Craig KC (***Guy Carpenter v Howden***, which settled on the first day of six-week trial) and a non-compete injunction led by Daniel Oudkerk KC and Amy Rogers (***AstraZeneca v Sheldon* [2022] EWHC 2447**). Michael (led by Richard Leiper KC) also represented one of the Defendant insurance brokers in an alleged team move conspiracy case heard over 14 days (***Alesco Risk Management Services Ltd v Bishopsgate Insurance Brokers Ltd* [2019] EWHC 2839 (QB)**).

Michael is currently acting as part of a large counsel team, led by David Craig KC, in a case involving an alleged team-move conspiracy listed for trial over 12 weeks in early 2027. He is also (led by David Craig KC) acting for a Claimant bank seeking declaratory relief in the High Court in relation to a contractual dispute with a former-employee (and in seeking a stay of related proceedings brought by the employee in the Employment Tribunal).

As sole counsel Michael acted for the Claimants in a Commercial Court dispute involving contractual claims against Defendants in multiple jurisdictions and represented the individual defendants in a trial concerning misuse of confidential information (***Trailfinders Ltd v Travel Counsellors Ltd* [2020] IRLR 448**).

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

LEGAL 500