

Professional Negligence for Lenders

Pannone has wide ranging and in-depth experience advising lenders in professional negligence claims and we have grown a specialist network of counsel and expert witnesses to give you a streamlined and highly cost effective mechanism for dealing with claims. This network extends to specialist accountants who utilise data analytical tools to identify for you potential cases of fraud.

The Pannone team have been involved in many of the leading and landmark cases in this area of law and have recovered millions of pounds for lenders. The team has experience in disputes relating to solicitors, auditors, accountants, valuers and surveyors.

Our commercial approach to this work is reflected by the introduction of our innovative new litigation product, Pannone Advantage. Advantage has three arms that can be used individually or in conjunction with one another. First, we will carry out a preliminary review of potential cases at a very cost effective entry point so that you can make an informed decision on how to proceed. Secondly, our partnership with a leading insurer provides us with delegated authority to put cases with a 60% prospect of success on an "after the event" insurance policy which covers your adverse costs exposure up to £200,000 without you ever having to apply to the insurer. Finally, in cases with a 60% prospect of success we will enter into a "conditional fee agreement".

The Team



Kit Sorrell

Kit joined Pannone in 2006 as a partner and has long been recognised as a leading practitioner in both the Chambers and Legal 500 guides to the profession. He has particular experience in professional negligence work having acted for both defendants, including the Solicitor's Indemnity Fund, and claimants on an individual and institutional basis. From the mid 1990's he acted for two of the largest national brewers running a substantial number of cases involving negligent valuations provided by surveyors in support of secured commercial lending. More recently he has extended his practice to acting for short term finance providers in similar claims.

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Paul Jonson

Paul is a partner with specialist expertise in acting for lenders in professional negligence cases. He was involved in the Bristol & West Building Society litigation against solicitors' firms in the mid to late 1990s which resulted in many of the leading authorities in the area including; Bristol & West Building Society -v- Fancy & Jackson and Bristol & West Building Society -v- May, May & Merrimans. Since then Paul has continued to act in professional negligence cases against solicitors, accountants, surveyors and valuers and is experienced in representing claimants in large commercial fraud claims. This wealth of experience has led to his recognition as a leading practitioner, being described as "thorough, persistent, knowledgeable and focused" in the 2009 edition of Chambers Guide to the profession.

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Dan Grindey

Dan joined Pannone in 2006 and is a partner. He previously worked at Clarke Wilmott & Clarke (now Clarke Wilmott) where he was an associate in the firm's Lender Services Unit, a dedicated team that acted for a number of building societies including the Nationwide. Dan was involved in the Nationwide managed litigation in the late 1990s and has wide experience of and has developed an expertise in acting for lenders in claims against their former professional advisors. Although Dan has considerable trial experience he is, first and foremost, a commercial lawyer and where appropriate is keen to use ADR to achieve an early and cost effective resolution for his clients.

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Louise Gill

Louise was called to the Bar some three years ago and has since cross qualified as a solicitor. Over the last two years her primary focus has been acting for lenders, working closely with Kit in servicing his professional negligence practice giving clients the unique benefit of a junior fee earner with specialist experience which translates into cost effective day to day case management. This strength in depth coupled with the team's focus on "claimant work" is one of the core reasons behind the team's success in this field.

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