



serle court

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Jennifer Meech

Year of Call: 2008

"A tenacious advocate who is happy to take on more senior counsel and even silks. She is technically good too and someone you would want on your side"

Legal 500, 2022



Practice Overview

Jennifer has a wide-ranging commercial chancery practice with a particular emphasis on business disputes. These frequently involve company law, breach of fiduciary duties, joint ventures, partnerships, insolvency and real property issues. She is particularly adept at assisting in cases where these practice areas intersect.

Jennifer has appeared as sole counsel in a number of leading cases and is well placed to deal with complex legal issues. She has appeared both led and alone in appeals to the Court of Appeal, High Court and County Court. Jennifer also has significant trial experience and is a skilful cross examiner.

Areas of Expertise

Commercial Litigation

Jennifer is recommended in the Legal 500 as a leading commercial litigation junior. During her time at the Bar she has learned a great deal about how businesses are run and how things can go wrong both internally and externally. Jennifer is often first consulted when it is unclear what has happened and the client needs advice not only as to what causes of action they might have but also as to what can be done in the short term to limit damage.

Recent and notable matters include:

- Advising and acting for several groups of claimants who have lost money invested in illegal collective investment schemes contrary to the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000.
 - Acting for an individual seeking to finalise and enforce a charging order over shares to satisfy a judgment of c.\$5m.
 - Acting for a bookmaker in a claim brought by a former customer who lost around £5m.
 - Advising and acting for a company seeking an introducer's fee following a £20m sale of a technology business
 - Acting for a Japanese company seeking to obtain the delivery up of a significant number of items of antique furniture on an urgent basis
 - Acting for a financial services firm in its claim against independent financial advisors who were previously engaged as its agents; the claim is for breach of fiduciary duty and misuse of confidential information
 - Acting for a minicab company whose phone number was being used by a rival, this case involved questions of passing off, breach of contract and fiduciary duties: *Dial a Car Express Ltd v Ashton* [2016] 12 WLUK 550
 - Acting for various companies in a group structure who were seeking to obtain the return of irreplaceable super car parts and machinery. The claim involved issues of tort, property and insolvency law and required urgent applications as well as complex drafting and longer hearings: *URT Group Ltd v Dowers* [2018] EWHC 3195
 - Acting in several separate sets of proceedings for recruitment companies seeking to enforce employees' restrictive covenants including *Le Puy Limited v Potter* [2015] EWHC 193
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Insolvency

Insolvency work, including all aspects of company, LLP, partnership and individual insolvency, forms a significant portion of Jennifer's practice. She is recommended in both directories in this area and has been for several years. In her time at the bar, Jennifer has appeared in many and varied cases in the High Court and the County Court including applications, trials and appeals. Many of her reported cases involve questions of insolvency law.

Recent and notable matters include:

- Advising and acting for a number of sub-postmasters regarding the insolvency aspects of their claims for

malicious prosecution against the Post Office

- Acting for a liquidator in his fraudulent trading claim against the company's accountant
- Acting for The Royal Bank of Scotland on its challenge to the improper practices of the UK's largest volume IVA (individual voluntary arrangement) provider
- Obtaining the first international recognition of the new Singaporean moratorium under the UNCITRAL Model Law - *H&CS Holdings Pte Ltd v Glencore International AG* [2019] EWHC 1459
- Acting for a liquidator seeking damages for breach of directors' duties regarding unlawful dividends, preferential loan repayments and the transfer of a director's unsecured debt to his partner who has the benefit of a debenture
- Acting for a fashion designer facing a €54m claim by the liquidator of the company that owned his labels and of which he had been a director
- Advising and acting for BASF plc (one of the largest chemical producers in the world) on the insolvency aspects of an intellectual property dispute
- Advising a liquidator of a specialist energy company as to possible misfeasance, wrongful trading, fraudulent trading and TUV claims against former de jure and de facto directors
- Obtaining an administration order following a contested hearing: *Endersby v Astrosoccer 4 U Ltd* [2017] 12 WLUK 168
- Acting for the directors of a rugby league club seeking a retrospective administration order: *Pettitt v Bradford Bulls (Northern) Ltd (In Administration)* [2017] BCC 50
- Acting for a bank on a COMI case on appeal: *Raiffeisenlandesbank Oberosterreich AG v Meyden* [2016] EWHC 414

Property

Jennifer is recommended by Legal 500 and Chambers and Partners as a leading junior in property work. Her experience includes all areas of real property (including easements, boundaries and co-ownership issues) and landlord and tenant work.

- Successfully acting for a joint venture party in an arbitration that determined both that land could not be sold without their permission and that, were it to be sold, £5m rather than £23m should be deducted from the sale price before division
- Advising and drafting a defence for LPA receivers whose appointment is allegedly impugned due to issues arising out of a bankruptcy
- Advising the leasehold owner of a holiday property within a large development in Cornwall as to the landlord's ability to alter the services provided and the correct construction of the service charge provisions within the lease
- Acting for 10 leaseholders caught up in a complex multi-party dispute regarding the ownership of the building in which their flats were situated
- Several cases that consider whether a landlord was had the right to forfeit a lease and, if they were, if they subsequently waived that right
- *Falmouth House v Abou-Hamdan* [2017] EWHC 779 (Ch) – relief from sanctions, landlord and tenant
- *Freifeld v West Kensington Court Ltd* [2015] EWCA Civ 806 – forfeiture, landlord and tenant
- *Loose v Lynn Shellfish Ltd & Ors* [2014] EWCA Civ 846

Professional Negligence

Jennifer is recognised as a leading junior for professional negligence work in the Legal 500. She is able to assist with professional negligence claims against solicitors, surveyors and accountants (including insolvency practitioners).

In recent years Jennifer has dealt with a significant number of group claims against solicitors brought by clients who have lost money in failed hotel, care home, student accommodation and off-plan apartment schemes. These cases involve issues of property and insolvency law, financial services regulation and contractual issues as well as professional negligence work.

She is also well placed to assist individual clients seeking redress following negligent professional services. She is currently assisting a financial services company bringing a claim against a silver circle firm who acted for them in failed litigation.

Jennifer is also experienced in acting for defendants to professional negligence claims. She recently defended a solicitors firm against a claim brought by a High Net Worth individual.

Company

Jennifer is experienced in all aspects of contentious company work. Her recent experience includes:

- Acting for a high net worth US citizen responding to an unfair prejudice claim arising out of a company that previously ran a hedge fund in the Cayman Islands.
 - Acting for a shareholder seeking relief for unfair prejudice based on inter-group lending of around €40m between the UK and Germany.
 - Acting for the respondents to an unfair prejudice petition arising out of a familial dispute.
 - Representing the former manager of The Clash in a dispute regarding the interaction between a court order and a company's articles of association - *Simonon v Simonon* [2019] EWHC 844.
 - Acting for a governing sports body resisting an application for access to its registered members.
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Civil Fraud

Jennifer is able to assist in claims arising out of fraud committed by defendants including but not limited to those who owe fiduciary duties.

She has recently been involved in:

- A group claim against the architects, and advertisers, of a large Ponzi-scheme
 - A claim arising out of the transfer of a valuable property in East London
 - A number of claims against directors who had fraudulently removed sums from the companies that they controlled
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Art & Cultural Property

Chancery

Financial Services

International and Offshore

Partnership and LLP

Private International Law

Sports, Entertainment & Media

Arbitration

Group Litigation

Quotes

"Jennifer is highly thorough and her paperwork is very good." Chambers and Partners 2025

"Jennifer Meech is a very good team player who thinks carefully about matters." Chambers and Partners 2025

"Jennifer works fast and hard with a keen commercial eye to achieve the result clients want." Chambers and Partners 2025

"Jennifer is immensely experienced and a safe pair of hands." Chambers and Partners 2025

"Jennifer is great to work with and really gets on top of her cases. She is super bright and always undertakes excellent preparation for conferences and hearings; she is also extremely hardworking and diligent." Legal 500 2025

"Jennifer is a very experienced and able junior, who is a great choice for any insolvency dispute." Legal 500 2025

"A very commercial and sensible junior." Legal 500 2025

"She is very polished and technically very strong." Real Estate Litigation client, Chambers and Partners 2024

"Jennifer is responsive and commercial in her outlook and advice." Restructuring/Insolvency client, Chambers and Partners 2024

"Jennifer is responsive and commercial in her outlook and advice." Restructuring/Insolvency client, Chambers and Partners 2024

"Jennifer is an excellent all-round barrister. Calm and very easy to deal with, her advice is always spot-on and she is great on her feet in court." Legal 500 2024

"Rigorously analytical and good at managing clients." Legal 500 2024

"Technically strong, happy to discuss matters constructively, commercially aware and pragmatic, good manner with clients." Legal 500 2023

"Jennifer has excellent attention to detail, is clearly very bright, and handles difficult situations in a calm and supportive way." Legal 500, 2023

"Jennifer is an eminently reliable counsel." Chambers & Partners UK Bar, 2023

"A tenacious advocate who is happy to take on more senior counsel and even silks. She is technically good too and someone you would want on your side" Legal 500 2022

"She responds very quickly, is very good on paper and knows her onions"; "She's really good with clients and excellent on her feet" Chambers and Partners 2022

"She is clear, precise and has an excellent bedside manner (so to speak). She has a self assured manner and gravitas. She was put under pressure with the matter I instructed her on given the late instruction and urgent court deadlines. She handled it extremely well and navigated the court politics beautifully. A safe pair of hands." Legal 500, 2022

Education & Qualifications

Magdalene College, Cambridge: MA (Cantab) English

City University: GDL (Distinction)

Inns of Court School of Law: BVC

Middle Temple Astbury Scholarship for both GDL and BVC
