

HANNAH NIELSEN

Year of call
2022



Hannah Nielsen has a busy multi-disciplinary practice. She welcomes instructions in Chambers' core areas of expertise: family, civil and crime.

Hannah's family practice is broad, covering private and public law. She appears in the Family Courts and the High Court. Her experience has grown rapidly and includes private children, care, abduction, wardship, forced marriage, Court of Protection and financial disputes. Hannah routinely acts as the sole advocate at fact findings and final hearings in cases involving serious allegations of harm. She has experience representing vulnerable clients. Hannah has acted in complex matters involving habitual residence, jurisdiction and Fabricated or Induced Illness (FII).

Hannah acts in a wide range of civil matters for claimants and defendants. Her practice is varied and covers personal injury, clinical negligence, general negligence, employment law and commercial disputes. She is regularly instructed on fast track trials and has appeared in interlocutory hearings on the multi-track. Hannah has a growing advisory and paper practice, with particular emphasis on drafting pleadings and advising on prospects, quantum and litigation strategy.

In her criminal practice, Hannah regularly appears in the Crown Courts and Magistrates' Courts. Hannah prosecutes and defends. Her experience spans trials, sentencing hearings and procedural matters covering a wide range of offences. Hannah is a Grade 2 CPS Prosecutor. Hannah also accepts instructions for private prosecutions, with particular experience doing so in fraud and trademarking cases, in which she has secured costs orders from central funds.

Examples of Hannah's recent work are set out below.

LEGAL EXPERTISE

Family Law

Selected Cases

S v F

Represented the respondent mother in a High Court wardship and abduction matter, in which the applicant father sought the return of the child from Ukraine. Submissions were made on habitual residence and jurisdiction, which were in dispute.

M v N

Acted in complex private children proceedings involving historic Fabricated or Induced Illness (FII) and a conviction of child cruelty.

A Local Authority v T and Others

Represented the Children's Guardian in final care proceedings concerning alleged child neglect by parents struggling with alcohol/substance dependence and severe mental health difficulties.

B v B & B

Appeared as junior counsel to Anita Guha KC in a wardship case in the High Court representing a mother who sought the return of the child to her care in Pakistan.

A Local Authority v I and Others

Represented a Local Authority in public family and Court of Protection proceedings in a case of alleged forced marriage, in which the protected person had severe learning disabilities and mental health difficulties.

Civil

Selected Cases

S v A Local Authority

Defended in a negligence and nuisance claim concerning alleged public liability for a fallen tree on the highway.

S v N

Advised a Claimant on the prospects of a proposed personal injury claim. Particular focus was given to causation and remoteness with regard to loss of earnings.

H v A Local Authority & C

Acted in a commercial dispute brought by a Claimant against a Local Authority and another party. The claim itself raised concerns of vexatious litigation and resulted in the court granting a civil restraint order.

P v A Government Department & S

Acted in a claim concerning negligence and the Torts (Interference with Goods) Act 1977.

Y v R & I

Acted in a fast track wasted costs matter involving cross-examination and submissions on disputed facts and fundamental dishonesty.

Crime

Selected Cases

R v M & H

Appeared as junior prosecution counsel to Gordon Aspden KC in a two-handed murder sentencing, involving defendants with neurodevelopment disorders (autism and ADHD).

R v L

Acted as trial counsel in a matter where the Defendant had been charged with coercive control, intentional strangulation, harassment and stalking.

R v B & C

Appeared in the sentencing hearing of a two-handed drug conspiracy and possession of criminal property case, in which one defendant had cuckooed the other.

R v R

Acted in a trial in which the Defendant was charged with driving while unfit through drink or drugs and possession of Class B drugs.

R v D

Appeared in the sentencing hearing of a fraud, criminal property and failure to preserve accounting records matter, involving the government-backed Bounce Back Loan Scheme.

Previous Experience

Hannah graduated with First Class Honours in BA English and Philosophy from the University of Leeds. She went on to achieve a Distinction on the GDL at City Law School. Hannah was awarded full scholarships for the GDL and Bar Practice Course by the Honourable Society of the Inner Temple.

Prior to becoming a tenant at 7BR, Hannah worked as a Caseworker for non-profit organisation Women and Girls Network where she advocated for victims of gender-based violence to secure safe housing, assessments and legal protections. She has also worked as a Trainee Paralegal in personal injury at Lyons Davidson LLP and on renewable energy projects at Downing LLP.

While studying and working, Hannah advocated as a Trade Union Representative for the Cleaners and Allied Independent Workers Union and taught debate classes to inmates at HMP Pentonville with Vocalise.

Memberships

- Family Law Bar Association
- Personal Injuries Bar Association
- The Honourable Society of the Inner Temple

Education

- Bar Course (Very Competent) – The Inns of Court College of Advocacy
- Graduate Diploma in Law (Distinction) – City Law School
- BA English and Philosophy (First Class Honours) – University of Leeds

Scholarships & Awards

- GDL & Bar Course Exhibition Award Scholarships, Inner Temple
- Jardine Scholarship, Inner Temple
- Duke of Edinburgh Entrance Award, Inner Temple
- GDL Moot Winner (Joint), City Law School
- Bar Moot Finalist, Inns of Court College of Advocacy

- Commercial Bar Association Scholar
- PASS Scholar, Inner Temple
- Students as Scholars, University of Leeds