



## Richard Wood

### BA (Hons)

Call date: 1995

Inn: Gray's

### Appointments:

Independent legal adviser to Government's Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel for Norfolk & Suffolk

### Memberships:

South Eastern Circuit

Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL)

Employment Lawyers Association

Richard combines his responsibilities as Chambers' Head of Centre in Ipswich with a busy common law practice throughout East Anglia.

Richard encourages direct access from members of the public. Those interested should contact Chambers, or Richard directly on 07590290947. Free initial consultations are available in appropriate cases, as well as "No win, no fee" representation.

### Employment

Richard deals with the full range of employment related causes of action, including unfair dismissal, discrimination, redundancy, and TUPE transfers. He has a particular interest in problems relating to the drafting and enforceability of restrictive covenants within contracts of employment. He also lectures on Disability and Age Discrimination issues.

### Personal Injury

- Richard has a particular interest in cases involving allegations of vicarious liability for tortious acts; one such claim was against the Ministry of Defence in respect of alleged sexual abuse by one of its employees whilst at work; Richard was able to apply the principles in a line of cases including *Lister v Hesley Hall Ltd*.
- He also has expertise in 'Stress at Work' claims.

### Clinical Negligence

Richard is now regularly instructed in clinical negligence cases, including those relating to care of the unborn baby.

### Sports Law

- Richard successfully acted for a cricketer in a nationally renowned case in which he had been disqualified from all cricketing activities as a consequence of allegations of inciting the distribution of child pornography. Regrettably he had been 'named and shamed' in the national press. Richard represented him at a hearing before the England and Wales Cricket Board ("ECB") Child Protection Appeals Panel, and advised him in relation to proposed libel proceedings.
- He has appeared at a number of other sporting disciplinary panels including the Amateur Swimming Association.

### Crime

His background is of a broad range of serious crime. However, Richard wishes to continue the current trend of specialisation in serious fraud and regulatory work. At the moment, Richard prosecutes and defends both white collar fraud and serious offences of dishonesty (for example, large scale thefts from employers by its employees in breach of trust; as well as "car ringing" conspiracies). Of course, this also often involves detailed and large scale investigations under the Proceeds of Crime Act 1992 in respect of which Richard has extensive experience.

#### **Cases of interest include :**

- *R v L* [2008] Chelmsford Crown Court - Junior Prosecutor (led by Richard Kelly) in a complex and high-value employee fraud. The Defendant was accused of fabricating over 3 million pounds worth of false orders in respect of Ministry of Defence procurement which were then presented to his employers, resulting in catastrophic losses
- *R v H* [2009] Ipswich Crown Court - prosecuting this case that involved large scale theft from his employee, the fruits of which he used to create an internet based business with huge turnover. This case involved a massive volume of documentation relating to his activities on "Ebay" and other internet trading sites
- *R v B* [2010] Ipswich Crown Court - prosecuting a case that involved fraud by a bank manager on his customers over an extended period of time, and again with a very large volume of material to work through in order to present the case to the Jury
- *R v P* [2010] Ipswich Crown Court - again a prosecution based upon fraudulent claims to a Government agency
- *R v N* [2010] Chelmsford Crown Court - defending, as Leading Junior, a multi-handed car ringing case involving a huge quantity of evidence covering a long period of time
- Representing a Defendant accused of various infringements of trademarks belonging to BBC Worldwide Ltd and Marvel Comics Inc
- Richard also acted in a Judicial Review of indeterminate sentencing and associated rehabilitation under the provisions of the Criminal Justice Act 2003

#### **Regulatory work**

In relation to Richard's regulatory work he prosecutes for a number of local authorities in the following areas:

- Health and Safety
- Food Safety
- Environmental Protection
- Copyright and Trade Mark Protection
- Town and Country Planning.

#### **Interests**

Football (Bawdeswell FC) and cricket (Great Melton CC).