

GERARD McDERMOTT, QC



YEAR OF CALL

1978, Middle Temple
QUEEN'S COUNSEL 1999

ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Attorney-at-law (New York)

MEMBERSHIPS AND OFFICES

Recorder. Leader, European Circuit of the Bar. Treasurer, Northern Circuit of the Bar. Past President, American Counsel Association. Employment Lawyers Association. American Bar Association. International Association of Defense Counsel. Bar European Group. Personal Injuries Bar Association.

“highly regarded and has a particular forte advising on matters where personal injury law and employment law cross over.”

Chambers & Partners 2012

“a first choice leader for many”

Legal 500 2011

“Gerard McDermott QC handles high-value claims and has extensive cross-border experience”

Legal 500 2011

This “enthusiastic, highly esteemed silk” has recently been advising government departments on equal pay issues and restrictive covenants.

Chambers & Partners 2011

“Gerard McDermott QC at Outer Temple Chambers is an unsung star, who not only takes on the full range of employment cases, including discrimination, unfair dismissal and redundancy claims, but also has considerable knowledge of employment issues that touch upon European law.”

Chambers & Partners 2010



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SPECIALIST AREAS OF PRACTICE

Employment and Discrimination
Clinical and Professional Negligence
Personal Injury
Health and Safety
Public Inquiries

PROFILE

Gerard has a particular expertise in employment cases which involve an ‘European element’, such as transfer of undertakings, and has appeared at all levels up to and including the House of Lords and the European Court of Justice. He is the current Leader of the European Circuit of the Bar. His personal injury practice complements his employment work; Gerard has extensive experience in complex and high-value personal injury cases involving injury at work (including stress, bullying and harassment). He also acts for professionals and other employees in disciplinary / criminal proceedings, and was leading Counsel for the Health Authority in the Shipman Inquiry.

A proactive interest in international law and practice has grown throughout his career at the Bar. Qualified as an attorney-at-law (New York) by examination, Gerard is a past Chairman of the Bar Council’s International Relations Committee and, more recently, was President of the American Counsel Association. Gerard undertakes cases that involve cross-border issues (e.g. workers or tourists injured abroad). Through his contacts in Europe and America, he is able to assist instructing solicitors in identifying and working with appropriate Counsel abroad.

SOME NOTABLE CASES:

The Shipman Inquiry

R (Ultraframe (UK) Ltd v Central Arbitration Committee, TLR 12/04/05 – judicial review, collective bargaining

R v Pennine Acute NHS Trust [2003] EWCA Crim 3436 – health and safety, transfer of criminal liability

Unison v RCO Services [2002] EWCA Civ 464 – transfer of undertakings

Held in the highest regard by clients in the UK and lawyers further afield, Gerard is recommended in Chambers UK and the Legal 500, with the latter describing him as being of “star quality in employment work”. He undertakes the full range of employment cases (both before Tribunals and in the Civil Courts) including discrimination, unfair dismissal and redundancy claims.

