

Contentious Probate



Telephone: +44 (0)20 8445 3331



Who we are

Carlsons Solicitors are a boutique law practice, with offices in north London and in the City of London.

We are trusted advisors to our clients, advising on matters of the utmost importance, which are often emotionally charged and extremely sensitive for all those involved.

We offer practical guidance, and approach discussions and matters with the purpose of maximising the chances of reaching an agreed resolution. We advise on all areas of contentious probate and private client, including:

- **Inheritance Act claims**
- **Property disputes**
- **Proprietary estoppel**
- **Will disputes**

Our culture, approach to client service, and genuine connection with clients, underpin everything the team does. This ensures that our clients are supported by a tight knit and committed team throughout, and means we operate efficiently and remain aligned in finding the best solutions. All of this is underpinned by our costs-conscious approach, and supported by specialist in-house counsel.

Related services

- Lasting Powers of Attorney
- Wills



North London

Whetstone House
1/3 Oakleigh Road North
Whetstone
London
N20 9HE

Central London

330 High Holborn
London
WC2A 1HL
(by specific appointment only)

What do we do?

Inheritance Act claims

We help you understand, assess and progress your matter. Inheritance Act claims refer to an individual claiming under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependants) Act 1975. In short, the Act allows for certain categories of people to bring a claim against the estate of a deceased person where ‘reasonable financial provision’ has not been made for them, or where they are an executor/administrator of an estate facing such a claim.

Whether you feel you have been left out of a Will and believe you are entitled to bring an Inheritance Act claim, or you find yourself in the position of defending such claims, we are on hand to guide and advise you through the entire process, with amicable or robust representation as necessary,

We ensure clients reach a satisfactory conclusion, in often difficult circumstances. We often promote the use of alternative dispute resolution such as mediation or negotiating an out of court settlement via solicitors. When emotions are high and resources can be limited, a dispute involving the courts may not be the most welcome avenue.



Will disputes

We identify the strengths and weaknesses in your circumstances and help you to progress. Discovering that the provisions made in a Will aren't what you were expecting can come as a great shock, at an already shocking time. Whether it's the discovery that you have been left out of a Will or that a person or organisation has been unexpectedly included, a dispute over provisions in a Will of a lost loved one can cause great stress and anxiety, in addition to financial pressures.

Although any Will can be challenged in UK law, a Will can only be successfully challenged on one or more of five very specific grounds, which you will have to prove. There are often circumstances which people mistakenly believe are valid reasons to dispute a Will, but which, have little to no chance of being successful in law.

Our team will align with you to formulate a legitimate position to challenge the Will, if that is applicable. We advise you on the best course of action, given the options available to you, while explaining the likely advantages, costs and risks of pursuing your claim against the estate, or how else to approach settling it.



What our clients say



Mr Higham and the team at Carlsons Solicitors can make miracles happen. I cannot recommend them highly enough. I received constant support from my first enquiry until the final outcome. I recommend Carlsons Solicitors to anyone who is looking for a personal and friendly service.

Kaveh K, client



I'd like to thank the team at Carlsons for taking my case at very late notice but managing to thrash out a great result under the circumstances. Would definitely instruct them again and remains a permanent addition to my contact list for referrals.

Anthony M, client



Like to say a big thank you to Sarena Spicer for her professional work and guidance in helping us with our Wills. She was extremely friendly and helpful. Sarena was able to answer all our questions and offer a truly exceptional service. We would highly recommend her.

Sejal S, client



Just like to say a massive thank you to Carlsons for the help and advice they have given me and a special thank you to Richard for the compassion he has shown me, and to Sarena, through a difficult process. Cannot recommend Carlsons enough.

Rose H, client



Excellent service, great attention to detail and the best result possible from a complex and difficult challenge. I was delighted with the outcome.

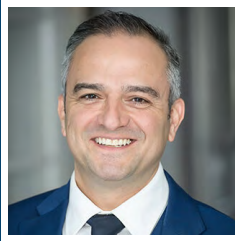
Steven K, client



I enlisted the services of Carlson Solicitors regarding a family dispute over inheritance. The professionalism and the care I received was just first-class. Not only did I win but I got more than I actually bargained for. Thanks to Richard Higham I am forever in his debt! Thoroughly recommend them.

Cheryl B, client

The team

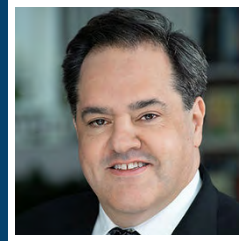


Richard Higham

Director

richard.higham@carlsonssolicitors.com

An experienced dispute resolution solicitor, working on litigation cases that include high-value claims.



Daniel Russell

Managing Director

daniel.russell@carlsonssolicitors.com

A highly experienced solicitor and managing director.



Mark Evans KC

Consultant Barrister

C/o: richard.higham@carlsonssolicitors.com

Leading Counsel and former Judge.

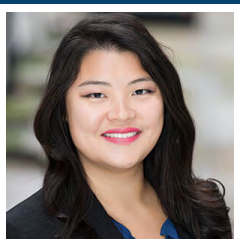


Paul Dipré

Consultant Barrister

C/o: richard.higham@carlsonssolicitors.com

An experienced advocate specialising in general commercial and property disputes and matrimonial finance.



Sarena Spicer

Solicitor

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Head of Private Client, advises clients in the UK and internationally on all probate matters.



Shanti Palmer

Trust and Estate Practitioner

shanti.palmer@carlsonssolicitors.com

Over 20 years of experience in dealing with all matters relating to Wills, LPAs and probate administration.

The team (continued)



Emily Rezepa

Trainee Solicitor

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A trainee solicitor in the Dispute Resolution and Family Law team.



Merel Summerhill

Trainee Solicitor

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A trainee solicitor in the Dispute Resolution and Family Law team.



Beth McCracken

Paralegal

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A paralegal in the Dispute Resolution and Family Law team.