



David Beckenham

Consultant Solicitor

Jurisdiction: England & Wales

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Overview

David is a skilled health and safety lawyer who advises clients in the oil and gas, utilities, transport, construction, shipping, and financial services sectors on a full spectrum of health and safety matters. In particular, David is well placed to assist on work-related accidents, corporate manslaughter, product recalls, defence against enforcement action under consumer and food safety laws, complex litigation arising out of contractual disputes, high-value debt recovery, and environmental pollution matters. He also advises on a range of compliance-related matters including investigations into the alleged breaches of the Bribery Act as well as the Foreign and Corrupt Practices Act.

Able to guide clients through the development and implementation of health and safety policies and procedures such as major incident plans, David is often asked to offer immediate support following work-related accidents, including fatalities. This involves dealing with the regulators during their investigation and handling press enquiries, employee relations and other important issues which arise as a consequence of such incidents.

David's impressive career has seen him work in industry as well as in private practice and in-house, most recently at worldwide industrial services company Harsco Corporation.

Expertise

- Health and Safety
- Defence of prosecution and / or enforcement notices
- Immediate support following work-related accidents and incidents
- Drafting of health and safety policies, major incident plans, and risk assessments
- Inquests
- Product recalls
- Product liability
- Food safety
- Litigation / dispute resolution (including multijurisdictional disputes)
- Debt recovery

- Compliance

Cases

- Defending a prosecution under the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act following a fatality at a steel works
- Negotiating with HSE in respect of potential prohibition notices on a power station, following which no notices were issued
- Managing all aspects following the collapse of a dockside crane
- Advising in a regulatory investigation following a serious accident at an oil refinery
- Advising a national coach operator following the Heathrow coach crash
- Defending a restaurant chain during a prosecution under food safety laws
- Advising on notifications under RAPEX (the EU defective product rapid alert system) and advising on global and pan-European product recalls
- Developing major incident plans, which were successfully implemented during the London public transport terrorists attacks in 2005
- Acting in litigation following damage caused by a fire on the Milan Metro network
- Acting in litigation in respect of alleged theft in the sum of approximately £1.8m by the client's employees from its customer's site
- Acting in the recovery of a large commercial debt
- Negotiating with an insurer following its denial of coverage on a client's general liability policy
- Advising on compliance-related investigations following allegations of corruption

Career

2016	Keystone Law <i>Consultant Solicitor</i>
2012-2016	Harsco Corporation <i>Manager, International Litigation and Claims, then Senior Litigation Counsel</i>
2011	BP <i>Legal Adviser (six-month secondment)</i>
2007-2012	Norton Rose LLP <i>Associate Solicitor</i>
2007	Qualified as a Solicitor
2006-2007	Hammonds (now Squire Patton Boggs) <i>Senior OHS Consultant</i>
2003-2006	Transdev <i>Head of Health and Safety</i>