

Stephen Killalea KC *
Year of Silk: **2006** | Year of Call: **1981**

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CHAMBERS
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Steve Killalea KC has a leading silk's practice in personal injury specialising in representing claimants in catastrophic brain and spinal cases.

Steve has also extensive experience of Inquests, Health and Safety prosecutions, and civil Actions against the Police, based upon his substantial criminal trial experience.

Steve is a leading personal injury silk (Star Individual – Chambers UK 2023), with one of the most substantial catastrophic injury practices in the country. He acts for claimants with significant brain and spinal injuries both nationally and internationally

He is known for his advocacy and ability to tackle the most difficult and contentious cases whilst being attentive to the needs of clients. He is frequently instructed in high-value cases in which there is a need for delicate and sensitive handling of the claimant, and family, with a substantial number of cases involving brain damaged children.

The Legal 500 and Chambers UK latest guide recognised Steve Killalea KC as “Star Individual” (Personal Injury).

‘Absolutely brilliant- clients love him for his knowledge and passion and commitment to getting the right result.’ – Personal Injury, Legal 500 2024

“Stephen Killalea KC has an outstanding reputation in maximum severity spinal injury cases and for his adroit handling of the most complex liability disputes for claimants who have suffered life-changing injuries. He is able to advise both children and adult claimants on cases with substantial future care complexities. He is also noted for his handling of cases involving industrial injuries.” – Star Individual (Personal Injury), Chambers UK 2023

Personal Injury Silk of the Year at the Chambers UK Bar Awards 2023.

Professional Memberships

Personal Injury Bar Association Association of Personal Injury Lawyers Health & Safety Lawyers Association

Notable Cases

Stephen secured a brain-injured child Claimant's claim in the sum of £9 million plus an indexed PPO of £140,000 per annum for life. The settlement, made on a provisional basis with the Claimant able to return to Court should she develop epilepsy in her lifetime, capitalised at approximately £19.5 million.

Stephen succeeded in resisting a Defendants' application for permission to appeal in a case on employers' liability in an accident at work in which the Claimant, the owner and director of the Defendant company, fell from the upper deck of a car transporter and suffered catastrophic brain injuries.

Stephen acted for a brain damaged Claimant in an employer's liability case establishing liability against the employer, subject to a reduction for contributory negligence.

Stephen secured a settlement of £12.5M, plus provisional damages, for a client who suffered a spinal injury with paraplegia and amputation of the left leg following a motorbike accident in September 2019.

Acting for a 67 year old Claimant who sustained a catastrophic spinal and traumatic brain injury, rendering him tetraplegic, when his car was struck by a Turkish lorry on the M1 near Luton in November 2017. Although Claimant was not wearing a seatbelt, medical causation led to the case being compromised on a full liability basis.

Acting for a 58 year old male who was injured in an RTA, rendering him incomplete tetraplegic, when Defendant driver allegedly had a heart attack. Liability in dispute but approached by Claimant as full liability case at JSM. Compromised at £3,500,000. An unusual element was a claim for costs of spending four months a year for several years in Australia.

