



GARDEN COURT CHAMBERS

# Rajeev Thacker

YEAR OF CALL: 1993



Rajeev has a wide-ranging practice, dealing in areas as diverse as immigration detention and criminal due process. His focus is on public law, claims against public authorities, claimant-oriented work in the discrimination field and inquests, in particular, state failings involving victims of domestic abuse.

Rajeev is ranked in Band 1 in Chambers UK for Police Law (Claimant) and is also ranked in the Legal 500 for Police Law (Claimant) and Inquests and Inquiries.

"He combines charm with incisive legal skills - respected by the court and opponents as much as by my clients."

LEGAL 500, 2024 (POLICE LAW)

"Rajeev is capable and has a good instinct in litigation. His manner is very polite and charming, but also effective."

"He is very good with clients. He is very insightful and is always all over complex legal issues."

CHAMBERS UK, 2023

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"He is a barrister with a really encyclopaedic knowledge not only of police law but civil procedure."

LEGAL 500, 2022 (INQUESTS AND INQUIRIES)

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"Rajeev has excellent drafting skills and produces great quality work. I cannot rate him highly enough, he is one of my favourite people to work with on a case."

LEGAL 500, 2022 (CIVIL LIBERTIES AND HUMAN RIGHTS)

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"An excellent advocate who has a good insight into complex legal issues arising during the course of a hearing."

CHAMBERS UK 2021 (POLICE LAW, BAND 1)

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

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You can also contact Rajeev directly:

+44 (0)20 7993 7861

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## INQUESTS AND INQUIRIES

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Rajeev has acted on behalf of families in a number of cases. He has particular expertise in deaths involving victims of domestic abuse.

## NOTABLE CASES

### **Inquest into the Death of Joseph Phuong, Royal Courts of Justice, October 2017**

Death of a mentally ill young man in a mental health hospital

### **Inquest into the Death of Darren Neville, St Pancras Coroner's Court, June 2015**

Death of man suffering from acute behavioural disorder who was restrained by police

### **Inquest into the Death of Maria Stubbings, Essex Coroner's Court, (September-October 2014)**

Police failure to investigate numerous allegations of domestic abuse.

## **CLAIMS AGAINST THE POLICE AND PUBLIC AUTHORITIES**

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Rajeev specialises in claims against the state, with particular expertise in equality law.

### **NOTABLE CASES**

#### ***Sylvester v Commissioner of Police for the Metropolis*, Central London County Court (March 2015)**

Successful claim for damages arising out of police use of a taser.

#### ***Michael and Others v Chief Constable of the South Wales Police and Another* [2015] UKSC 2, [2015] 1 AC 17322 WLR 343**

Liability of the police in negligence and under the Human Rights Act.

## **PRO BONO WORK**

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Rajeev has a strong commitment to the pro bono movement and has carried out such work throughout his career. He is aware of the difficulties that are faced by claimants in obtaining funding for cases and is willing to consider conditional fee arrangements in appropriate cases.

## **BACKGROUND**

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Rajeev is a Recorder of the Crown Court and the county court. He was a part-time employment judge from 2005 to 2010. He was previously a visiting lecturer in criminal law and public law at the University of Westminster.

Rajeev joined Garden Court in 2001, having previously been a tenant at a multi-disciplinary set at 4 Brick Court. He was chair of the board of Trustees of Bail for Immigration Detainees (BID) from 2007 to 2015.

## PUBLICATIONS

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Rajeev is a contributor to the LAG book on ASBOs (2006), the LAG book on Mediation (2012) and *McDonald on Immigration Law and Practice* (2014).

## TRAINING AND SEMINARS

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Rajeev regularly carries out training work for external organisations and contributes to the internal training courses run by Chambers.

## EDUCATION

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LLB (Wales)

## LANGUAGES

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French (conversational)

Spanish (conversational)

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