



## STEPHEN HALL

### SENIOR ASSOCIATE

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Stephen Hall serves as head of the firm's immigration practice in the U.K. and is a recognized immigration lawyer by the Legal 500.

Stephen is a dual qualified lawyer in the U.K. and Ireland, focusing on a full range of U.K. immigration matters for corporate clients across various industries including banking, tech, architecture, TV/film and sports, as well as international law firms. Stephen also handles complex private client cases including British nationality and other applications under European law. With 12 years of experience in immigration law, Stephen has a broad technical knowledge. He provides client-focused, practical and straightforward advice.

Stephen's primary experience includes:

- Sponsor Licence applications
- Skilled Worker visas
- Intra Company Transfer (ICT) visas
- Naturalisation and settlement/permanent residence
- EU Settlement Scheme
- Right to Work compliance
- European residence cards and EEA family permits
- Tier 5 (creative and sports) visas
- Spouse applications
- Sole representative visas
- Visitor visas

Stephen is also experienced at handling and resolving Sponsor Licence suspensions or revocations, including the Judicial Review process.

With the end of EU free movement and the new points-based U.K. immigration system being implemented, Stephen is involved in lobbying on behalf of businesses and providing high-level strategic thinking for the future of U.K. immigration.

U.K. immigration authorities have recently moved toward stricter enforcement and compliance, and Stephen is actively counseling clients regarding those changes. Stephen has attended numerous immigration audits and has an excellent track record of obtaining Sponsor Licences and drafting robust internal policies and procedures to pass

### SERVICES AND INDUSTRIES

Immigration

International

Consumer Products and Services

Financial Services and Banking

Higher Education

Real Estate, Development, Construction

Technology

### ADMISSIONS

England and Wales

Republic of Ireland

any future audits. Stephen works closely with the firm's employment team to ensure HR policies are both immigration and employment law compliant.

## BACKGROUND

Stephen served as a senior associate and head of immigration at Kerman & Co. in London, where he worked for three years before joining Armstrong Teasdale when the firms combined in early 2021. Before that, he worked at other top-rated London immigration firms, and as a paralegal and trainee solicitor for a Big Four accounting firm. He qualified as a solicitor in 2012.

## EDUCATION

- BPP University Law School (LPC, 2007)
- BPP University Law School (GDL, *Commendation*, 2006)
- The University of Manchester (MSc, *Hons*, 2005)
- The University of Manchester (BSc, *Hons*, 2004)
  - Business Management

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Immigration Lawyers Practitioners' Association (ILPA)
- Law Society England
- Irish Law Society

## CHARITABLE AND CIVIC INVOLVEMENT

- ReachOut youth charity, Hackney, London (Mentor)

## ACCOLADES

- The Legal 500, Recommended Lawyer, Immigration (2021-present)

## EXPERIENCE

### **Advised a Multinational Media Company on the U.K. Visa Requirements for a Mixed Martial Arts Sporting Event at Wembley Arena**

Assisted both the mixed martial arts fighters and on-air talent entering the U.K. for an event at Wembley Arena. Provided ongoing advice on the best ways to move sportspersons and on screen talent around the U.K./Europe in order to stay compliant with immigration rules when they compete for prize money at large spectator events.

### **Advised Large Chicago-based Tech Service Company on Immigration Compliance**

Acting as legal representative on their Sponsor Licence and advising on all aspects of their visa applications from the U.S. to the U.K.

### **Tier 2 Sponsor Licence Reinstatement for Global IT Company**

Successfully represented a global IT company in resolving a Tier 2 Sponsor Licence

revocation, ensuring the licence was reinstated at the early stages of the Judicial Review process.

**Immigration Audit for Large U.S. Law Firm**

Undertook a full audit of HR systems and processes for a large U.S. law firm, providing a detailed report and recommendations for best practice immigration compliance.

**Brexit Strategy for World-Renowned Architectural Practice**

Advised a world-renowned architectural practice on their Brexit strategy, providing presentations and workshops for around 80 EU employees. Successfully obtained Permanent Residence and British Citizenship for several key employees.

**Advised German Pharma Company on Immigration Obligations Following Acquisition**

Advised a Germany-based pharmaceutical company in their immigration obligations following the acquisition of an Oxford-based laboratory and its workforce.

**Obtained Family Visas for Brazilian Premier League Athlete**

Assisted a Brazilian international footballer in obtaining visas for his wife and child while he was playing for an English Premier League team.