

Oliver Jackson

Call: 2019

E: Oliver.Jackson@11kbw.com

T: +44 (0)20 7632 8500



Oliver specialises in public law and human rights, employment, education, competition and EU relations, data protection, procurement, commercial, and public international law.

He is ranked as a leading junior by Chambers & Partners for administrative and public law and data protection; and by Legal 500 for administrative law and human rights, employment, data protection, and public procurement.

He has appeared in courts from Port Talbot and Great Yarmouth to the Supreme Court and the European Court of Human Rights. His clients range from individuals, journalists and NGOs to multinational businesses, government departments and foreign states.

Oliver is regularly instructed in the most high-profile disputes. Recent cases include:

- The challenge to the Government's private school fees VAT policy.
- The challenge to the Michaela School's ban on prayer rituals.
- The constitutional law 'Volvo limitation' appeal on the status of CJEU judgments post-Brexit.



An extremely good advocate

LEGAL 500

- The challenge to the registration of the first private provider of cross-sex hormones for 16-17 year old children.
- Whether employment claims by diplomatic staff are barred by state immunity.
- The leading Supreme Court appeal on mental health after-care services.

From 2020 to 2021 Oliver was a judicial assistant at the UK Supreme Court and the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, working on the most complex cases in the UK and from the Commonwealth. In 2024 he was elected to the Executive Committee of the Human Rights Lawyers Association.

He received a first-class degree in Natural Sciences from Cambridge University, where he graduated second in the year in his subject and won several scholarships and prizes. He has taught maths, physics and chemistry and enjoys cases that arise in a technical context.

Expertise

Commercial Litigation

Oliver has a particular interest in the overlap between commercial disputes and public law principles. His commercial clients have included FTSE 100 companies in the retail, gambling, luxury goods, hospitality and tech sectors. He has been instructed on matters ranging from the county court small claims track to heavy and complex commercial court trials.

R (Emeraldshaw Ltd) v Sheffield Magistrates' Court

[2025] EWCA CIV 1601

whether a commercial landlord was liable to pay non-domestic business rates despite granting a tenancy to a charity. Oliver made submissions on the public law issues to the Court of Appeal.

Lime v Liverpool City Council (ongoing)

challenge to the decision of Liverpool City Council to award a concession contract for e-bikes and e-scooters.

Tinkler v Stobart Group

[2022] EWHC 1375 (CH)

Successful defence to a claim to set aside a judgment alleged to have been obtained by fraud, upheld on appeal (assisting Richard Leiper KC and Daniel Isenberg).

Cubic Transportation Systems Ltd v Transport for London

(ONGOING)

challenge by incumbent contractor to TfL's decision to award its contract for all of TfL's revenue collection services (worth £1.5 billion) to a competitor.

Pakistan International Airlines Corporation v Times Travel (UK) Ltd

[2021] UKSC 40

whether a contract can be avoided for lawful economic act duress. Critiqued academically in [2021] 8 JBL 701.

Bott & Co Solicitors Ltd v Ryanair DAC

[2022] UKSC 8

Claim to recover monies said to be held under a solicitor's equitable lien.

FS Cairo (Nile Plaza) LLC v Brownlie

[2021] UKSC 45

Claim for tortious damages against a defendant out of the jurisdiction

Enka Insaat Ve Sanayi AS v OOO Insurance Company Chubb

[2020] UKSC 38

Dispute over the proper law of an arbitration agreement governing proceedings concerning liability for a fire at a Russian power plant.

Secretary of State for Health v Servier Laboratories Ltd

[2022] UKSC 44

to what extent findings made by the CJEU in judgments annulling an infringement decision of the EU Commission are binding in domestic private damages actions following on from that decision.

T W Logistics Ltd v Essex County Council

[2021] UKSC 4

Challenge to the registration of a working commercial port as a town and village green.

Alstom Transport UK Ltd v Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd

[2019] EWHC 3585 (TCC)

Challenge to the award of a contract for digital train control signalling system on the East Coast Main Line.

Achievements

Articles and Publications

Tinkler v HMRC

[2021] UKSC 39

The leading case on estoppel by convention.

Harcus Sinclair LLP v Your Lawyers Ltd

[2021] UKSC 32

Enforceability of a non-compete clause/solicitor's undertaking agreed between two law firms.

Manchester Building Society v Grant Thornton UK LLP, Meadows v Khan

[2021] UKSC 20, [2021] UKSC 21

leading authorities on the scope of the duty of care in negligence.

Vodafone v Ofcom

[2020] EWCA CIV 183

Restitutionary claim by network operators for monies held by Ofcom after the quashing of earlier regulations.

'Public law in the Supreme Court 2020-2021' [2023] 28 JR 129 (with Isabella Buono)

'Limiting an employer's right to dismiss on notice: *Aspden v Webbbs Poultry* and *USDAW v Tesco*', UK Labour Law Blog, 22 February 2023 (freely available here)

'Unconscionability, uncertainty and lawful act duress' [2021] 8 JBL 701 (available here)

Education

- BA Natural Sciences, Cambridge University (First)
- Graduate Diploma in Law, City University (Distinction)
- Bar Professional Training Course, City University (Outstanding)

Awards

- Phoenicia Scholar (Bar European Group)
- Postgraduate Scholar (City Law School)
- Certificate of Honour (Middle Temple)
- JJ Powell Prize (Middle Temple)
- Queen Mother Scholarship (Middle Temple)
- Astbury Scholarship (Middle Temple)
- Simon Walker Prize in Natural Sciences (Christ's College, Cambridge)
- Graduate Scholar (Christ's College, Cambridge)
- Levy Plumb Bursary and Newton Trust Bursary (Christ's College, Cambridge)

Other

Before joining the Bar Oliver worked on the civil service fast-stream. He also advised on human rights issues at Liberty, advocated for the abolition of the death penalty at Reprieve, and volunteered as a caseworker at the Bar Pro Bono Unit. He has taken university courses on economic history and policy alongside his legal practice.

He is a trustee of Brass for Africa, an international development charity building resilience and life skills in refugee camps in Uganda, Liberia and Rwanda.

“

Oliver is an extremely good advocate. He is very thorough and helpful throughout.

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS, 2026

“

He is a good advocate, who makes sensible points.

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS, 2026

“

Very responsive, always on top of his game, incisive and collaborative.

LEGAL 500, 2026

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Oliver communicates very easily.

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS 2025

“

Oliver has very good written advocacy.

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS 2025

“

He provides very clear strategic objectives and tailors his advice to that.

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS 2025

“

Oliver is really easy to deal with.

LEGAL 500, 2025

“

His written work is always very good.

LEGAL 500, 2025

“

An excellent advocate. He is diligent and able to robustly defend a case.

LEGAL 500, 2024