

trustmediation

~ not-for-profit dispute resolution ~

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NAME Paul Balen

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"Just wanted to thank you for your mediation yesterday. I have to confess I have hitherto been slightly sceptical of the value of mediation, working on the basis that 2 reasonable counsel could thrash out most issues.

I have to say I was very impressed with the way you conducted matters and would be the first to concede that I very much doubt the claim would have settled but for your input." (Claimant's counsel 2009)

Qualified: Mediator (2004), Solicitor (1977).

Career History :

Educated Nottingham High School; First Class Honours degree in Law and President of University Law Society at Cambridge. Articled at Freeth Cartwright solicitors in Nottingham 1975; qualified as a solicitor 1977 and became partner, now a member, of what is now Freeth Cartwright LLP in 1980. President of

the Nottinghamshire Law Society 2005-6; President Nottinghamshire Medico-Legal Society 2007-8. Secretary APIL 1998-2000. Senior Fellow APIL.

Experience:

Paul has long experience in advising in a wide range of complex clinical negligence and personal injury cases including.

He has a national reputation for the coordination of multi-party actions and the creation of compensation/alternative dispute resolution schemes in groups of claims including liaison with foreign jurisdictions.

He has a wide interest in sports law, including acting from time to time in disputes involving international sportsmen in the rugby, cricket, shooting and football fields.

He has extensive experience in dispute resolution in particular in negotiating and implementing settlement schemes involving both public bodies and commercial (and international) insurers.

Mediation:

Paul is described in Chambers 2008/09 as "like a dog with a bone" when given a difficult case. "He's incredibly clever and hard-working and he gets results," "He is particularly commended for his strategic thinking". He "knows what's what," say commentators. He is famed for his "extremely professional" demeanour and his "sensible approach to cases".

Described as 'a good all-rounder'. He is rated as "one of the most highly rated practitioners in the country".