

Jessica Powers

Called: 2012
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Profile

Jessica is a member of Five Paper's Commercial Team, and specialises in commercial and chancery law. She regularly appears in the High Court and County Court as sole counsel, and undertakes pleading and advisory work. She is confident in conducting cases from the first pre-action advice through to final trial, whilst throughout maintaining a pragmatic and commercial approach to litigation.

Since her appointment to the Attorney-General's C Panel of Junior Counsel to the Crown in February 2017, Jessica has acted for HM Revenue and Customs in personal and corporate insolvency matters, and for the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy in director's disqualification proceedings. She has SC clearance.

In 2016, Jessica gained invaluable experience and insight whilst seconded to a boutique commercial and insolvency firm.

Description of Practice

Insolvency

Jessica accepts instructions from creditors, debtors and companies, and office holders in all areas of corporate and personal insolvency.

She has acted in corporate insolvency matters involving:

- Administration, including the extension of the appointment of administrators and advice on consenting to the institution of legal process;
- Winding-up petitions;
- Rescission of winding-up orders;
- Antecedent recoveries, including misfeasance and avoidance of floating charges;
- Post-petition dispositions and validation orders; and
- Directors' disqualification.

In the context of personal insolvency, Jessica has experience of:

- Setting aside statutory demands;
- Bankruptcy petitions;
- Annulment of bankruptcy orders;
- Orders for possession and sale; and
- Disclaimer of property and vesting orders.

Contract

Jessica has acted in numerous commercial disputes concerning the sale of goods and supply of services, including building disputes. She has particular experience and knowledge of agency law, and consumer protection legislation.

Banking and finance

Instructed by both lenders and individuals, Jessica has advisory and advocacy experience of claims arising out of guarantees, debentures, mortgages, and factoring and invoice discounting arrangements.

Company and partnership

Jessica has been instructed in company and partnership matters, including an action for an account by the personal representative of a deceased partner. She is particularly able to assist in matters of company law which overlap with corporate insolvency issues, such as directors' duties.

Property

Jessica has appeared and advised in matters involving issues of:

- Trusts of land and co-ownership;
- Land registration and priorities; and
- Forfeiture.

Public Access

Jessica is happy to accept instructions directly from companies and members of the public through Public Access.

Reported Cases

[D&G Cars Ltd v Essex Police Authority](#) [2015] EWHC 226 (QB) (led by Graham Platford)
Acted on behalf of the Claimant company in an action against the police for breach of contract and breach of the Public Contracts Regulations 2006.

[Cuthbertson v MacIntyre Care](#) [2013] EqLR 1139
Successfully acted on behalf of the Claimant in an indirect discrimination claim.

Publications

Atkins Court Forms – together with Simon Mills, Jessica has updated the Sale and Supply

of Goods and Services volume.

Westlaw Insight – Jessica has contributed articles relating to estate agents, specifically relating to the taking of commission and holding of deposits.

Estates Gazette – Jessica has written a number of articles for Estates Gazette on the subjects of consumer rights, and estate agents.

Qualifications

- BPTC (Very Competent), Kaplan Law School, 2012
- GDL (Pass with Distinction), Kaplan Law School, 2011
- English and Related Literature BA (Hons) (First Class), University of York, 2010

Scholarships and Prizes

Inner Temple Major Scholarship, 2011
Kaplan Law School BPTC Advocacy Scholarship, 2011
Inner Temple Exhibition Award, 2010
Kaplan Law School GDL Scholarship, 2010

Professional Memberships

Commercial Bar Association (Combar)
The London Common Law & Commercial Bar Association (LCLCBA)