



GARDEN COURT CHAMBERS

Isaac Ricca-Richardson

YEAR OF CALL: 2020



Isaac practices in judicial review, immigration & asylum, human rights & civil liberties, education, and community care.

He is equally comfortable in first-instance tribunals fighting for individual clients and acting in complex interdisciplinary matters in the senior courts. He has already appeared in the Court of Appeal on multiple occasions and was instructed on the Rwanda litigation in the Supreme Court.

Isaac is also aware of the demands placed on solicitors through several years of experience as a paralegal. As a result, he is adept at helping his instructing solicitors in whatever way they need to ensure their cases run smoothly.

This applies to legal aid clients and to private clients, where Isaac has substantial experience of complex High Net Worth asylum claims and of providing advice on immigration status and nationality.

"Isaac is an excellent barrister with talent and capability well beyond his call. His advice is consistently clear and comprehensive, with a sharp focus on the needs of vulnerable clients. He is calm under pressure, strategic and assured in his approach and highly responsive to fast-moving developments in the case."

LEGAL 500, 2024 (COURT OF PROTECTION & COMMUNITY CARE)

"He is dedicated, detail-oriented and proactive. He has a particular attention to detail which means he identifies any potential issues at the outset and provides sound advice on how to move the case forward."

LEGAL 500, 2024 (IMMIGRATION)

"Isaac was exceptionally focused in his approach to an asylum appeal for a vulnerable client with cognitive difficulties. His dedication to getting the best outcome was evident even when he received instructions at short notice. His communication was excellent and I highly recommend instructing him."

SOLICITOR CLIENT

"He is a very dangerous barrister. I always knew he was on my side."

LAY CLIENT

"Isaac went above and beyond the brief, producing an exceptionally detailed and well-argued skeleton argument at short notice. It was a genuinely impressive and creative piece of work."

SOLICITOR CLIENT

"Thank you so much for being part of our journey, and I hope you know how much your expertise and passion has been valued. The relief that I and the whole family feel now has been immediate and so welcomed, it has been such a long time coming and we are embracing it!"

LAY CLIENT

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

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

You can also contact Isaac directly:

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ASYLUM & IMMIGRATION

Isaac has a strong background in immigration law, with a number of successes in asylum, deportation, and human rights appeals, and public law challenges to fresh claim decisions and urgent removals. He has particular experience in deportation, including where there is an EU law element.

Whoever his client is, Isaac is always keen to work with his instructing solicitor from the earliest stages of a case to help with evidence preparation and negotiation with the Home Office. He is adept at building relationships and trust with vulnerable clients who have suffered torture or trafficking, and also has experience of contentious political asylum claims, including for High Net Worth clients.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND PUBLIC LAW

Isaac's public law work is at the heart of his multi-disciplinary practice, where he is able to cut through the factual and legal complexity to get at the core issue and offer clear strategic guidance in complex cases. Isaac regularly accepts judicial review instructions in the areas of immigration law, unlawful detention, and community care.

His notable cases include the Rwanda litigation, *CR v The Lord Chancellor in the High Court and Court of Appeal* ([2023] EWCA Civ 717), and *F v Surrey County Council* [2023] EWHC 980 (Admin). He has also been instructed in successful challenges in the Special Immigration Appeals Commission (SIAC).

COMMUNITY CARE LAW

Isaac is regularly instructed in challenges to age assessments on behalf of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children and in matters involving the entitlement of children and adults to support under the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999, Children Act 1989 and Care Act 2014.

CIVIL LIBERTIES AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Isaac has successfully represented a number of clients in civil actions against the police and prisons, including several cases involving unlawful strip searches. He also accepts instructions in inquests and parole board hearings. Isaac is well aware of the sensitivity and gravity of these matters for professional and lay clients.

EDUCATION LAW

Isaac is regularly instructed in SEND Tribunal appeals in relation to Education, Health and Care Plans, and has experience in running disability discrimination claims in the First-tier Tribunal.

NOTABLE CASES

Recent notable instructions include the judicial review against the government's Rwanda removals scheme, a successful challenge to the Home Office's policy in respect of visas for the family members of Afghans hired by the British army, and an ongoing challenge to the legal aid means regulations.

BACKGROUND

Isaac has two years' experience as a paralegal in an immigration firm, has volunteered for a number of non-profit organisations, including Bail for Immigration Detainees and the Public Law Project, and spent several months working in Dunkirk refugee camp and on death row in the United States.

Isaac obtained a first-class honours degree at University College London, where he won the Sweet & Maxwell Prize for achieving the highest overall performance in the final year of his studies, and achieved the highest grade at BPTC level. He was awarded a full scholarship to fund the BPTC. □

PUBLICATIONS

[The gap between the legal aid means regulations and financial reality - research briefing](#) - Public Law Project

[Detained Migrants Are Workers. They Belong in the Trade Union Movement](#) - Novara Media

[Solidarity in action - and it works](#) - The Justice Gap

[Prison profits over healthcare](#) - Red Pepper

[The Freedom Lottery](#) - Bail for Immigration Detainees

Case notes

R (Tag Eldin Ramadan Bashir & Ors) v Secretary of State for the Home Department & Anor [2018] UKSC 45

- UK Supreme Court Blog

EDUCATION

University College London - Bachelor of Laws (LLB)

BPP Law School - BPTC (Full Scholarship)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

Administrative Law Bar Association

Legal Sector Workers United (Executive Committee)

Haldane Society of Lawyers

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