

# ESSEX COURT CHAMBERS

BARRISTERS



## ANDREW HOCHHAUSER QC

Call: 1977 | Silk: 1997

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## PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

Andrew Hochhauser has a broad-based practice with a substantial court and advisory practice. Some more recent and high-profile work has included:

- Representing a number of former Dresdner Kleinwort bankers, who won their battle on first instance [2012] EWHC 1189 and on appeal [2013] EWCA Civ 394 to force Dresdner Kleinwort to pay out bonuses promised to its investment bankers prior to its takeover by Commerzbank in 2008;
- Defending Stena Drilling Ltd and Stena Drillmax I Ltd in a Commercial Court claim in relation to a success fee arising from the charter of a drillship to Shell [2014] EWHC 1920 (Comm);
- Representing a firm of solicitors in a Chancery Division claim to recover confidential information from a former partner;
- Successfully defending Gatehouse Bank in whistle blowing and race/religion discrimination proceedings in 12 day Employment Tribunal case;
- Representing BGC in High Court proceedings brought by Tullett Prebon in relation to a team move;
- Halton v Carebase – representing the Defendants a case in the Chancery Division in relation to a claim by a former MD against owners of a group of care homes;
- Tolliday v Omega, a High Court contractual claim by a former MD against an insurance company, which was settled shortly before the hearing in March 2012;
- Acting for the FSA in Financial Services Compensation Scheme Ltd v Abbey National in the Chancery Division [2008] EWHC 1897 and FSA v Pottage in the Upper Tribunal (Tax &

Chancery Chambers) [2012] UKUT B6 (TCC);

- Representing celebrity chef Gary Rhodes against his former agents;
- Acting for the Beckhams involving a claim against their former nanny;
- Representing the late Michael Jackson in his claim against Granada;
- Acting for Iain Dowie in the dispute with Crystal Palace F.C. ; and
- Acting for Luton Town Football Club in a dispute with Mike Newell.
- Advising City solicitors in relation to partnership disputes.

In addition, the international nature of some of his cases has resulted in him appearing as counsel before the courts in the Eastern Caribbean.

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## AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Arbitration & related court applications
- Banking & financial services
- Civil fraud & asset tracing
- Company & insolvency law
- Employment
- Media, art, entertainment
- Professional negligence

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## WHAT OTHERS SAY

Comments from the latest Legal 500 and Chambers and Partners directories include the following:

### **2017 Chambers UK – Employment**

*“He is an extremely skilled advocate who has a tremendous knowledge across the employment spectrum. He can be magical in the courtroom and is the best cross-examiner in the business.”*

### **2017 Chambers UK – Commercial Dispute Resolution**

*“A leader with real gravitas.” “He is quick with his paperwork and shows excellent judgement.”*

### **2016 The Legal 500 – Employment**

*‘A fearsome cross-examiner.’*

### **2016 The Legal 500 – Commercial Litigation**

*'A fierce courtroom advocate, who will fight tooth and nail for his clients.'*

### **2015 Chambers UK – Employment**

*"An unbelievable advocate in the sense of his critical analysis of a case and his cross-examination of witnesses." "He is the consummate court advocate, as he's brilliant at making submissions, and in cross-examination."*

### **2015 Chambers UK – Commercial Dispute Resolution**

*"An awesome cross-examiner." "The consummate court advocate, he's brilliant at making submissions, brilliant at cross-examination and great on the detail"*

### **2014 Legal 500 – Employment**

*"When you get to the courtroom, he is the one you want."*

### **2014 Legal 500 Commercial Litigation**

*An extremely skilled advocate who has tremendous knowledge."*

### **2012/3**

Andrew Hochhauser QC offers those that instruct him *"superior quality of analysis, a capacity for hard work, and excellent advocacy skills."* Solicitors say that *"he immediately identifies the heart of the case,"* and is *"a highly active and voluble part of the team."* **Commercial Dispute Resolution, Chambers UK Directory 2013**

*"Fabulous advocate"* Andrew Hochhauser QC is commended for his *"ferocious"* approach and for the fact that he *"has a boldness that can take your breath away."* **Employment, Chambers UK Directory 2013**

Andrew Hochhauser QC is *'a natural choice where a very robust approach is called for'* **Commercial litigation, Legal 500 2012**

Andrew Hochhauser QC is *'a formidable advocate with a well-earned reputation as a fiery and effective cross-examiner'*. **Employment, Legal 500 2012**

### **2011/12**

His diary has scarcely been empty over the last year, something which could also be said of the *"incredibly diligent"* Andrew Hochhauser QC. Though Hochhauser is perhaps best known for his superb employment practice, his *"ferocious cross-examination skills"* are also frequently sought

out in commercial disputes.

**Commercial Dispute Resolution, Chambers UK Directory 2012**

Considered to be “*unsurpassable*” in the employment arena, Andrew Hochhauser QC is “*a ferocious advocate and a brutal opponent, equipped with tremendous knowledge and a reputation that carries incredible weight.*” One source commented: “*If you seek a passionate style of advocacy and a poetic way with words, then he is unmatched.*” **Employment – Chambers UK Directory 2012**

Andrew Hochhauser QC is “*an extremely incisive and tenacious lawyer, drilling down very quickly to the important legal issues but also bringing a very practical, common-sense edge to his advice*”.

**Commercial Litigation, Legal 500 2011**

Andrew Hochhauser QC is a “*tenacious lawyer, who drills down, very quickly, into the important legal issues*”

**Employment, Legal 500 2011**

Andrew Hochhauser QC is “*extremely bright and very able on his feet*” **Media, Entertainment & Sport, Legal 500 2012**

**2010/11**

Clients also like Andrew Hochhauser QC as he is “*absolutely on the ball and one of the most devastating cross-examiners around.*” **Commercial Dispute Resolution, Chambers UK Directory 2011**

Andrew Hochhauser QC is described as an “*absolute killer in court who goes straight for the jugular.*” Demanding and at times terrifying for the opponent, he is a performer who “*gives everything he’s got*” and entertains with some of the best advocacy the Employment Bar has ever seen. **Employment, Chambers UK Directory 2011**

Andrew Hochhauser QC is ‘*delightful to work with and very effective*’, **Commercial Litigation, Legal 500 2010**

At the ‘fantastic’ Essex Court Chambers, ‘*the general quality of the barristers is almost unsurpassed*’. Andrew Hochhauser QC is an ‘*incredible advocate who is commercially savvy and accessible*’ **Employment, Legal 500 2010**

Andrew Hochhauser QC ‘*demolishes witnesses, but is clever about it*’. **Fraud: civil, Legal 500 2010**

*'Challenging opponent'* Andrew Hochhauser QC represented celebrity chef Gary Rhodes. **Media, Entertainment & Sport, Legal 500 2010**

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## **EXAMPLES OF RECENT CASES**

Andrew Hochhauser has a broad-based practice with a substantial court and advisory practice. Some more recent and high-profile work has included:

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Defending Stena Drilling Ltd and Stena Drillmax I Ltd in a Commercial Court claim in relation to a success fee arising from the charter of a drillship to Shell [2014] EWHC 1920 (Comm); Representing a firm of solicitors in a Chancery Division claim to recover confidential information from a former partner;

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## **CAREER**

**1977** Middle Temple (Bencher 2000)

**1997** Silk

**2004** Recorder (Civil)

**2013** Deputy High Court Judge (Chancery)

**2014** Deputy High Court Judge (Queen's Bench Division)

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## **EDUCATION**

LLB, University of Bristol (1976)

LLM, University of London (1977)

MA, Courtauld Institute of Art (2010)

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## **AWARDS**

Harmsworth Scholar, Middle Temple (1977)