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Sam Grimley

Barrister
Call 2025

Scope of Practice

• Commercial Dispute Resolution & Arbitration • Competition/EU • Injunctions and Other Interim Relief • Intellectual Property • IT and Telecommunications • Sports, Media and Entertainment

Overview

Sam specialises in commercial litigation and international arbitration, with experience in competition damages claims and intellectual property disputes. He has appeared before the High Court, CAT, IPEC and arbitral tribunals, and has a particular interest in sports, media, entertainment and music industry disputes. Before coming to the Bar, Sam enjoyed a successful career as a professional musician, working with artists including Sir Tom Jones, Ed Sheeran and Jessie J.

Examples of Recent Cases

Commercial Dispute Resolution & Arbitration

- Acting for the claimant (led by David Caplan KC) in a commercial dispute concerning the operation of a major UK airport.
- LCIA Arbitration
  Acting for the Respondent (led Alexander Brown KC) in arbitral proceedings concerning contracts for the construction of a production plant. The claims concern unpaid invoices of nearly €10 million, with counterclaims exceeding €12 million for delay liquidated damages, breaches of safety obligations, and other contractual shortcomings.
- ICC Arbitration
  Assisting Alexander Gunning KC and Jarret Huang (during pupillage) in an oil and gas dispute involving international sanctions and contractual termination rights.
- LCIA Arbitration
  Assisting Laurence Emmett KC (during pupillage) acting for the Respondents in a Life Sciences dispute in relation to the termination of a license and distribution agreement.
- Newfound Pinneys Ltd v. Yearwood
  Assisting Thomas Sharpe KC (during pupillage) in appeal proceedings before the Eastern Caribbean Court of Appeal concerning a multimillion-dollar claim in Nevis.

Competition

- **AGC Collective Actions Limited -v- (1) Alphabet Inc.; (2) Google LLC; (3) Google Ireland Limited; and (4) Google UK Limited**
  Acting for the proposed class representative in collective proceedings against Google concerning alleged abuses of dominance in online display advertising.
- **Dr Sean Ennis -v- Apple Inc and Others**
  Acting for the class representative in collective proceedings seeking damages on behalf of UK app developers in relation to Apple's App Store.
- **Dr Maria Luisa Stasi v Microsoft Corporation & Ors**
  Acting for the Class Representative (led by Sarah Ford KC) in opt-out collective proceedings before the Competition Appeal Tribunal. The standalone claim, valued at approximately £1.7 billion, alleges abuse of dominance arising from Microsoft's licensing practices in the cloud computing market.
- Advising a UK trade body in relation to competition law issues.
- **Le Patourel v BT Group PLC**
  Assisting Derek Spitz (during pupillage) acting for the Class Representative in application for permission to appeal to the Court of Appeal following the UK's first opt-out collective action to reach trial in the Competition Appeal Tribunal.
- **Utilita Energy Ltd v PayPoint plc**
  Assisting Derek Spitz (during pupillage) acting for the Claimants in a Section 47A Competition Act damages claim alleging abuse of dominance in the UK pre-pay energy market and seeking more than £40 million in damages.

Injunctions and Other Interim Relief

- Instructed with Simon Colton KC in relation to an interim injunction and ancillary relief arising from a series of data scraping cyberattacks concerning the extraction of confidential and business-sensitive data in relation to online content creators.
- Instructed with Phil Roberts KC in relation to an interim injunction concerning access to IT infrastructure, databases and data storage.

Intellectual Property

- Acting as sole counsel for Seiko in a trade mark infringement claim concerning the sale of counterfeit goods.
- Acting for a multinational consumer brand (led by Emma Himsworth KC) in a potential trade mark infringement and passing off claim.
- **Kniteforce Ltd v. Kenyo**
  Instructed as sole counsel for the Claimant in a damages inquiry in the High Court (IPEC) arising from a copyright infringement claim. The inquiry concerned negotiating damages and additional damages under section 97(2) of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988.
- **Frasers Property Ltd v. House of Fraser Brands Ltd**
  Instructed with Guy Hollingworth in the largest IPO hearing to date, involving 38 consolidated actions concerning use of the mark "Frasers".
- **Crafts Group LLC v MS Indeutsch International**
  Assisting Guy Hollingworth (during pupillage) on a long-running trade mark and passing off dispute in the High Court (IPEC) over the goodwill attaching to patterned knitting and crochet needles.
- **DKH Retail Ltd & Ors v City Football Group Ltd**
  Assisting Phil Roberts KC (during pupillage) acting for DKH in High Court (Chancery Division) proceedings between the owners of the "Superdry" brand and City Football Group to determine whether the words "Super" and "Dry" on Manchester City's kit infringed the Claimants' marks.
- **easyGroup Ltd v Premier Inn Hotels Ltd**
  Assisting Emma Himsworth KC (during pupillage) acting for Premier Inn in a High Court (Chancery Division) claim alleging that Premier Inn's "Rest Easy" slogan infringed various easyGroup marks.
- **Wise Payments Ltd v With Wise Ltd and Ors**
  Assisting Phil Roberts KC (during pupillage) acting for Wise Payments in the High Court (IPEC) in a trade mark and passing off dispute concerning use of the sign "Wise".

- **Thom Browne Inc v adidas AG**
  Assisting Phil Roberts KC (during pupillage) acting for Thome Browne in the High Court (Chancery Division) in a costs application following trade mark proceedings concerning adidas's three-stripe marks and Thom Browne's four-bar design.
- **Lifestyle Equities C.V. v Sportsdirect.com Retail Ltd and Ors**
  Assisting Phil Roberts KC (during pupillage) acting for the Applicants in a damages inquiry in the High Court (Chancery Division) concerning the capacity of unregistered sub-licensees to recover losses under the Trade Marks Act 1994 Pt I s. 30(6).

IT and Telecommunications

- Instructed with Phil Roberts KC in relation to an interim injunction concerning access to IT infrastructure, databases, and data storage.
- Advising on regulatory and public law issues concerning the MVNO market.
- **Dr Maria Luisa Stasi v Microsoft Corporation & Ors**
  Acting for the Class Representative in the £1.7bn opt-out collective proceedings alleging abuse of dominance arising from Microsoft's licensing practices in the cloud computing market.
- Instructed with Simon Colton KC in relation to an interim injunction and ancillary relief arising from a series of data scraping cyberattacks concerning the extraction of confidential and business-sensitive data in relation to online content creators.

Sports, Media and Entertainment

- Acting as sole counsel for an internationally renowned musician in relation to a dispute with their former live booking agent concerning breach of contract and breach of duty arising from non-payment by the promoter.
- Instructed with Simon Colton KC in relation to an interim injunction and ancillary relief arising from a series of data scraping cyberattacks concerning the extraction of confidential and business-sensitive data in relation to online content creators.
- Assisting in a dispute between a folk and indie pop group and their former management company involving allegations of unpaid fees and breach of contract.
- Acting for the Claimant in proceedings against a sports club seeking declaratory relief and damages for breach of contract.
- **Kniteforce Ltd v. Kenyo**
  Acting for the Claimant record label in a damages inquiry in the High Court.
- **DKH Retail Ltd & Ors v City Football Group Ltd**
  Assisted Phil Roberts KC (during pupillage) acting for DKH in High Court (Chancery Division) proceedings in a dispute concerning Manchester City's kit.

Education

• Bachelor of Civil Law, University of Oxford (Distinction)

• LLM Law Conversion, BPP University (Distinction)

• BA Music, University of York (First)

Scholarships and Awards

- Gray's Inn, Arden Scholarship
- Gray's Inn, Bedingfield Scholarship

- South Square Chambers BCL Scholarship
- The Queen's College Ewald BCL Scholarship
- The Faculty of Law Dean's BCL Scholarship

Awards

Chambers TOP RANKED UK Bar 2026 One Essex Court

TOP TIER SET Legal500 UNITED KINGDOM 2026

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