



Gareth Thompson LLB CIArb MSoM

Solicitor of England & Wales

**Civil Mediation Council Registered Mediator
Member of the Society of Mediators**

Early Neutral Evaluator of personal injury claims, civil and commercial disputes.

Arbitrator of civil and commercial disputes for the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, the London Court of International Arbitration and the London Maritime Arbitrators Association.

Specialist areas: Personal injury, civil and commercial litigation in the County Court, the High Court, the Court of Appeal and in arbitration and international/cross-border claims.

Memberships & Roles

- Solicitor of England and Wales
- Member of the Civil Mediation Council
- Member of the Society of Mediators
- Member of the Law Society
- Member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators
- Member of the London Court of International Arbitration
- Supporting Member of the London Maritime Arbitrators Association
- Supporting Member of the Hong Kong Maritime Arbitration Group
- Member of the Baltic Exchange

Experience

Gareth began handling personal injury claims in 2007. During his career as a lawyer he dealt with personal injury claims arising from road traffic accidents, under employer's liability insurance, public liability insurance and occupier's liability insurance. In addition, Gareth has dealt with personal injury claims (including fatal accidents and illnesses) arising from incidents onboard commercial ships and passenger cruise ships.

Gareth specialised in dealing with such claims principally on behalf of defendant insurers but also has extensive experience of working on behalf of individuals, employees and passengers as claimants.

As a solicitor Gareth has extensive experience of handling such disputes in the County Court, the High Court, the Court of Appeal and in arbitration. That also includes frequently managing claims with international and cross-jurisdictional issues. He is well versed in the costs issues arising from such litigation in all these forums.

International Disputes / Cross Border / Shipping & Maritime

Gareth's 20 years' experience as a lawyer, mediator and arbitrator of personal injury and contract disputes arising from cruise ships and commercial cargo vessels includes:

- dealing with passenger personal injury and illness claims arising on cruise ships and employee's personal injury claims on commercial ships.
- handling cases arising in foreign jurisdictions and managing multi-jurisdictional disputes and
- contractual disputes arising from shipping and international trade.

Mediation Practice

Gareth is a Civil Mediation Council Registered Mediator and Member of the Society of Mediators.

He acts as a mediator for parties to personal injury claims and in relation to disputes under commercial contracts. He is a strong advocate for facilitative and evaluative mediation to assist parties resolve disputes economically and without exposing themselves to the costs risks of proceeding to a judgment or arbitration award.

Gareth also frequently uses *Early Intervention Mediation* (EIM) to assist parties resolve disputes in an economic and convenient manner. EIM provides a flexible approach in which the parties do not need to meet at a certain date and location. The process allows the mediator and participants to discuss the matter remotely by email, phone and video calls over a period of days or weeks.

Despite its name, EIM can be used to good effect at any stage of a dispute. Gareth has resolved a recent case by EIM at the Closing Submissions stage of arbitration, proving it is never too late to find an alternative dispute resolution.

Arbitration & Early Neutral Evaluation

Gareth is regularly appointed as an arbitrator in both small and complex civil and commercial disputes that are resolved in arbitration.

As an arbitrator, Gareth is a member of the leading arbitration institutions in the UK, including the Chartered Institute of Arbitrations and London Court of International Arbitration.

His experience as an arbitrator is of great assistance in his role as a mediator as he has insight into the ways tribunals and judges consider pleadings and evidence when coming to a decision and can share that insight with participants in mediation.

Gareth is also frequently appointed jointly by parties as neutral evaluator to assist the parties resolving their disputes.

Early Neutral Evaluation (ENE) is a structured, confidential dispute resolution process that helps parties understand the strengths, weaknesses and potential outcomes of their case at an early stage.

Through ENE, a neutral evaluator with relevant legal experience provides an objective assessment to support informed decision-making and assist with reaching an early, cost-effective resolution to a dispute.