

Curriculum Vitae of Matthew Thomas Gillett BA (Dunelm)

The Chambers of Lawrence Power, Tenant April 2017 – Current

Regularly instructed across London and the South East, and further afield on all areas of civil law with a focus on the following:

- **Small Claims Hearings** – regularly instructed to appear in County Courts across the South East and further afield in respect of all small claims hearing, typically concerning R.T.A.s (including credit hire), debt recovery and contractual disputes.
- **Aviation** – aviation written advices, defences and attending trial, including working on the Shoreham Air Disaster.
- **Insolvency Matters** – draft written advices and bankruptcy and other insolvency hearings.
- **Enforcement** – including charging orders; orders for possession; orders for sale; and return of goods.
- **Procedural Applications** – including applications for or opposing relief from sanctions; strike out; set aside judgment in default; extension of time; and alternative service.

Pupillage: April 2016 – April 2017.

- Settled correspondence and drafted advices, pleadings and witness statements under Lawrence Power’s supervision.
- Drafted advices covering the detailed assessment of costs procedure; an application to strike out a claim and/or secure summary judgment; settlement offers and whether to accept an opponent’s Part 36 offer or make a counter offer and, if so, for what sum; appeals from adverse judgments; and the merits of proposed commercial litigation.
- Accompanied Lawrence Power to the High Court, the County Court and the Magistrates’ Court, improving my understanding of what style of advocacy is best suited to different forums on different occasions.
- Completed my own hearings during second six in Chambers’ main practice areas.

Previous Employment

LPC Law, County Court Advocate: September 2015–April 2016

- Instructed by LPC Law to provide advocacy services in 377 cases before District Judges in chambers, appearing in a range of hearings including: mortgage possessions and applications; infant approval; bankruptcy; charging orders; return of goods; landlord & tenant evictions; applications for summary judgment; applications to set aside an existing judgment or order; applications for relief from sanctions; and applications for leave to enforce.
- Developed relationships with my instructing solicitors, many of whom requested me for future hearings.

Qualifications

BPTC: 2014-2015, Very Competent, City Law School, City University, London.

GDL: 2013-2014, Commendation, City Law School, City University, London.

Undergraduate: 2010-2013, 2:1, BA (Hons) Dunelm, History, Durham University.

BPTC: Completed the BPTC with an overall mark of 77%. Graded ‘Outstanding’ in Alternative Dispute Resolution (91%), Civil Litigation (88%), Ethics (88%) and Criminal Litigation (86%). ‘Very

Competent' in the following assessments: Examination in Chief (79%), Landlord and Tenant (77%) Civil Advocacy (74%), Drafting (72%) and Opinion Writing (71%).

GDL: Performed particularly well in the Contract, Tort and Land essays, averaging a mark of 72%. Two essays for Land Law attained scores of 78% and 76% and scored 70% or above in both the Land Law and Equity and Trusts exams.

Pro Bono

Free Representation Unit, February 2015–September 2015:

- Volunteer for the charity and represented claimants in social security appeals against the Department of Work and Pensions' decision not to grant benefits, representing clients, drafting documents in support of their claims, requesting further information from medical practitioners, holding conferences with clients and assisting clients at the appeal before the First-Tier Tribunal.

City Law School Company Insolvency Scheme, May 2015–October 2015:

- Each Monday a group of students attended the Winding-up Court with at least one volunteer barrister, providing free advice on the day to litigants-in-person who were either petitioners or creditors.
- Gained first-hand experience of how to communicate effectively with clients to determine the facts of the case and their desired outcome, as well as explaining the law and procedure to them in a way which assisted and reassured them.

Advocacy Experience

Lawson Moot 2014-15, Quarter Finalist:

- There were 64 participants mooting across 5 rounds on issues relating to Land Law, Family Law and Tort.

Inner Temple Debating Society, 2014–2015:

- Represented the Inn at the Student Debating Association Novice competition in October 2014 and debated topics as diverse as North Korea and Miley Cyrus, requiring quick thinking to develop cogent arguments within five minutes before delivering them as persuasively as possible.

Refereeing

Football Association Referee, Level 7, 2012–2015:

- Fully qualified football referee – many of a referee's requisite skills are directly transferable to the Bar: knowledge of the rules; application to facts; maintaining my independence; and the use of effective oral advocacy.

References

Hannah Catterall
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