



Year of Call

1977

Year of Silk

1989

Devil Masters

The Rt Hon Lord Abernethy



Practice Profile

Colin has a wide civil practice with considerable expertise in professional negligence, contractual disputes, oil and gas law, construction law and personal injury. In personal injury, his chief focus is on cases of medical negligence and cases involving catastrophic injuries. Colin also has significant experience in criminal cases concerning health and safety issues.

Education & Professional Career to Date

LLB (Hons)

Appointments

- Advocate Depute (1986–1989)
- Part-time Chairman, Medical Appeal Tribunal (1990–1995)
- Temporary Judge
- Independent Assessor under Criminal Justice Act 1988 for Miscarriage of Justice
- Senior Counsel to the Vale of Leven Hospital Inquiry (October 2009–2014)

Selected Cases

- **Scottish Hierarchy v Highland Regional Council [1988] SC (HL) 1**
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Scott Lithgow Ltd v GEC Electrical Products [1992] SLT 244

- **Caledonian North Sea v London Bridge Ltd [2002] SLT (HL) 278**
- **Clark v Kelly [2003] SC (PC) 1**
- **Ocean Odyssey Inquiry**
- **Montgomery v Lanarkshire Health Board**

Areas of Practice

- Clinical and Professional Negligence
- Commercial
- Personal Injury
- Public and Fatal Accident Inquiries

Directories

Recommended in The Legal 500 UK Bar Guide for many years
Leading Silk (Health and Safety, and Regulatory)

Recommended in Chambers & Partners UK Bar Guide 2024
Senior Statespeople Band for Clinical Negligence

"He is a very calm, ordered individual and people instantly respect him."

"Colin is one of the most senior medical negligence practitioners at the Scottish Bar. He is an impressive advocate in court and has a sympathetic and understanding manner with clients."