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James Behrens

Year of Call: 1979

"Going places"

Chambers & Partners

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Practice Overview

James Behrens' practice focuses on mediation and arbitration. His mediator and arbitrator profiles can be find by following these links :

[Mediation](#)

[Arbitration](#)

Areas of Expertise

Company

Insolvency

Partnership and LLP

Property

Private Client Trusts and Probate

Mediation

Notable Cases

Statek Corportation v Alford [2008] BCC 266: Fraudulent breach of trust, limitation.

Coekin v Bishop of Southwark (2007) 9 Ecc LJ 145: Revocation of clergyman's licence.

Philips v Symes [2004] EWHC 1887 (Ch): Mental capacity, role of experts.

Comet Group plc v Unika Computer SA [2004] I.L.Pr. 1: Provisional measures under article 24 of the EC Judgments Regulation.

Calvert v Gardiner (2003) 7 Ecc LJ 99: Nuisance, church bells, duties of bishops.

Alipour v UOC Corp [2002] 2 BCLC 770: Estoppel by share certificate.

Johnson v EBS Trustees [2002] Lloyd's Rep. P.N. 309: Solicitors, conflict of interest.

Collings v Lee [2001] 2 All ER 332: Land law and constructive trusts.

Hanbury v Hanbury [1999] 2 FLR 255: Administration of estates, family provision.

TSB Bank plc v Marshall [1998] 3 EGLR 100: Land law and trusts.

Quinlan v Essex Hinge Co. Ltd. [1997] BCC 53: Minority shareholder protection.

Recommendations

Mediation Hall of Fame, Legal 500 2021

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Quotes

"Going places"

"Definitely a rising star"

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Publications

[James Behrens, Mediating trust and estate disputes, Trusts & Trustees, 2023](#)

Practical Church Management (Gracewing, 1998, 2005, 2014 and 2021) The book is available from www.gracewing.co.uk or www.chbookshop.co.uk.

[Med-Arb: a successful combination for beneficiaries?](#) (New Law Journal, November 2019)

Resolving trust and estate disputes by mediation (ACTAPS Journal No 217, January 2018)

Atkin's Court Forms volume 18(1) - ecclesiastical law (LexisNexis, 2018)

Encyclopedia of E-Commerce Law (Sweet & Maxwell, 2003), a contributor

Church Disputes Mediation (Gracewing, 2003)

Case Preparation (Blackstone Press, 1996, 1997, 2000 and 2002), a contributor

Researching the Legal Web (Butterworths, 1997 and 1999), a contributor

WordPerfect for the Legal Profession (1990)

Specialist areas of practice:

Church Law

Construction Work

Computers

Ecclesiastical Law

The Internet

Mediation and Arbitration Experience:

James Behrens has been a CEDR accredited mediator since 1998. He currently mediates one to two cases a month, and in total well over 75 disputes. These cover a wide range of both commercial and non-commercial subjects. He is widely praised for the way he helps the parties find a solution to their dispute, his professionalism, and his success.

He has been a chartered arbitrator since 2001, and is a fellow and former council member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. He holds the Chartered Institute's Diploma in International Commercial Arbitrators, and has had over 50 appointments as arbitrator, mainly in disputes concerning the computer and telecommunications business, partnerships, sale of goods, landlord and tenant law, and financial services. He also acts as barrister in commercial and property arbitrations.

Relevant cases include:

- Mediation of an unfair prejudice petition between the shareholders of a £3 million company (2006) (Settled)
- Mediation of a proprietary estoppel claim concerning a £1.3 million property (2005) (Settled)
- Mediation of £1 million dispute concerning stem cell research (2004) (Settled)
- Arbitration of a landlord and tenant dispute concerning dilapidations (2006)
- Arbitration of a dispute between the partners in a medical practice (2005)

A full mediation and arbitration biography is available on request.

Education & Qualifications

Trinity College, Cambridge: MA

Cardiff University: LLM, PhD

St Mellitus College, Durham: BA

Appointments

- Deputy Chancery Master 2000-2010
- Recorder 2005-2010
- Chancellor of the Diocese of Leicester and Bristol 2002-2010
- Chancellor of the Diocese of Bristol 2004-2009
- Deputy Chancellor of the Diocese of Bath and Wells 2004-2010
- Chartered Arbitrator 2001 and CEDR accredited Mediator 1998
- Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators
- Licensed Church of England lay minister

Memberships

- The Chancery Bar Association
- The Society of Trusts and Estate Practitioners (STEP)
- The Association of Contentious Trust and Probate Specialists (ACTAPS)
- The Ecclesiastical Law Society (honorary life member)
- The Canon Law Society of Great Britain and Ireland
- The Property Bar Association
- The LCIA
- Bar Council member (1992-1994)
- Member of the working party for Information Technology and the Courts (ITAC) (1992-1999)
- Council member Society for Computers and Law (1992-2000)
- Trustee of Mediation UK (2000-2003)
- Council member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (2003-2005)

- Licensed lay minister in the London diocese 2016

James Behrens is also an associate tenant in Zenith Chambers, 10 Park Square, Leeds.
