

# The Rt Hon Michael Tomlinson

**Year of Call:** 2002

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## Commercial

Michael Tomlinson KC is a Commercial and Chancery law specialist barrister. The former MP and Solicitor General returned to private practice in September 2024, having worked from 3PB from 2003 until 2015.

Michael accepts instructions at all stages of proceedings, providing advice, settling pleadings and appearing at interlocutory hearings and trials. Michael deals with claims relating to points of agency law, misrepresentation, restraints of trade, duress, estoppel arguments, termination of agreements, incorporation of terms and penalty clauses, deceit and conspiracy and the enforcement of settlement agreements. Michael is also experienced in dealing with international commercial and contractual disputes.

Michael's practice encompasses the broad range of commercial and chancery work carried out in chambers including:

- Advising in company, partnerships, insolvency and fraud cases
- Acting over disputes over performance of contracts
- Resisting applications for indemnity costs
- Acting for the seller or buyers of high value equipment in disputes
- Advising on the merits of resisting a claim on the basis of misrepresentation and estoppel
- Appearing in a range of interlocutory hearings, including strike out and summary judgment applications, set aside applications, relief from sanctions applications, applications to join parties to proceedings and case management conferences
- Advising on jurisdiction challenges and sovereign state immunity and 'forum non conveniens'
- Advising on arbitrations in the UK and internationally

Given his background, Michael has a particular interest in statutory interpretation, and many of his cases involve niche points of law.

Michael believes that there are many commercial disputes, as well as wider civil matters, that are ripe for mediation and as a qualified mediator he is able to undertake work as a mediator for a broad range of commercial and civil matters. Michael has also appeared as an advocate at mediation.

## **Academic qualifications**

- BA (Hons) Classics, Kings' College London, 2i
- Postgraduate Diploma in Law and BVC, College of Law, graduated third top in his year

## **Scholarships**

- The Malcolm Memorial Prize for Advocacy, College of Law, 2002
- The Sachs Prize, Middle Temple, 2002
- Rosamund Smith Mooting Cup, Middle Temple, 2002
- Queen Mother Scholarship, Middle Temple, 2001

## **Professional qualifications & appointments**

- Member of His Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, 2024
- Appointed King's Counsel, 2022
- HM Solicitor General (SG), 2022-2023
- Called to the Bar of Northern Ireland, 2023
- Attorney-General's Junior Counsel to the Crown (Regional Panel), 2007-2012

## **Professional bodies**

- Honourable Society of the Middle Temple
- Registered Mediator, Civil Mediation Council
- Society of Mediators