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# Cassandra Williams

**Year of Call:** 2010

**Telephone:** 0115 947 2581

## Overview

**Cassandra practises across the full spectrum of civil law, with particular expertise in personal injury, disease, counter-fraud, clinical negligence and inquest work. She acts for claimants and defendants in Fast Track and Multi Track matters in the County Court and High Court and is regularly instructed to represent all categories of interested persons at inquests.**

She was appointed as a Deputy District Judge (Civil) in August 2023 and is regularly instructed by Government departments, having been appointed to the Regional B Panel of Junior Counsel to the Crown in February 2025.

Cassandra is frequently instructed in complex, sensitive and vigorously contested litigation, including claims involving serious allegations, high-value damages and public bodies. She is known for her fearless, no-nonsense advocacy, her ability to cut through complexity, and her sound, practical advice.

She has a strong paperwork practice and is regularly instructed to draft pleadings, schedules and questions to experts, particularly in technically demanding cases.

## Notable Successes

- Successfully represented the Ministry of Defence in defending a high-value claim involving allegations of historic sexual assault within the military
- Represented the family at the inquest touching upon the death of James Southern
- Acted for the Claimant in a robustly defended employer's liability personal injury claim arising from chemical exposure at a nursery, beating the Claimant's Part 36 offers
- Successfully defended a personal injury claim on behalf of the Ministry of Justice, brought by a prison officer following an attack by an inmate

## Current Instructions

- A high-value, complex stress-at-work claim involving allegations of bullying and harassment within the military
- A high-value employer's liability claim arising from an employee being stabbed whilst at work

# Education and Background

Cassandra completed pupillage in 2010. She holds an LLB (Hons) from the University of Birmingham and completed the Bar Vocational Course at Nottingham Law School, where she was graded Very Competent. She was awarded an Exhibition Award by the Inner Temple.

Cassandra is Direct Access qualified and accepts instructions on a conditional fee and pro bono basis.

Prior to coming to the Bar, Cassandra spent a year teaching English as a Foreign Language at a middle school in Nanjing, China. She also worked with the Citizens Advice Bureau and volunteered as a Youth Advocate for Paralympic Sport.

Outside of practice, Cassandra enjoys exploring country parks across Nottinghamshire with her husband and their two young sons. Her interests include fitness, Krav Maga, cooking, house renovation, badminton and travel.

# Expertise

## Personal Injury

Personal injury is one of Cassandra's primary areas of practice. She has extensive experience acting for both claimants and defendants across the full range of personal injury litigation.

Her practice encompasses claims involving employers' liability, road traffic accidents, occupiers' liability, highways accidents, accidents abroad, and claims arising under the Defective Premises Act 1972.

Cassandra is regularly instructed in contested liability and causation disputes, including cases involving allegations of dishonesty, technical factual issues and vulnerable witnesses.

She frequently delivers personal injury training and seminars and is a regular contributor to the Ropewalk Chambers Personal Injury Blog.

### Notable Personal Injury Cases

- Represented the defendants at the final hearing of committal proceedings in *Jet2 Holidays Ltd v Hughes & Hughes*
- Acted for a Claimant injured at work whilst manoeuvring a heavy patient using a glide commode
- Successfully defended a supermarket employer in proceedings brought by an employee alleging injury caused by a spider bite at work
- Represented a defendant insurer in personal injury proceedings in which the Claimant discontinued following cross-examination, agreed to pay the Defendant's costs, and consented to the setting aside of Qualified One-Way Costs Shifting
- Acted for a Claimant injured after slipping on algae on a communal housing estate pathway
- Successfully defended an employer in proceedings brought by an employee alleging injury while manoeuvring a defective dolly
- Represented a Claimant injured at work after falling from an Omni-trolley which she had not been trained to use

### Accidents Abroad and Travel Claims

Cassandra has significant experience acting for both claimants and defendants in accidents abroad, holiday sickness claims, and claims involving the Montreal Convention.

Her recent successes include:

- Acting for a Claimant in a claim involving complex causation issues, allegations of dishonesty, and a dispute as to the appropriate standard of care, resulting in a favourable settlement
- Acting for a Claimant left bedbound following an accident abroad, where the claim raised complex issues of foreign law, also resolved by favourable settlement

## Counter Fraud

Cassandra has substantial experience acting for defendants across all areas of counter-fraud litigation. She is frequently instructed in cases involving phantom passengers, staged and induced accidents, low-velocity impact claims, and exaggerated or dishonest presentations of injury.

She is a skilled and incisive cross-examiner, with a strong track record of successfully defending claims on the basis that they are not proved or are fundamentally dishonest. Her advocacy is characterised by a flexible and forensic approach to

the evidence, with a clear understanding of when allegations of outright fabrication are sustainable and when a more nuanced case of exaggeration or partial dishonesty is appropriate.

Cassandra is particularly adept at keeping the evidential landscape under continual review and tailoring her strategy as cases develop, ensuring that arguments advanced remain proportionate and well-founded.

A notable example of her work involved a claim which was dismissed pursuant to section 57 of the Criminal Justice and Courts Act 2015, where she successfully established that the Claimant's daughter, a minor, was not present in the vehicle at the time of the accident, rendering the stayed claim brought on the child's behalf fundamentally dishonest.

Cassandra is well regarded for her empathetic and measured approach in what are often painful and highly emotive proceedings, particularly when acting for bereaved families. She combines sensitivity with firm, focused advocacy.

She is also regularly instructed to act for Claimants in linked Fatal Accidents Act and dependency claims arising out of inquests.

## Clinical Negligence

Cassandra has significant experience in clinical negligence litigation, acting for both claimants and defendants. She regularly drafts pleadings and schedules of loss, and advises on liability and quantum, both in writing and in conference.

She is regularly instructed to represent parties at Costs and Case Management Conferences, and her experience also includes pre-trial reviews and conferences with medical experts across a range of disciplines.

Cassandra accepts instructions across all areas of clinical negligence and has a particular interest in claims involving misdiagnosis and delayed treatment.

Her recent successes include achieving favourable settlements for:

- Claimant who developed severe pressure injuries while bedbound as an inpatient in hospital
- Claimant whose cancer treatment was delayed as a result of misdiagnosis

Cassandra maintains a current and detailed knowledge of developments in clinical negligence law and is a regular contributor to the Ropewalk Chambers Clinical Negligence Blog.

## Disease

Cassandra has developed a strong disease practice, with substantial experience acting for both claimants and defendants. She is regularly instructed in noise-induced hearing loss claims, advising on limitation, causation, and the drafting of questions to medical experts. Her experience also includes claims involving hand-arm vibration syndrome.

She has extensive experience representing parties at interlocutory hearings and Costs and Case Management Conferences. She achieved numerous successes both in pursuing and resisting applications for defendant medical expert evidence, repeat audiograms, and responses to Part 18 requests.

Cassandra also regularly represents both claimants and defendants at limitation trials and noise-induced hearing loss trials.

## Inquests

Cassandra represents families and other interested persons at inquests and pre-inquest review hearings. She is frequently instructed by the Ministry of Justice in cases involving deaths in custody.

She recently represented the family at the inquest into the death of James Southern, in which the coroner concluded that

the death was contributed to by failings of Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust. For more information, [click here](#).

Cassandra is well regarded for her empathetic and measured approach in what are often painful and highly emotive proceedings, particularly when acting for bereaved families. She combines sensitivity with firm, focused advocacy.

She is also regularly instructed to act for Claimants in linked Fatal Accidents Act and dependency claims arising out of inquests.

## Appointments

- Attorney General's Regional B Panel of Junior Counsel to the Crown
- Deputy District Judge
- Direct Access

## Professional Memberships

- Action Against Medical Accidents (AvMA)

## Qualifications

- LLB (Hons), University of Birmingham

# Recommendations

*"Cassandra is considered, thoughtful and meticulous."*

- The Legal 500 2026

*"Cassandra's unmatched ability to focus on the crucial issues in a case means she is incredibly effective. Her meticulous nature ensures if a case is with her it has the best chance of success. She is incredibly pragmatic and innovative at the same time. She is a joy to work with."*

- The Legal 500 2025

*"Cassandra is very thorough in her analysis and advice. She is approachable and empathetic and explains her advice to clients in easy-to-understand terms."*

- The Legal 500 2024

*"Cassandra is dedicated and determined with a keen eye for detail. She is focused and calm, gives sound advice and is great with clients. She grasps the issues and advances the argument in a clear and concise manner. She is an excellent advocate who is tenacious in cross-examination and gets the right result."*

- The Legal 500 2023

*"Cassandra is exceptionally gifted in advocacy. She is direct, concise, quick thinking and professional, calm and clear."*

- The Legal 500 2022

# Ropewalk Chambers

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