

Expert Witness Service

Hastam's H&S Expert Witness Service for Solicitors and their Clients



Doctor Tony Boyle

PhD, MSc, BSc, AFBPsS, CFIOSH, MIRM, Chartered Occupational Psychologist, Chartered Safety and Health Practitioner



After completing a Psychology degree Tony Boyle worked at the National Institute of Industrial Psychology (NIIP) where, inter alia, he studied accidents involving high voltage switchgear. He left the NIIP to complete a PhD in the statistical theory of accident causation.

Previous Experience

Following a period of teaching health and safety he went back to full time research studying road traffic accident black spots in central London. He then set up his own software company to write safety related software. The company initially developed conventional software for applications such as accident recording. However, Tony did an MSc in expert systems (artificial intelligence) and the company moved into developing expert system software. His company was later incorporated into the health, safety and environmental consultancy, Hastam, set up principally by Aston University Health and Safety Personnel. Tony was Hastam's Managing Director and later Chairman and although he has retired from this role he is still a non-executive director.

Publishing

Tony is currently investigating the use of interactive electronic books as alternatives to conventional textbooks and the implications of these books for training delivery.

Expert Witness

Tony's particular expertise is safety management systems and the elements such as risk assessment, incident investigation and audit that make up these systems.



EXAMPLE OF CRIMINAL CASE FOR THE PROSECUTION

Corus (British Steel): Prepared Events and Causal Factors Analyses for expert witness report for the prosecution.

EXAMPLES OF CRIMINAL CASES FOR THE DEFENDANT

Total: Assisted Professor Booth prepare an expert witness report for the defence in the Buncefield explosion by preparing critiques of items of prosecution evidence.

Biolab: Reviewed the company's major accident prevention plan (MAPP), its substance inventories and its training arrangements. He also prepared an expert witness report dealing with both safety and environmental issues.

Magna Specialist Confectioners: With Professor Booth, Dr Boyle prepared an expert witness report dealing with machinery design and risk assessment matters.

Kennedys Law acting for the facilities management company H2O. Prosecution under section 2 of the Health and Safety etc. Work Act 1974. An H2O employee fell from a roof while clearing up following construction work and was fatally injured.

Kingsley Napley LLP acting for JC Bamford Excavators Ltd (JCB). A JCB contractor inspecting items that had been unloaded from a lorry was struck by an overturning trailer and its contents. He sustained serious multiple injuries. Dr Boyle was asked to give his opinion on the adequacy of the relevant risk assessments.

EXAMPLES OF CIVIL CASES FOR THE CLAIMANT

Christian Khan: Acting for families of the deceased in Potters Bar derailment. Prepared an expert witness report on the Safety Management System aspects of the Potters Bar and Grayrigg derailments. Subsequently gave evidence on the penultimate day of the Inquest and a transcript is in the public domain.

For further reading on the work done by Dr Tony Boyle relating to the Potters Bar Rail Crash please take a look at our website by visiting: <http://www.hastam.co.uk/hastam-services/expert-witness/potters-bar-rail-crash/>

Newcastle NHS Foundation Trust refused to accept a newly built office building because of concerns about ventilation. Dr Boyle was asked to write a report regarding this problem and during this work he identified other safety issues with the building (2014).

Real Law Solicitors acting for the widow of a man who received fatal injuries when he was hit by a train. The widow was claiming damages from Network Rail on the grounds that the fencing preventing people from getting onto the railway lines was inadequate.