



tax

it has put the
whole question
of catering to the
client's needs right
at the forefront
of its thinking

Chambers UK

who we are

Devereux is one of the UK's top civil and commercial sets. We place a strong emphasis on advocacy with a professional yet client-friendly and pragmatic approach. Established over 60 years ago, we are large enough to provide in-depth expertise at all levels, but at the same time we take care to provide a tailored approach for all our clients.

Devereux is home to some of the most experienced litigators at the Bar in the fields of tax, investigations, financial regulation, proceeds of crime and professional negligence.

Our tax group includes three leading silks, each of them previously standing counsel to the Inland Revenue, and a number of very able juniors. We are practical, experienced and effective.

We are familiar with the reality and tactics of litigation across the entire field of direct and indirect taxes, contributions and duties. We see the wood as well as the trees. We have a detailed knowledge of, and feel for, the preparation and presentation of these difficult and sensitive cases and their evidential requirements. We are particularly familiar with litigation about tax avoidance, statutory investigation powers and assessment procedures as well as with remuneration and taxation of employees, the self-employed, agencies and entertainers and sports personalities.

what we do

We practise in the First-tier and Upper Tribunals, the High Court, the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court. On occasion, we also undertake cases in the Crown Court.

We have been engaged in many of the leading tax cases of recent years. Most recently they include: *Gaines-Cooper* (individual residence and IR20); *Christopher Lunn & Co* (removal of tax agent status); *Smallwood* (double tax agreements and place of effective management); *Wood v Holden* and *Laerstate BV* (corporate residence and central management and control); *Dextra Accessories* (EBTs); *Agassi* (international sportsmen); *Operations Euripus* and *Ghast* (carousel frauds), and most of the cases on statutory investigation and inspection powers under TMA 1970, including *Prudential* (legal professional privilege) and under FA 2008 Schedule 36, including the offshore banks project.

Our advisory work is equally wide ranging. Our particular strengths include:

- employment remuneration planning, PAYE and NIC issues, EBTs, NMW, working time
- avoidance and evasion issues, penalties and the disclosure opportunities
- sensitive investigations under COP8 and COP9 and through FA 2008 powers
- handling criminal investigations, production notices and search warrants
- money laundering, restraint and confiscation and financial services regulation

how we work

Our barristers are perceptive, responsive and easy to deal with and have the support of an impeccable business services team. We maintain a strong focus on quality control, effective communication and a partnership approach to working with clients and their professional advisers.

We undertake work for a wide variety of clients, ranging from global companies to high net worth individual taxpayers to national tax authorities. We accept instructions from solicitors, accountants and other authorised professionals, financial institutions and government departments.

Taxation is an incidental consequence of business activity, and our barristers are well equipped to deal with satellite issues involving trusts, companies, financial services and corporate regulation.

We are highly experienced in the conduct of litigation and the handling of evidence. As well as conducting contested cases in courts and tribunals, our barristers are well placed to offer advice on the evidential implications where a taxpayer (corporate or individual) has made arrangements to mitigate tax liability.

what they say

“Timothy Brennan QC ‘comes up with the goods time and again.’ An experienced litigator and adviser, he has recently been involved in domestic matters in the Supreme Court, along with various international tax issues. Commentators say he is ‘very solutions-based, pragmatic and user-friendly. He displays great agility in his analytical range, which enables him to understand cases and offer opinions quickly’.” [Chambers UK](#)

“Jonathan Fisher QC ... sources praise him for his gravitas and his ‘very good, clear advice’... an experienced and active silk with ‘a diplomatic and thoughtful style’.” [Chambers UK](#)

“Ingrid Simler QC is ‘a popular choice for really tough cases.’ ‘Tenacious and very cool under pressure,’ she is an exceptionally good cross-examiner, as well as being ‘accessible and crystal-clear in her advice to clients.’... Interviewees commend her for her ‘fantastic analysis and ability to put her message across in plain English’.” [Chambers UK](#)

other areas of work

Employment

- Dismissals & Employment Rights
- Equality
- Industrial Relations
- Pay, Incentives & Pensions
- Restrictive Covenants & Injunctions

Commercial

- Insurance & Reinsurance
- Professional Negligence
- Telecommunications
- Energy & Natural Resources
- General Commercial
- Finance

Clinical Negligence

Personal Injury

- Accidents Abroad & International Travel
- Employers Liability
- Neurotrauma
- Spinal Injury

Cross practice

- Arbitration & Mediation
- Conflict of Laws
- Human Rights
- Partnership
- Regulatory & Professional Discipline
- Sports Law

how to instruct us

We aim to provide responsive, flexible and timely advice of the highest quality, tailored to the needs of our clients.

Our clerks are always willing to advise on the suitability and availability of counsel and to discuss fee structures.

We believe that our continued success is down to our high quality legal expertise and competitive rates, combined with our down-to-earth and supportive approach to dealing with clients. This reflects the overriding ethos of Devereux – providing a first class service to all our clients.

If you would like further information about our expertise in tax law, or about the way we work in general, or to arrange a meeting, please contact:

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“The ‘receptive and helpful’ clerks are ‘never anything but accommodating’ and left solicitors impressed since they are ‘interested in wanting to know what we want rather than just content to sell their people to us’.” [Chambers UK](#)



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