



THE CHAMBERS OF  
TIMOTHY RAGGATT QC

## Chris Bryden – Barrister

Called 2003

### **Commercial, Insolvency and General Civil Litigation**

---

#### **PROFILE:**

Chris is highly regarded as a heavyweight civil practitioner with a wealth of experience in a range of inter-related areas of law. His practice covers Chambers' core areas, particularly:

- Commercial and Insolvency
- General Civil Litigation

He regularly appears in the Chancery Division of the High Court, the Business and Property Court, the Commercial Court, the Companies Court and in County Courts across England and Wales.

#### **COMMERCIAL AND INSOLVENCY**

Chris has been involved in several cases in the Chancery Division, the Commercial Court and the Companies Court involving claims for breach of contract; relating to contentions arising out of insolvency proceedings; numerous international cross-border merger matters; and in company actions involving petitions under section 994 of the Companies Act 2006 (unfair prejudice) and for winding up on just and equitable grounds.

Chris has a niche company law and insolvency practice, having undertaken a Masters degree in corporate insolvency work. He has retained a particular interest in litigation involving companies, and is often asked to advise or act in cases such as those involving unfair prejudice to minority shareholders or litigation in respect of shareholder agreements. He has acted for a number of clients in respect of claims arising out of contracts relating to the vesting of share options or buyouts on

floatation. He also has significant experience in respect of both personal bankruptcy and corporate insolvency litigation.

Chris also acts in respect of non-contentious company work, including the preparation or consideration of specialist Memoranda of Association, shareholder agreements, and corporate policies. He has a particular interest in the effect of social media on the corporate workplace.

Chris has experience and accepts instructions in other areas of work, notably tortious disputes including negligence and nuisance, Personal Injury and Professional Negligence. He also has an academic and professional interest in cases arising out of the Protection from Harassment Act 1997.

Chris has acted in numerous contentious probate cases and disputes over wills that involve property, including allegations of lack of capacity, undue influence and want of knowledge and approval. He has been instructed on a number of occasions in High Court actions arising out of contested wills. He has also been instructed in numerous mediations arising out of disputes over wills.

#### **Recent examples of cases include:**

- A dispute over a Share Purchase Agreement involving a multi-million-pound claim for damages (2017);
- An unfair prejudice claim listed for 3 days in the High Court, ultimately settled (2015-17);
- A High Court claim involving the purchase of land and alleged fraud/negligence (2015-17);
- A High Court claim arising out of a guarantee following a company purchase (2015-16)

#### **EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS**

MA (Oxon.), (Jurisprudence) Magdalen College, Oxford

LLM (Merit), University College London

Visiting Fellow, University of Bedfordshire (2011- )

Ethics and Advocacy Trainer, University of Law (2011- )

Elected Member of the Bar Council (2016- )

Member of the Bar Council Ethics Committee (2016- )

Member of the Bar Council Susskind Challenge Committee (2016- )

Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

Chris is a prolific author of legal articles and papers, which regularly appear in various legal journals. He has recently been appointed to the panel of expert authors of the New Law Journal and is commissioned to produce at least six articles for them per year. His first book, *Social Media in the Workplace*, was published by Jordan Publishing in 2015.