

Stephen Connolly



Call 2003



Clerks

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Memberships

- Lincoln's Inn
- Northern Circuit Commercial Bar Association
- Northern Chancery Bar Association
- Chancery Bar Association

Education

- University of Buckingham, LLB
- St Thomas More High School, Preston

Overview

Stephen is an exceptional commercial barrister. He is highly respected and specialises in high value and complex disputes. He has over 20 years' experience in the fields of commercial and property litigation and is recommended as a leading practitioner by both Chambers and Partners and The Legal 500. His practice comprises:

- Shareholder and company disputes
- Partnership disputes
- Commercial contract disputes
- Commercial fraud
- Professional negligence – solicitors, surveyors and accountants
- Product liability
- Real property disputes
- Contested mortgage disputes and mortgage fraud
- Arbitration, mediation and other forms of alternative dispute resolution

Stephen is renowned for his hard working and no nonsense approach, for the pragmatic and strategic advice that he provides and for his ability to relate to his clients and to communicate his advice to them in an unstuffy, clear and practical manner.

Recommendations

“Stephen is probably one of the best juniors at the Bar. He has a very good all-round practice and a range of specialisms within commercial litigation, which makes him stand out in the market.”

“Stephen really understands what solicitors want from counsel; he is incredibly supportive and involved.”

Chambers and Partners 2025

“Stephen is the ultimate all rounder. He knows what solicitors want from counsel, he is clever, very well respected by the judiciary, and fantastic on both paper and at advocacy.”

The Legal 500 2025

“Stephen is resilient and user-friendly and makes himself available. His work is at a very high quality.”

Chambers and Partners 2024

“Stephen is sure on his legal arguments and prepares to develop them carefully but with force in his skeleton arguments and before a judge. He is an advocate to have in your corner for a case heading for trial, and he is not distracted by new matters as they unfold and remains calm under pressure.”

The Legal 500 2024

“His communication is excellent. He is really thorough and hard-working. He is a formidable opponent. Stephen is a force to be reckoned with.”

“Stephen is pragmatic in his advice and very clear in his plan of operation.”

“Stephen is incredibly bright and incredibly commercial.”

Chambers and Partners 2023

“Stephen quickly gets to the nub of issues and is able to focus on the points that really matter. He gives clear views and delivers his messages to the client in a very user-friendly way. He also thinks outside the box and is prepared to consider all potential options at any stage.”

The Legal 500 2023

“His attention to detail is phenomenal and he’s also someone who quickly builds a very good rapport with clients. He’s very unassuming, extremely bright and very accessible despite being a senior barrister.”

Chambers and Partners 2022

“Stephen’s work, both written and spoken, is impressive. His submissions are well expressed and persuasive and he is very good on his feet.”

The Legal 500 2022

“An outstanding advocate with an extremely sharp analytical brain.”
“He has a calm, measured approach and gets to the commercial side of the issues.” “His advocacy is top-draw and he has a solicitor background so he has the ability to empathise with clients and understands their challenges.”

Chambers and Partners 2021

“An outstanding advocate with an extremely sharp analytical brain. He’s succinct in his advice and doesn’t sit on the fence.”

“He’s practical, commercial and an incredible trial advocate. His attention to detail is second to none, which ultimately is what makes him such effective counsel.”

Chambers and Partners 2020

“An exceptional advocate – he really gets into the nitty gritty of the papers and leaves no stone unturned. His cross examination skills are as good as I have seen. His client handling skills are superb.”

The Legal 500 2021

“A good commercial barrister.”

The Legal 500 2020

“He is an outstanding advocate with an extremely sharp analytical brain. He is succinct in his advice and does not sit on the fence.” “His attention to detail, ability to talk the client’s language and his robustness are first-rate. He is able to cut through ancillary issues and get to the heart of the matter, something which is key in delivering an excellent result for the client.”

Chambers and Partners 2019

“A tough negotiator with a calm manner.”

The Legal 500 2018/19

“I’m always impressed by his ability to grasp technical matters and he is very client-friendly as well.” “He is a very able and pugnacious litigator.”

Chambers and Partners 2018

“A first-rate legal mind.”

The Legal 500 2017

“He’s quite tenacious, very bold and technically very good.” “Very good in court and has excellent paperwork.”

Chambers and Partners 2017

“An excellent advocate, who is particularly effective in injunctions and interim relief applications.”

The Legal 500 2016

“He’s brilliant on his feet. He’s a really good advocate. He fights the client’s corner – a force to be reckoned with.”

Chambers and Partners 2016

“Barrister with renowned advocacy skills who practices in commercial and property disputes.”

Chambers and Partners 2016

“His practice includes shareholder and company disputes, partnership conflicts and professional negligence.”

The Legal 500 2015

“Specialises in high-value and complex disputes.”

The Legal 500 2014

Beyond the Bar

Outside of work Stephen plays the trumpet, cycles and watches Preston North End.