

Jeff Charlton of Building Forensics Named 2026 Mould & Water Damage Expert Witness of the Year

The Lawyer Network recognises Building Forensics founder Jeff Charlton for specialist expert-witness work in mould and water-damage disputes.

BECKENHAM, KENT, UNITED KINGDOM, August 18, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- [Jeff Charlton](#), founder of [Building Forensics](#), has been named Mould & Water Damage Expert Witness of the Year — England in [The Lawyer Network 2026 Annual Awards](#).

The award recognises Charlton's specialist work investigating mould contamination, water damage, failed remediation and building-related environmental conditions in cases requiring independent technical evidence.

Mould and water-damage disputes can involve substantially more than visible staining or a single moisture reading. Relevant evidence may include the history and extent of water intrusion, concealed moisture, microbial contamination, damaged building materials, occupant vulnerability, sampling limitations, remediation procedures and whether a property has been properly assessed following remedial work.

Charlton's expert-witness approach brings these factors together to help courts, solicitors, insurers, landlords and property owners understand the technical evidence and distinguish underlying causes from visible consequences.

"Mould and water-damage disputes require evidence that connects the original event, the building conditions, the contamination pathway and the adequacy of the response," said Jeff Charlton. "An expert's responsibility is to explain that evidence independently, identify its limitations and assist the court rather than advocate for either party."

More Than Three Decades of Investigation

Charlton has more than three decades of experience in water damage, contamination



Jeff Charlton of Building Forensics receives The Lawyer Network's 2026 Mould & Water Damage Expert Witness of the Year award for England.



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*Jeff Charlton, Founder,
Building Forensics*

investigation, disaster recovery and building-related environmental risk.

His professional background includes early work in medical physics and nuclear medicine, international disaster-recovery assignments and involvement in the development of professional standards and training for the damage-management and mould-remediation industries.

In 2001, Charlton launched the British Damage Management Association at the Old Library at Lloyd’s of London. Its founding mission was to increase professional competence and reduce unnecessary claim costs within

the damage-management industry.

He has subsequently worked on residential, commercial, healthcare, insurance and legal cases involving water intrusion, mould, microbial contamination, restoration failures and concerns about the relationship between buildings and occupant health.

Evidence Beyond Visible Mould

Building Forensics provides independent environmental investigation and expert opinion in cases involving:

- Escape-of-water incidents and flood damage.
- Visible and concealed mould contamination.
- Disputed causes and duration of water damage.
- Incomplete or unsuccessful drying and remediation.
- Sewage and bacterial contamination.
- Post-remediation verification and clearance.
- Continuing odours or occupant concerns following remedial work.
- Interpretation of environmental sampling and laboratory results.
- Assessment of contractor procedures, documentation and competence.
- Building-related environmental and health-risk questions.

Depending on the circumstances, investigations may include document review, moisture assessment, environmental measurements, sampling and laboratory analysis.

Environmental test results are not treated as stand-alone proof of medical causation. Findings are assessed alongside the property history, observed conditions, potential exposure pathways, occupant vulnerability and the recognised limitations of each sampling method.

Supporting Courts and Legal Teams

An expert witness provides independent opinion within their area of competence to assist the court on technical matters. The expert’s overriding duty is to the court, irrespective of which party provides the instructions.

Charlton's work through Building Forensics is intended to provide clear, proportionate and technically supported evidence where mould, water damage, contamination or remediation quality is contested.

The 2026 trophy identifies the award as:

"Mould & Water Damage Expert Witness of the Year — Jeff Charlton — Building Forensics — England."

Further information about Jeff Charlton and Building Forensics:

<https://buildingforensics.co.uk/about/>

Information about The Lawyer Network Annual Awards:

<https://www.thelawyer-network.com/awards.aspx>

Jeff Charlton

Building Forensics

+447990500999 ext.

jeff@buildingforensics.co.uk

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