



## Elaine Skittrell

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B.A. (Hons) French – University of Southampton

1999 – Middle Temple

### **Practice:**

Elaine specialises in the following:

### **Personal Injury:**

- Employers' Liability; Elaine has been instructed on a significant amount of cases for both Claimants and Defendants and provides advice across the whole spectrum of employers' liability cases; Elaine has also been involved in multi-party actions such as the British Coal litigation;
- Road Traffic Accidents; Elaine acts for Defendants in cases involving allegations of fraud, for example 'slam-ons', 'ghost passenger' and low velocity claims and staged accidents;
- Occupiers' Liability; recent cases involve the safety of steps, low beams and sash windows in public houses;
- Credit Hire; Elaine started practising in 2000 at the apex of the credit hire litigation and has conducted countless credit hire cases, predominantly on behalf of Defendants;
- Highways Act cases; Elaine is regularly instructed by Local Authorities to defend Highways Act cases;
- Costs; all aspects of costs litigation.

### **Housing/Landlord & Tenant:**

Elaine has significant experience in this field and is regularly instructed by Local Authorities, Housing Associations and tenants in:

- Possession claims;
- Injunctions/Committals;
- Unlawful eviction;
- Judicial Review; and
- Disrepair claims.
- Elaine also acts on behalf of landlords at Leasehold Valuation Tribunals.

### **Commercial:**

- Mortgagee possession proceedings; regularly instructed on behalf of creditors on possession claims.

### **Significant Cases:**

- Elaine acted for the world's largest automotive services company in a multi-party action involving a major banking group. The claim involved a multitude of issues including conversion, bailment and had a consumer credit angle;
- Represented creditor in mortgagor's appeal against Judge's refusal to suspend a final possession order. Mortgagor's appeal was dismissed;
- Employers' liability case in which Elaine acted for the Claimant and secured a significant future loss of earnings settlement on the basis of the 'career model' approach in *Herring v Ministry of Justice* [2003]EWCA Civ 528;
- *Fletcher v Sheffield City Council* [2007] EWHC 419 (Ch); Elaine was instructed on behalf of the Council on the tenant's appeal against the Judge's refusal to set aside an order for possession and an ASBO made in the tenant's absence;
- *Booth and Hooton Lodge Ltd v Rotherham United Football Club*; Elaine acted for the landlord in a possession claim against RUFC;
- Elaine is currently acting for a Local Authority in a series of possession claims on the basis of Ground 16 of the Housing Act 1985.

**Other information:**

- Languages: French, Italian and some German;
- Standing Counsel to ECIC insurance company;
- Member of PIBA.