

James Culverwell



James joined Lamb Chambers at the start of 2020 having commenced his practice at a common law set in the Temple. James' expertise encompasses a broad range of work with a particular emphasis on matters involving property, construction disputes and commercial litigation. James appears in the High Court and County Court at first instance and on appeal.

James has comprehensive oral advocacy skills having started his career with a common law practice covering Civil, Crime and Family. He is also well-experienced in drafting pleadings and has been praised for his advisory work. Commended for his personable style putting clients at ease and engaging tribunals, James brings a practical and common-sense approach to his work translating complex legal matters into comprehensible advice.

"I've been very impressed with all of your advice, as have a number of Partners and Solicitors within our Dept. I am an advocate of giving praise when it's due and my experiences with you have certainly led me to the conclusion it's due." *Solicitor, CE Ltd v MED Ltd & Q Ltd v H Ltd.*

"I am delighted with the services provided by chambers and particularly that of James; there is no question that he went above and beyond. His diligence, efficiency and clear ability to sort wheat from chaff was invaluable and to top it all a thoroughly nice chap." – *H Ltd v TBDS, lay client*

"Another very thorough and well-thought out advice. Thank you." – *Solicitor, F v E Council*

COVID-19

During the COVID-19 pandemic, James' experience means he is able to advise on the altered regime for residential possessions and forfeiture of commercial leases as well as the connection with alternative remedies such as insolvency and bankruptcy.

James' commercial and general civil background mean he can provide expert advice and representation in cases involving contracts that have been affected by coronavirus or the government's response. Having postponed his own wedding to July 2021, James is particularly well-placed to advise clients who have had weddings or other events cancelled or postponed as a



Year of Call: 2013

Contact Practice Manager

Joe Grimmer

joe@lambchambers.co.uk

020 7797 8307

VAT Reg No

258761859



result of the current restrictions and social-distancing measures. This includes termination, cancellation charges and postponements.

Contact practicemanagers@lambchambers.co.uk to book an appointment with James.

Further Information

Before commencing pupillage, James worked in a top-ranked city law firm with the Litigation and Dispute Resolution team on large-scale commercial disputes as well as assisting the Real Estate Disputes and Contentious Construction teams. James then spent two years as a County Court Advocate gaining extensive experience in the areas of landlord and tenant law, mortgage repossessions, insolvency, contract, personal injury as well as all manner of procedural hearings across the litigation process.

Qualifications

- Bar Professional Training Course – Very Competent
- LLB (Hons) – First Class

Memberships

- Honourable Society of the Inner Temple
- Property Bar Association
- Chancery Bar Association
- Technology & Construction Bar Association (TECBAR)

Interests

James is a keen skier and a follower of the Hampshire and England cricket teams, as well as Harlequins and England rugby teams. He is also an enthusiastic cook and enjoys good food and drink.

Commercial

James has appeared in the County Court and in the High Court in insolvency and bankruptcy matters as well as general contractual disputes, and has a wealth of experience in, matters arising under the Companies Act, debt claims, PPI claims and issues of general tortious liability.

Recent Cases

- U Ltd v F Ltd (2021) – advised on the impact of the Corporate Insolvency and Governance Act and transitional provisions in relation to a statutory demand and winding up petition.
- G v GH Ltd & Anor (2021) – acted for a large car dealer at trial and succeeded in obtaining a strike out of the claim on the basis that it was an abuse of process.



- H Ltd v TBDS (2020) – advised and represented a company in an urgent claim for an injunction against a Business Development Scheme relating to transferred or novated contracts and ownership of Christmas lighting equipment. A favourable settlement was negotiated for the client thus also allowing the Christmas lights to be switched on.
- Re PRA (2020) – advised a Residents Management Company on their obligations under their (outdated) articles of association in relation to notifying members as to meetings in the context of the pandemic and exercising powers of sale of land.
- A v B (2020) – assisted on a large international arbitration involving breach of a distribution agreement and misuse of confidential information and trade secrets.
- H v I Ltd (2020) – Defeated a claim against a provider of financial market spread-betting turning on interpretation of the terms and conditions.
- KG v E (2020) – Succeeded in legal argument on the principles applicable to loss of use of a fleet vehicle as well as preventing awards on interest on other heads and costs.
- EE Ltd v ZH Ltd (2020) – advising an engineering firm in a claim for non-payment of numerous invoices for materials and services rendered against the firm's former client with a complex corporate structure.
- J v F (2020) – advising the prospective claimant in a long-running dispute over a series of investments and loans issued in respect of successive property developments.
- MR v HMRC (2019) – advised and represented the debtor in an application to set aside a statutory demand. The debt arose from allegations of deliberately inaccurate company returns and penalties issued against the debtor as director.
- RC v M & M (2019) – acting for a specialist lender and petitioner in bankruptcy proceedings connected with significant unpaid loans secured against properties in negative equity.
- O Ltd v B Ltd (2019) – acted for a company defending a claim for unpaid invoices and fees which centred on the interpretation of a non-compete clause. The matter was settled on advice following a Pre-trial Settlement Hearing.
- O v O (2019) – negotiated full concession at trial by defendant for order for sale in repayment of a series of loans. Subsequently succeeded on an application to take carriage of sale of a property following the failure by the defendant to perform its obligations under the order.



