

BrokerReDefCharc

**Application Form**

Litigation Insurance

**Supporting Documents Required**

Please note that together with the completed and signed version of this application form, we will require certain supporting documents to be provided in order for us to assess the case and approach litigation insurers, with a view to securing terms.

A checklist of suggested supporting documentation can be found at Section 8 below**. Please note that we cannot accept any application for litigation insurance without a completed case summary**; please contact us should you require a copy of our case summary template.

**UK Law Firms – FCA Requirement**

If you are a UK lawyer seeking insurance on behalf of your client, please note that it is a requirement of the Financial Conduct Authority (‘FCA’) that UK law firms are registered to undertake insurance mediation, which is the term used to describe the financial services activities which arise in respect of insurance contracts. All firms carrying out insurance mediation activities must be included on the Financial Services Register and appoint a Compliance Officer. **You must provide your registration number when submitting this application.**

If you do not have a registration number, or you are unsure as to whether your firm is registered, please do not hesitate to contact us on +44 (0) 845 257 6058.

**Disclosure – The Insurance Act 2015**

The Insurance Act 2015 came into force on 12 August 2016.

In accordance with the Insurance Act 2015, in making this application, you are under a duty to make a “fair presentation” of the risk.

In doing so, you must disclose every material circumstance which you know, or ought to know, or make disclosure which provides the receiving party with sufficient information to put the receiving party on notice that they need to make further enquiries into those material circumstances.

All material facts that are disclosed must be substantially correct and every material representation made in good faith.

If you are not an individual, the scope of what you know or ought to know extends to what is known to individuals who are part of your senior management team, or any parties that are responsible for your insurances.

If you are in any doubt as to whether something constitutes a material fact, you should disclose it.

The insurers which take part in this service will provide indications of terms based upon the information you provide. The insurance policy will not be in force until a certificate of insurance has been issued. Completion of this form does not mean that insurance is in place.

Failure to comply with your duty to make a fair presentation of the risk can lead to the receiving party avoiding the contract (and retaining any premium), charging a higher premium and treating the contract as having been entered on those terms, or reducing any claim payments proportionally.

**Solvency of Insurers**

Please note that TheJudge cannot and does not guarantee the solvency or security of the insurers with which it places business.

There are many factors to take into account when assessing the solvency of an insurer, including the insurers solvency margins, the extent to which an insurer complies with their capital adequacy requirements and whether or not an insurer has a positive financial rating from an independent ratings agency.

It is the generic advice of TheJudge that, where the option exists, an insured party achieves a greater degree of certainty regarding the solvency of their chosen insurer by securing a policy from an insurer with a positive financial rating from an independent ratings agency. However, absent of certain presenting circumstances that dictate the need for a ‘rated’ insurer (such as a security for costs issue), TheJudge may seek your specific authority to approach insurers that do not have a financial rating from an independent rating agency (known as ‘unrated insurers’). This is due to the fact that, traditionally, unrated insurers have a more generous risk appetite and are more competitively priced than rated insurers.

**Section 1 – Proposer Details**

This information will be used for the purpose of fulfilling our regulatory obligations including Know Your Client (KYC) and Anti-Money Laundering (AML) due diligence screening obligations. Please complete this section in full, for each separate proposer, as a failure to do so may lead to delays in progressing your clients proposal. For group actions please only provide these details for the members of the client committee in the first instance.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Full name(s) of the proposer(s)** |  | |
| **Legal Status of proposer(s)** | Individual | Organisation |
| **Full address, including country location** |  |  |
| **Gender** |  | N/A |
| **Date of birth** (dd/mm/yyyy) |  | N/A |
| **Nationality/Registered Country** |  |  |
| **Is the proposer the Claimant or Defendant in the proceedings?** |  |  |
| **Are you aware of any potential issues or flags that are likely to arise during our due diligence screening process?** |  | |

**Section 2 – Firm Details**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Firm name** |  | | |
| **Address** |  | | |
| **Firm EPF registration number** (UK firms only) |  | | |
| **Lawyer name** |  | **Telephone No.** |  |
| **Lawyer e-mail address** |  | | |
| **Supervisor name, if relevant** |  | | |
| **Firm case reference** |  | | |
| **Name of Barrister** (if instructed) |  | | |

**Section 3 – Opponent Details**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name(s) of the Opponent(s)** |  |
| **Opponent lawyers** |  |
| **Opponent insurers** |  |
| **Can the opponent satisfy any judgment obtained? If so, what evidence is available to support this?** |  |

**Section 4 – Case Details**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of case** |  | | |
| **Forum** (court, tribunal etc.) |  | | |
| **Jurisdiction** (NB. If jurisdiction is disputed please provide details) |  | | |
| **Applicable law** (NB. If the applicable law is disputed please provide details) |  | | |
| **Percentage prospects of successful outcome** |  | | |
| **Full value of claim** (excluding costs) |  | | |
| **Minimum acceptable figure** |  | | |
| **Have any offers of settlement been made or received?** |  | **Details of offers:** |  |
| **Details of any non-financial remedy that may be applicable** |  | | |
| **Has a Letter of Claim** (or equivalent) **been sent?** |  | **Date filed:** |  |
| **Have proceedings been commenced?** |  | **Date proceedings commenced:** |  |
| **If proceedings have not been commenced, when will the claim become statute-barred for limitation?** |  | | |
| **Have there been any preliminary decisions?** |  | | |
| **Are there any preliminary matters to be determined prior to the substantive trial?** |  | | |
| **Has a Defence been filed?** |  | **Date filed:** |  |
| **HHas a trial date or window been set?** |  | **Date of trial/window:** |  |
| **Are there any upcoming hearings or deadlines?** |  | | |
| **Is a counterclaim to be expected? If so, on what basis?** |  | | |

**Section 5 – Pre-Existing Insurance Details**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Does your client have benefit of any pre-existing legal expenses insurance which will cover this dispute?** | **YES/NO** | |
| **If yes, please confirm the limit of indemnity and the status of any claim submitted to the insurer** |  | |
| **Please name any other insurance brokers or insurers you have approached and the outcome of those approaches.** | Name of broker/insurer: | Outcome: |

**Section 6 – Retainer and Funding Details**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **What type of retainer will you be acting under (e.g. CFA, DBA, private fee paying)?** |  | **Date firm instructed?** |  |
| **What is the proposed success fee?** |  | | |
| **What proportion of your fees will be at risk under the retainer (if any)?** |  | | |
| **Please confirm all of the above in relation to your retainer with Counsel.** |  | | |
| **Have you or do you anticipate arranging third party litigation funding?** If so, please provide details of the amount of funding arranged/required and who you have approached to date? |  | | |
| TheJudge does not act as broker for applicants seeking litigation funding, however, if you are interested in a quote for litigation funding TheJudge can introduce this matter to its affiliate Erso Capital. Please indicate by ticking the box if you would like TheJudge to share the information submitted in the application to Erso Capital in order to seek a quote for litigation funding:  Erso Capital is an affiliate of TheJudge for the purposes of TheJudge’s standard NDA. | | |
| **Has security for costs been ordered or has an application been made?**  If so, please confirm the amounts. |  | | |
| **Is your client likely to face an application for Security for Costs in the future?**  If yes, please confirm the likely amount of security required. |  | | |

**Section 7 - Litigation Insurance Requirements**

* Please complete the table below with figures inclusive of VAT if cover is required for VAT.
* Please exclude any costs funded by pre-existing insurance from the sections for amount of cover required.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Costs incurred to date** | **Cost from now to conclusion** | **Amount of cover required for costs to date?** | **Amount of cover required from now to conclusion?** |
| **Own lawyers’ fees** |  |  |  |  |
| **Own disbursements (excluding barrister’s fees)** |  |  |  |  |
| **Own barrister’s fees** |  |  |  |  |
| **Opponent’s costs and Opponent’s disb’.** |  |  |  |  |
| **TOTAL COVER REQUESTED** | | | **£** | |

**Section 8 – Documents**

Help us to help you. Well-presented cases have a better chance of obtaining for insurance. Please enclose all relevant documentation you think insurers will need to consider the case. If further information is required, completion of the assessment is likely to be considerably delayed.

Examples of the types of documentation required (where available) include:

* **Case summary** (including a commentary on the facts, liability, quantum and enforcement. It must also include your views on the prospects of success;
* **Costs budget** (an itemised schedule of projected costs referring to stage in the litigation, up to and including the hearing);
* **Barrister’s advice;**
* **Pleadings;**
* **Correspondence with the opponent;**
* **Experts reports;**
* **Witness statements/Depositions;**
* **Evidence of Opponent’s financial strength.**

**Section 9 – Declaration**

1. I/We declare that the information contained in this form and accompanying enclosures represents a “fair presentation” of the risk.
2. I/We believe that the level of insurance requested in Section 7, is sufficient to pursue the claim to the conclusion of a fully contested trial, unless otherwise stated.
3. I/We agree to be bound by TheJudge’s Terms of Business, as set out below.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Signed (client)** | **Date** |
| **Print name** | |
| **Signed (lawyer)** | **Date** |
| **Print name** | |

**If you have any queries about the contents of this proposal form, or wish to discuss your case with a broker prior to submitting the application, please contact us on +44 (0) 845 257 6058**

**Once the application form has been completed, please return the same together with the supporting documentation to applications@thejudgeglobal.com (please note that we run a paperless office, and any applications submitted by post will therefore take longer to be processed)**

**TheJudge Terms of Business**

The following Terms of Business set out what you can expect from us and what we expect from you when agreeing to handle your application for legal insurance. This document contains important information. Please read it carefully.

References to “we”, “us” and “our” are references to TheJudge Limited. References to “you”, “your” and “yours” are references to you and your legal representative. References to “provider” or “providers” are references to both legal expenses insurers and litigation funding companies. References to “litigation” include arbitration or other legal proceedings.

This document supersedes any agreement with us previously in force in relation to this application, with the exception of any Non-Disclosure Agreement or Confidentiality Agreement signed by us. Please contact us immediately if there is anything in these Terms of Business that you do not understand or with which you disagree.

**Our Company**

We conduct business through TheJudge Limited which is a subsidiary of TheJudge Group Holdings Limited. Our Registered Office is 90 Fenchurch Street, London, EC3M 4ST. Our company Registration Number is 03941392. Our FCA Reference Number is 309696.

**Our Regulation**

TheJudge Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (‘FCA’) to carry out insurance mediation activities. You may check our details with the FCA. Our FCA number is 309696.

TheJudge Limited is regulated and authorised to provide advice on legal expenses insurance products. Where we provide a personal recommendation in relation to your insurance options, we will provide you with a written statement of our understanding of your insurance demands and needs, based upon the information provided before concluding an insurance contract.

If we recommend an insurance policy to you, we will confirm why we believe the proposed cover to be suitable in satisfying your insurance requirements. It is important that you tell us if any of the information contained within such a statement is incorrect.

TheJudge is not regulated to, and is not purporting to, provide financial advice when sourcing litigation funding. Therefore, we cannot and do not recommend particular funding products.

**Our Relationship with You**

We are a broker who will act on your behalf to source litigation insurance (sometimes referred to as After the Event Insurance or ATE insurance) to insure legal expenses incurred in connection with a legal dispute. We can also arrange litigation funding in order to finance legal expenses incurred in connection with a legal dispute.

**Our Approach to Market for Litigation Insurance**

We will tell you which providers we will be approaching. In order to proceed in a timely fashion, we may proceed to contact providers immediately upon receiving these signed Terms of Business and confirm to you the providers which we have approached thereafter. If you require confirmation of the identity of the providers in advance, please inform us by way of the covering correspondence.

If there are any providers that we have not approached with your application, but that you feel should be considered, please let us know as soon as possible.

We will generally seek to simultaneously introduce the proposal to several providers on your behalf. Whilst we may not approach every provider in the market with your application, we will typically consider what we reasonably believe to be a sufficiently large number of products to be representative of the whole market. However, depending on the application and the prospects of obtaining a viable proposal from the market, we may introduce the application to a single provider initially with several others being approached simultaneously thereafter, if an acceptable offer is not presented.

**Our Approach to Market for Litigation Funding**

If you require litigation funding, TheJudge will not act as your agent in seeking litigation funding. TheJudge is able to source litigation funding from Erso Limited which advises Erso Capital (“Erso”). Erso is a litigation funder and is a ‘sister’ company of TheJudge. Several Directors of TheJudge own shares and are officeholders in Erso Capital. You will not receive advice or a recommendation from TheJudge regarding the suitability of any offer of litigation funding received from Erso Capital. You are free to approach other litigation funders should you wish to compare terms.

**Timescales**

In the absence of any specific deadlines or urgency, we would expect to receive initial formal responses from the participating providers within 10 working days of receipt of the application.

Whilst this is our target turnaround time, if the case is particularly complex or requires an unusually high level of capacity, it can take longer for the providers to complete their assessment. If at any stage we believe that the 10 day target is unrealistic, we shall inform you at the earliest opportunity and will provide a more realistic timescale, if possible.

**Our Earnings**

As your chosen intermediary, we may earn income in a number of ways.

1. We may charge an application fee at the outset, in order to process the application;
2. We may earn a commission payment from the selected provider(s); and/or
3. We may earn a commission from time to time on additional fees charged by providers during the application process. The additional fees may give rise to a conflict of interest between you, us and the provider concerned. We will take care to ensure that such conflicts are properly managed so we can continue to act in your best interests.

You have the right to ask about our remuneration as a result of broking insurance on your behalf.

**Your Obligation to Disclose Information**

During the application process, you are under a duty to make a “fair presentation” of the risk. In doing so, you must disclose every material circumstance which you know, or ought to know, or disclosure which provides the receiving party with sufficient information to put the receiving party on notice that they need to make further enquiries into those material circumstances.

All material facts that are disclosed must be substantially correct and every material representation made in good faith.

If you are not an individual, the scope of what you know or ought to know extends to what is known to individuals who are part of your senior management team, or any parties that are responsible for your insurances.

If you are in doubt as to whether something constitutes a material fact, you should disclose it. If you fail to disclose a material fact, it may affect how claims are settled under the insurance policy or may render it invalid and/or breach the litigation funding agreement.

**Reporting to the provider.**

Once an litigation insurance policy is in place, there will be an ongoing obligation to report certain events to the providers and/or obtain the providers’ consent prior to undertaking certain steps in the litigation, including but not limited to commencing proceedings or rejecting/making an offer of settlement.

We strongly recommend that you take time to familiarise yourself with the relevant policy/agreement’s reporting requirements.

Please ensure that all reporting is made directly to the provider to avoid delay.

**Insurance Policies**

The relationship between you and an insurer is governed by the insurance policy. It is imperative that you read and fully understand the terms and conditions of the insurance policy and accompanying literature.

**Claims under litigation insurance policies**

Any claim or circumstances which may give rise to a claim should be notified directly to the insurance company without delay. Failing to comply with claims notification procedures may result in the insurer refusing to admit the claim. The policy terms and conditions will describe the claims notification procedures in detail. If you are unsure about any aspect, please contact us immediately.

**Non-Circumvention and Non-Disclosure of Quotations**

You are entitled to approach, whether directly or by another broker/agency, any provider whom we have not approached on your behalf.

Where we have approached providers in relation to your application, you agree to our exclusive instruction in relation to that provider. You will not approach or instruct any other broker/agency to approach the same provider, or approach that provider directly, without our consent unless our instruction has been terminated in accordance with the termination provisions within this agreement.

You will not disclose information about the offers produced by providers we have approached on your behalf to any third parties without our consent. In some cases, such disclosure may constitute a breach of the provider’s own terms and conditions.

**Your Legal Representatives Regulation**

Under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and other associated regulations, anyone who carries out insurance mediation activities must either be authorised by the FCA or fall within the scope of an exemption. Insurance mediation activities include (but are not limited to) dealing in, arranging, assisting in the administration and performance of and advising on contracts of insurance.

Therefore, if a solicitor or other legal representative is arranging ATE insurance on your behalf (regardless of whether they are making a formal recommendation regarding a particular policy), the solicitor or legal representative requires FCA approval or an exemption.

There is an exemption for solicitors under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000, provided that certain requirements are met, including that the insurance mediation activities are ‘incidental to the provision of professional services’. In order to qualify for the exemption, the solicitor firm needs to be listed on the FCA’s Exempt Professional Firm register (https://register.fca.org.uk/). For more information regarding this, please contact us.

**Insurer Security**

Wherever we broker an insurance policy, we cannot and do not guarantee the solvency of the insurance company or insurance intermediary, nor do we rate, assess or approve financial security. However, we do try to ensure that all insurers or insurance intermediaries that we approach are recognised as being reputable providers of litigation insurance.

We use both UK and overseas insurers to obtain suitable quotations for our clients. It should be noted that a different legal and regulatory regime may apply to non-UK insurers so your ability to enforce your legal rights or seek compensation may vary.

If you have any concerns about the insurers we are approaching to provide cover, please contact us immediately.

**Confidentiality**

All information about you provided in support of this application will be treated as private and confidential.

**Privilege**

Arranging litigation insurance will necessarily involve information being provided to us which is subject to litigation privilege and/or legal professional privilege. We will in turn share this information with the providers which we have selected for inclusion in our active search of the market.

Whilst this information will be shared with participating providers on the expectation that it will remain privileged from disclosure, we cannot guarantee that this will be the case and therefore if you have any concerns regarding this issue, please contact us.

Please note it is possible for the opponent to successfully apply to the court for disclosure of the litigation insurance policy or litigation funding agreement albeit the courts have demonstrated sensitivity towards ordering disclosure of prejudicial aspects of these documents during live proceedings.

**Data Protection**

The only personal information about you which we will retain will be that provided by you in the course of seeking insurance and/or funding. Under the General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679, private customers have the right to see any personal information which we hold in our records. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

**Termination**

This agreement can be terminated by either one of us giving 3 days’ written notice to the other.

If an litigation insurance policy and/or litigation funding arrangement has been executed prior to termination of this agreement, we reserve the right to retain any fees, brokerage or entitlement to fees or brokerage which may become payable following termination. All obligations to pay us brokerage on deferred insurance premiums or contingent third party funding success fees in accordance with the “Our Earnings” section of this document will survive the termination of this agreement.

If an insurance policy and/or litigation funding arrangement has not been executed prior to termination of this agreement, but you later execute an insurance policy and/or litigation funding arrangement with a provider that we have approached on your behalf, we reserve the right to charge a reasonable fee for introductory services which might equate to the full brokerage due had this agreement not been terminated.

**Complaints**

We aim to provide the highest level of customer service possible, at all times. That said, if you wish to make a complaint about our services, we do have a formal complaints procedure. In the first instance, you should contact us directly either in writing or by telephone. If you are contacting us in writing, please address your complaint to:

The Complaints Officer

TheJudge Limited

90 Fenchurch Street

London

EC3M 4ST

Or, alternatively, you can call us on 0845 257 6058.

If you make a complaint, we will acknowledge it promptly, explain how we will handle your complaint, explain what you need to do (if anything) and update you as to how your complaint is progressing.

If we cannot resolve your complaint straight away, we will acknowledge its receipt promptly and arrange for a senior representative to investigate the matter and provide you with a response.

If the complaint relates to our role as an insurance intermediary and we are unable to resolve the issue, you may be entitled to refer the matter to the Financial Ombudsman Service (‘FOS’). If you are eligible, we will provide you with details of how to refer to the FOS when we send you our final written response or at 8 weeks after receipt of your complaint (whichever is the earliest).

**Limitation of TheJudge Liability**

We will not be liable to you for any direct or indirect losses, damages or costs or expenses incurred or suffered by you as a result of or in connection with any service that we provide to you hereunder unless directly caused by or attributable to our negligence, wilful deceit or fraud (or that of our directors, officers or employees).

Our liability for losses caused by our negligence is hereby limited to £5million. There is no limitation of liability in relation to any losses caused by wilful deceit or fraud (or that of our directors, officers or employees).

**Governing Law and Jurisdiction**

These Terms of Business and any dispute or claim arising out of or in connection with the same or the subject matter or formation (including non-contractual disputes or claims) shall be governed by and construed in accordance with English law.

The parties irrevocably agree that the courts of England and Wales shall have exclusive jurisdiction to settle any dispute or claim that arises out of or in connection with this agreement or its subject matter or formation (including non-contractual disputes or claims).