



GARDEN COURT CHAMBERS

Hannah Wyatt

YEAR OF CALL: 2008



Hannah Wyatt specialises in complex care proceedings including issues of non-accidental injuries, sexual, physical and emotional abuse and severe neglect.

Hannah also undertakes public inquiry work, acting as counsel for the inquiry or advising core participants.

Hannah Wyatt specialises in family law and public inquiries. Her family practice is predominantly within public law proceedings acting for children by their Guardians, for parents and other family members and in private law matters.

If you would like to get in touch with Hannah please contact the clerking team:

familyclerksmailbox@gclaw.co.uk | +44 (0)20 7993 7600

FAMILY LAW

Hannah's family practice is predominantly within public law proceedings acting for children by their Guardians, for parents and other family members. She has a wealth of experience dealing with contested cases involving a broad range of issues including the causation of non-accidental injuries, sexual, physical and emotional abuse, severe neglect, alleged spiritual possession and radicalisation. Her background in criminal law has provided her an excellent foundation for cross examining witnesses.

She is mindful of the great number of vulnerable people that find themselves in care proceedings and is adept at working with parents with learning difficulties, intermediaries and cross examining vulnerable witnesses.

Hannah also represents parents in private law disputes regarding domestic violence, parental alienation and child arrangements. She is known for her dedicated and robust approach whilst having a friendly and personable disposition. She prides herself on having an eye for detail and is very thorough in her preparation. She is qualified to accept public access instructions.

NOTABLE CASES

RB of Kensington & Chelsea v G [2017] - Represented a Guardian in a fact finding and final hearing. The main issue related to sexual abuse of the children. The case successfully concluded with the children being placed with their father.

RB of Greenwich v O [2017] - Represented a Guardian in a fact finding and final hearing. It involved an abundance of police and medical evidence relating to the non-accidental injuries of a 2 year old boy. The case concluded successfully with a Special Guardianship Order and removal of the child to a foreign jurisdiction.

LB of Waltham Forest v M [2015] - High Court care proceedings - Represented a father whose partner had allegedly abducted their children and tried to take them to Syria to join ISIS.

H v H [2015] - Represented a father at a fact finding hearing in private law proceedings. The mother alleged numerous acts of domestic violence. No findings of fact were made and a Child arrangements Order was agreed.

Hertfordshire CC v B [2014] - Represented a mother with severe learning difficulties, requiring an intermediary, in care proceedings. Her previous child had been subject to a Placement Order in 2013. Successfully contested an ICO; the child, having been removed at birth, was returned to the mother's care in a mother and baby foster placement.

LB of Croydon v M [2013] - High Court care proceedings; represented a father who had been convicted of manslaughter of his ex-partner, the mother of his child.

PUBLIC INQUIRIES

Hannah is currently instructed as Second Junior Counsel to the Undercover Policing Inquiry. She undertakes work as counsel to the Inquiry and advising Core Participants.

CRIMINAL DEFENCE

R v D & Ors [2016] (Southwark Crown Court) - Defended the ring leader of a cut throat £5 million HMRC gift aid fraud lasting 8 weeks. Initially a Led Junior, but due to unforeseen circumstances, in week 3 she took over leading the case. This included legal argument, cross examination of co-defendants, including the defendant's son and daughter and making the closing speech.

R v B & Ors [2016] (Southwark Crown Court) - Defended in a 9 handed conspiracy to traffic foreign nationals into the country for prostitution trial, as a Led Junior. No evidence offered in week 3 due to successful defence argument.

R v N & Ors [2015] (Bristol Crown Court) - Defended a Senior member of a 10 handed conspiracy to produce crystal methamphetamine, amphetamine and MDMA during a 13 week trial as a Led Junior. An unusual case due to the lack of knowledge about crystal methamphetamine in the UK and involving over 500 hours of covert audio recordings.

PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

In regulatory proceedings, Hannah has appeared before panels at the Health and Care Professionals Council and the Nursing and Midwifery Council. She has experience representing paramedics and nurses in cases involving misconduct and lack of competence.

NOTABLE CASES

NMC v W [2017]

Hannah represented a nurse accused of having a relationship with his vulnerable patient. She was able to persuade the Nursing and Midwifery Council panel to stay the proceedings as an abuse of process due to an inherently flawed identification procedure and investigation as a whole.

BACKGROUND

Before joining Garden Court Chambers, Hannah had a mixed practice, predominantly in criminal and family law. She gained much experience as a trial advocate in the Crown Courts both in her own cases and as a Led Junior. This has given her a great advantage when dealing with fact finding hearings and cases with linked criminal proceedings.

She also has experience as a civil advocate in a wide range of cases including small claims trials, road traffic accidents and personal injury cases.

Hannah worked as an intern for the Texas defender service through the charity Amicus, which is a non profit organisation working for death row inmates on post conviction cases. She assisted in investigating cases, legal research and habeas corpus applications, including one regarding the violation of a mentally impaired Mexican National's Vienna Convention right to contact his consulate following his arrest.

She also spent 4 months on an expedition in Namibia for Raleigh International. Amongst many projects, she assisted in building a school in the Northern region of Purros.

Hannah completed the 2012 London marathon and has a keen interest in running and cycling. She is also an avid pilot having trained with the RAF whilst at university.

AWARDS

Middle Temple Major Scholarship - Diplock Scholarship

EDUCATION

BVC: Nottingham Law School

Law LLB Honours, Lancaster University

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

Family Law Bar Association

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57-60 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, WC2A 3LJ

Email: info@gclaw.co.uk

Tel: +44 (0)20 7993 7600

DX: 34 Chancery Lane