

Jonathan Scott

YEAR OF CALL: 2017

Jonathan is a hard-working young barrister with a great future. A bright future star." "Jonathan is clever, thoughtful and forensic. He has good judgement that belies his year of call"

Legal 500 2025; Chambers & Partners 2025

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Practice Overview

Jonathan has a broad practice, including heavy-duty commercial litigation, arbitration, and competition cases before the Competition Appeals Tribunal and the Courts. He has considerable experience of working on big cases, in big teams, with a leader (or leaders); but is equally happy acting as sole counsel. Jonathan has experience in a wide range of commercial work including banking, shareholders' claims, civil fraud, energy, insurance and professional negligence, and in an equally wide range of competition work including both cartel and abuse of dominance cases on both a standalone and a follow-on basis. Jonathan has been instructed in several high-profile group litigation matters, both under the CPR (where he is instructed for a Lead Defendant in the Diesel Emissions litigation) and under the CAT's collective proceedings regime. He is often instructed in cases with an international element and enjoys grappling with the issues of jurisdiction and conflict of law that arise.

Highlights of Jonathan's current and recent instructions include:

- ***Cavallari and ors v Mercedes-Benz***: acting (with Helen Davies KC and Richard Blakeley KC) for the defendants in this substantial group litigation, concerning the emissions of diesel vehicles and the alleged use of 'defeat devices'. Jonathan appeared at a two-week trial of issues of German and EU law in October 2024 and a 10-week trial of liability issues that commenced in October 2025.
- ***Wirral Council v Reckitt Benckiser Group plc***: acting (with Helen Davies KC Tony Singla KC) for a defendant to a claim under s.90A / schedule 10A of the Financial Services and Markets Act. The claim was brought as an 'opt in' representative action under CPR 19.8, following dicta in *Lloyd v Google* [2021] UKSC 50. Reckitt successfully applied to strike out the proceedings on the basis that they should not proceed as a representative action, and successfully defended an appeal against that judgment, with Jonathan appearing at both hearings. The claim now continues as a standard 'multi-party' claim and Jonathan continues

to act for the defendant.

- ***Trucks Cartel Litigation***: acting for a defendant truck manufacturer in a series of follow-on cartel damages claims (with Daniel Jowell KC, David Bailey and Tom Pascoe). These include both ordinary claims and collective proceedings. Jonathan has appeared at various hearings in this litigation, including an appeal against aspects of class certification. This was one of The Lawyer's Top 20 Cases of 2019, and is still ongoing.
- ***Magomedov and ors v TPG and ors***: acting (with Tim Lord KC, Thomas Plewman KC, Will Hooper and Jessie Ingle) for a Russian businessman and his companies, in a claim alleging a fraudulent conspiracy to wrest assets from the claimants for the benefit of Russian state companies, with the total quantum of the claim running to some US\$13.8 billion. Jonathan appeared unled at a hearing of the Claimants' application to serve proceedings out of the jurisdiction and for alternative service.
- ***Federal Republic of Nigeria v JP Morgan [2022] EWHC 1447 (Comm)***: acting for the Nigerian state in a claim alleging breach of the banker's Quincecare duty of care, for in excess of \$1 billion (with Roger Masefield KC and Richard Blakeley). This was one of The Lawyer's Top 20 Cases of 2019. Jonathan appeared at the 7-week trial of the claim, heard in Spring 2022, and on various interlocutory applications.
- Acting for the claimant in a c. \$750m ICC arbitration relating to the sale of an interest in an oil field, involving allegations of breach of contract and deceit (with Tim Lord KC and Michael Bolding). The case went to a final hearing in the summer of 2021.

Before coming to the Bar, Jonathan worked for two years at an asset management firm, specialising in currency risk hedging. Jonathan was part of a team responsible for analysing and improving the firm's currency derivative investment strategies, and also co-authored a book chapter on emerging market currency investing.

Jonathan graduated from the University of Oxford in 2012, with first class honours in philosophy, politics and economics. He later converted to law, and was awarded the Ann Ebsworth Award, the Birkenhead Award and the Atkin Scholarship by the Honourable Society of Gray's Inn.

Commercial

Jonathan has a broad commercial practice in which heavy duty litigation before the English courts features prominently. His current and recent commercial litigation instructions include, among others, the following:

- ***Cavallari and ors v Mercedes-Benz***: acting (with Helen Davies KC and Richard Blakeley) for the defendants in this substantial group litigation, concerning the emissions of diesel vehicles and the alleged use of 'defeat devices'. Jonathan appeared at a two-week trial of issues of German and EU law in October 2024, and will appear in a forthcoming 10-week trial of liability issues commencing in October 2025.

- ***Wirral Council v Reckitt Benckiser Group plc***: acting (with Helen Davies KC Tony Singla KC) for a defendant to a claim under s.90A / schedule 10A of the Financial Services and Markets Act. The claim has been brought as an 'opt in' representative action under CPR 19.8, following dicta in ***Lloyd v Google*** [2021] UKSC 50. Reckitt successfully applied to strike out the proceedings on the basis that they should not proceed as a representative action, and successfully defended an appeal against that judgment, with Jonathan appearing at both hearings.
- ***Federal Republic of Nigeria v JP Morgan***: [2022] EWHC 1447 (Comm): acting for the Nigerian state in a claim alleging breach of the banker's Quincecare duty of care, for in excess of \$1 billion (with Roger Masefield KC and Richard Blakeley). This was one of The Lawyer's Top 20 Cases of 2019. Jonathan appeared at the 7-week trial of the claim, heard in Spring 2022, and on various interlocutory applications.
- ***Spire and Hortensia v Withers*** [2021] EWHC 2401 (Comm); ***Prime v Withers*** [2021] EWHC 2401 (Comm). Acting for the claimant property developers in two professional negligence claims against conveyancing solicitors, which were heard back-to-back in January and February 2021 (with Tony Singla KC). Jonathan's clients succeeded at trial in establishing negligence, and recovered damages, in each case. Jonathan also acted on the defendants' appeal in the Spire and Hortensia case [2022] EWCA Civ 970.
- ***E20 and LLDC v Allen & Overy LLP***: acting (with Tony Singla KC) for the defendant solicitors in this professional negligence claim, which related to the concession agreement between E20 and West Ham Football Club in respect of the latter's use of the London Stadium. The claim was settled before trial.
- ***Heritage Travel and Ors v Windhorst and Ors*** [2021] EWHC 2380 (Comm): Jonathan appeared in this contested application to lift a stay of proceedings and enforce a Tomlin Order by way of summary judgment, seeking over EUR 172 million (with Simon Salzedo KC). Jonathan's clients were successful and judgment was entered in their favour.
- ***Lombard and Natwest v Airbus*** [2021] EWHC 2025 (Comm): Jonathan acted for the purchaser of a defective helicopter in a claim against the manufacturer, at a substantial strike-out and preliminary issues hearing in May 2021 (with Fionn Pilbrow KC and Jon Lawrence).
- ***Pacific Andes Enterprises v Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu***: acting (with Thomas Plewman KC) for the defendant auditor in this auditor's negligence claim, brought in Hong Kong.
- Advising on a prospective professional negligence claim arising out of the collapse of an airline.
- Advising on a prospective reinsurance claim where underlying insurance claims were determined in New Zealand.
- Acting (as sole counsel) in claims brought by a strategic and financial advisor in the energy sector seeking payment of unpaid commissions.

Arbitration

In addition to his litigation practice, Jonathan also has significant experience in commercial arbitrations. Highlights of his arbitration work are the following, each of which went all the way to a final hearing and involved significant technical and foreign-law expert evidence:

- Acting for the claimant in a c. \$750m ICC arbitration relating to the sale of an interest in an oil field, involving allegations of breach of contract and deceit (with Tim Lord KC and Michael Bolding). The case went to a final hearing in the summer of 2021.
- Acting in a c. \$150m UNCITRAL arbitration concerning a joint venture for the operation of an oil refinery, which went to a final hearing (with Mark Howard KC, Neil Calver KC, Stephen Midwinter KC, Charlotte Thomas and David Heaton).
- Acting for the claimant in an LCIA arbitration concerning the sale of an interest in an oil field, where the defendant had purported to terminate the sale and purchase agreement prior to completion.
- Acting in arbitral proceedings related to the *Magomedov v TPG* litigation.

Competition

Jonathan is currently instructed in four major competition law matters, and has considerable experience in actions under the Collective Proceedings regime under section 47B of the Competition Act 1998:

- ***Trucks Cartel Litigation***: acting for a defendant truck manufacturer in a series of follow-on cartel damages claims (with Daniel Jowell KC, David Bailey and Tom Pascoe). These include both ordinary claims and collective proceedings. Jonathan has appeared at various hearings in this litigation, including an appeal against aspects of class certification. This was one of The Lawyer's Top 20 Cases of 2019, and is still ongoing.
- ***Which? v Qualcomm***: acting (with Daniel Jowell KC, Nicholas Saunders KC, David Bailey, Sophie Bird and Charles Wall) for the defendant, a manufacturer of mobile phone chipsets and licensee of cellular patents, in collective proceedings alleging an abuse of dominance. Jonathan appeared at several heavy CMCs and made oral submissions.
- ***Gutmann v Stagecoach & ors***: acting (with and Sarah Abram KC) for a defendant to these collective proceedings, which is the first certified standalone abuse of dominance claim. The CPO was granted by the CAT at first instance ([2021] CAT 31). Jonathan appeared on the appeal by the train operating companies ([2022] EWCA Civ 1077) (led by Daniel Jowell KC), and appeared unled at a CMC in September 2023.
- ***BSV Claims Limited v Bittylicious and ors***: acting (with Tony Singla KC) for a defendant to

these proposed collective proceedings, alleging that an anti-competitive agreement to delist a cryptocurrency token from certain exchanges arose from a series of Tweets. Jonathan appeared unled at the first CMC in September 2023.

Publications

Corominas and Scott, "Investing in Emerging Market Currencies: A Rewarded Risk," in Pojarliev and Levich (eds.), "The Role of Currency in Institutional Portfolios" (2014).

Education and Qualifications

Professional Experience:

2017: Called to the Bar of England and Wales

2012 – 2014: Investment Strategy Analyst, Record Currency Management

Education:

2016 – 2017: BPTC, City Law School (Outstanding, top of year)

2015 – 2016: GDL, City Law School (Distinction)

2009 – 2012: MA, Philosophy, Politics and Economics, University of Oxford (Balliol College) (First Class)

Scholarships and Prizes:

The Honourable Society of Gray's Inn

Lord Atkin Senior Scholarship for Pupillage (2018)

Birkenhead Award for the BPTC (2017)

Ann Ebsworth Award for the GDL (2016)

City Law School

Senior Scarman Scholarship for best overall mark on the BPTC (2017)

Balliol College, Oxford

NT Huxley Scholarship (2010 – 2012)

Mooting

Finalist, City University Senior Moot (2017)

Winner, City University GDL Moot (2016)

Quarter-finalist team and highest individual speaker score, ELSA European Human Rights Moot Court Competition (2016)

Directory quotes

"Jonathan Scott is praised by instructing solicitors and leaders alike for his meaningful contributions on large cases. He has experience working for major clients in cases relating to auditors' and solicitors' negligence." (Chambers & Partners 2026)

"Jonathan is incredibly bright and excellent on paper. He works incredibly hard, so he is great to have on a big case where he does a lot of heavy lifting and analysis of huge amounts of data." (Chambers & Partners 2026)

"Jonathan Scott is really clever and writes beautifully." (Chambers & Partners 2026)

"Jonathan Scott is a very trusted junior. He is efficient, hard-working and reliable. I enjoy working with him." (Chambers & Partners 2026)

"Jonathan Scott is very strong and has a nice written style." (Chambers & Partners 2026)

"Jonathan is an absolute star." (Legal 500 2026)

"Jon is exceptionally clever and an extremely quick worker. He has great intellectual self-confidence and is always willing and keen to attack any problem. He thinks laterally and often has ideas that have not occurred to others." (Legal 500 2026)

"Jonathan is incredibly bright and has the ability to synthesise large amounts of complicated information very quickly and turn them into quality cogent compelling legal documents." (Legal 500 2026)

"Jonathan is clever, thoughtful and forensic. He has good judgement that belies his year of call." (Chambers & Partners 2025)

"Jonathan is really impressive. He has good judgement and is very concise in his advice." (Chambers & Partners 2025)

"Jonathan is a hard-working young barrister with a great future. A bright future star." (Legal 500 2025)

"Jonathan is a highly skilled draftsman who provides very high quality work and turns it around really quickly. He's extremely user-friendly and understands the commercial imperatives that clients bring to matters." (Legal 500 2025)

"A very gifted junior: quick, responsive and brilliant." (Legal 500 2024)

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