

MASS NDOW-NJIE

Year of call

2019 (England & Wales); 2024 (The Gambia)



Mass Ndow-Njie is a multi-award-winning barrister specialising in clinical negligence law, inquests & inquiries, sports law, personal injury law and international matters. He is ranked in the 2025 editions of both of the leading legal directories – as a ‘Rising Star’ by Legal 500 and as ‘Up and Coming’ by Chambers and Partners.

He joined 7BR Chambers in September 2021 and has gone on to build a busy practice which has led to Chambers & Partners describing him as having *“built a reputation as a leading barrister across a number of practice areas”*.

Mass’ reputation as a leading barrister has been recognised by numerous prominent publications and legal awards. In July 2020, Mass became the first ever Pupil Barrister to be recognised as ‘Barrister of the Week’ by leading legal publication, The Lawyer. In January 2021, he was recognised as Advocate’s ‘Pro-bono Hero of the Month’ and later that year, in November 2021, Mass was presented with two awards in quick succession after he was declared as the winner of the Middle Temple Young Barristers Association (MTYBA) Rule of Law Essay Competition and was commended at the 2021 Chambers and Partners Awards Ceremony. In January 2022, Mass was named as one of the UK’s top 100 lawyers by prominent legal publication, The Lawyer, in their annual Hot 100 feature. In November 2022, he was declared as the winner of a Future Leader Award at the 2022 Chambers and Partners Awards Ceremony.

Mass is a confident orator and has delivered keynote speeches within various academic, corporate and legal spaces. He has spoken to audiences in the UK Supreme Court, the Inns of Court, various universities and other private organisations.

Mass is committed to enhancing the equality of access into the legal profession. Most notably, he is the founder and chairperson of [Bridging the Bar](#), a multi-award-winning charity which aims to support aspiring barristers from statistically underrepresented groups.

LEGAL EXPERTISE

Clinical Negligence

Mass is regularly instructed on matters beyond his level of call to advise on all aspects of claims in this area, including liability, merits, causation and quantum. He is often praised for his ability to draft precise and persuasive pleadings, in addition to his ability to offer sharp strategic litigation advice.

Mass has a proven track record of success at trial and has experience of the full life cycle of a clinical negligence claim. Mass therefore welcomes instructions in all stages of new and existing clinical negligence claims – although his clients have found it particularly advantageous to secure Mass' involvement at the earliest stages of a claim.

Mass has acted for families in inquests where issues relating to clinical negligence have arisen and he is often also instructed by his clients to represent them in high value related civil claims. Accordingly, Mass is a confident orator and skilled advocate, regularly cross-examining leading medical experts, and has represented the estate of deceased persons in claims brought under the Fatal Accidents Act 1846 and the Law Reform (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1934.

Mass's recent clinical negligence instructions include matters concerning the alleged:

- negligent surgery causing tetraplegia.
- negligent care or treatment causing a hypoxic brain injury.
- negligent care provided by care homes and nursing homes.
- negligent obstetrics or gynaecology care.
- misdiagnoses or delayed diagnoses in a range of different contexts, including cancer.
- negligent dental treatment.
- negligent application of laser eye treatment.
- negligent treatment causing blindness.
- the mismanagement of strokes.
- the mismanagement of peripheral vascular disease.
- the mismanagement of complex otological conditions including cholesteatoma.
- the mismanagement of complex gastroenterological conditions.
- the mismanagement of complex neurological symptoms.

Inquests & Inquiries

Mass is ranked for his work on Inquests and Inquiries in the 2025 editions of both of the leading legal directories – as a 'Rising Star' by Legal 500 and as 'Up and Coming' by Chambers and Partners.

Mass is regularly instructed to act in lengthy inquests on behalf of families. He has appeared in the Coroners' courts in numerous Article 2 inquests and jury inquests. He has a successful track record of persuading coroners to make Prevention of Future Death reports in appropriate cases and he has experience in successfully arguing that death was contributed to by neglect.

Mass has acted in inquests exploring a wide range of complex and sensitive issues, and he is frequently also instructed by his clients to represent them in high value related civil claims.

Mass has acted in inquests where the nature of the deceased person's death prompted an investigation into the possible role of clinical negligence; the improper conduct of law enforcement resulting in death; and the negligence of care providers resulting in the death of patients detained under the Mental Health Act. Consequently, Mass is a confident orator and skilled advocate, having regularly questioned leading experts across a range of disciplines in complex inquests. The quality of his advocacy is particularly commended in both legal directories with it being recognised that Mass is *"well prepared at court"*, having a *"keen attention to detail"* while remaining *"personable and sensitive"*.

Mass has a proven track record of working well within teams, and in June 2022, Mass was appointed as junior counsel to the UK Covid-19 Inquiry by Baroness Hallett, Chair of the Inquiry. Mass commenced work on the Inquiry's first module, 'Resilience and Preparedness', which examined how prepared the UK was to respond to the pandemic. Mass remains instructed to conduct further work on the Inquiry's tenth and final module, 'Impact on Society', which will examine the impact of the pandemic on the population of the United Kingdom.

Selected Cases

UK Covid-19 Inquiry (2022 - ongoing)

In June 2022, Mass was appointed as junior counsel to the UK Covid-19 Inquiry by Baroness Hallett, Chair of the Inquiry. Mass commenced work on the Inquiry's very first module titled 'Resilience and Preparedness'. This Module has heard evidence focussed on how prepared the UK was to respond to a pandemic. For his work on this module, Mass was led by Hugo Keith KC (Lead Counsel to the Inquiry) and Kate Blackwell KC. Mass remains instructed to conduct further work on the Inquiry's tenth and final module, 'Impact on Society', which will examine the impact of the pandemic on the population of the United Kingdom. For this module, Mass is being led by Kate Blackwell KC and Shaheen Rahman KC.

Inquest into the death of Nick Köster (2024)

Mass was instructed in this two-day inquest to represent the family of Nick Köster, a former Premiership Rugby Union player who took his own life while on leave from a mental health hospital where he had been voluntarily admitted. The Coroner reached a narrative conclusion which stated that he *"died due to a deliberate act, but his intent was unknown, and his thoughts may have been impaired by his underlying condition"*.

Inquest into the death of Arlo Lambert (2024)

Mass was instructed in this multi-day inquest to represent the family of Arlo Lambert who sadly died after just five days of life. The Coroner reached a narrative conclusion which stated that *"Arlo died from a brain injury which was contributed to by mismanagement of labour and multiple missed opportunities to have expedited his delivery."* The Coroner also stated that the multiple missed opportunities *"would probably have prevented his death"* and concluded that the death was contributed to by Neglect. The Coroner also indicated that she

would be making a prevention of future deaths report.

Inquest into the death of SD (2023)

Mass was instructed in this inquest to represent the family of a 26-year-old vulnerable individual who had been diagnosed with Schizophrenia. The post-mortem report indicated that the deceased suffered multiple organ failure due to severe necrotising pancreatitis and that the pancreatitis was in turn caused by severe hypertriglyceridemia. The Coroner concluded that an emergency department doctor failed to flag an extremely high triglyceride level as being abnormal and incorrectly wrote to the deceased's GP stating that 'bloods stable'. The Coroner concluded that *"the way this information was shared did on the balance of probabilities partly cause"* the deceased's death.

Inquest into the death of AD (2023)

Mass was instructed in this inquest to represent the family of a man who was died after a venous needle dislodged from his dialysis machine and caused him to lose a significant amount of blood. The dialysis machine alarm parameters were incorrectly set and so these failed to alert nursing staff to the dislodged venous needle. In this regard, the Coroner's conclusion noted *"The parameters to trigger the alarm had been set much lower than usual practise or policy on the unit"*.

Inquest into the death of Jack Farrington (2023)

Mass was instructed in this two-week jury inquest to represent the family of a man who was sectioned under s.2 of the Mental Health Act 1983 but nonetheless managed to abscond from hospital before jumping from a bridge and ending his life. The deceased had previously been assessed to have represented a suicide risk and a risk of absconding. Furthermore, he had previously successfully absconded on two separate occasions in the days leading up to his unfortunate death. The Jury returned a narrative conclusion which stated *"[...] failures in information recording and sharing, and failures to provide appropriate staff to mitigate an accepted risk of absconding and self-harm contributed to his death."*

Following the inquest, Mass assisted with a civil claim relating to this matter which has since resulted in an out of court settlement being reached.

Inquest into the death of Leo Gradwell (2023)

Mass was instructed in this multi-day jury Inquest which investigated the death of a 14-year-old boy who died following a road traffic accident. The road traffic accident occurred shortly after the police commenced a pursuit of the vehicle that the deceased was travelling in. The Inquest explored questions around (a) the appropriateness of the police pursuit; (b) the adequacy of police communications in the build-up to the pursuit; and (c) the appropriateness of medical intervention following the collision. The inquest was the subject of significant press attention and was covered in national and regional press outlets.

Inquest into the death of Donald Miller (2022)

Mass was instructed in this multi-day inquest to represent the family of a man who died in a nursing home

after he mistakenly pulled out his tracheostomy tube and staff were unable to re-insert it. The Coroner returned a narrative conclusion which noted that the deceased was discharged from hospital to a nursing home without the requirement for *"one-to-one care [being] included in updated communications between agencies"* and without *"funding for it [being] in place"*.

Following the inquest, an out of court settlement was reached in relation to a civil claim arising from the deceased's unfortunate death.

Inquest into the death of P (2022)

Mass was instructed in this inquest to represent the family of a lady with depressive order and psychotic symptoms who committed suicide during a period of overnight leave from hospital. The Coroner concluded that relevant risk assessments were compromised because there was a failure to consider that the deceased was *"at an elevated risk of suicide"* and her family were not informed of there being any risk of suicide.

Inquest into the death of Balford Glaister Foster (2022)

Mass was instructed in an inquest to represent the family of a man who died in hospital after being diagnosed as having sepsis and appendicitis. The coroner returned a narrative conclusion which included a comment that the deceased died *"in part due to the late diagnosis"*.

Following the inquest, an out of court settlement was reached in relation to a civil claim arising from the deceased's unfortunate death.

Inquest into the death of Stephen Verrall (2021)

Mass was instructed in this multi-day jury inquest to represent the family of a man who died after falling from the window of a nursing home. The jury returned a lengthy narrative conclusion which recognised that the deceased's death was avoidable. The narrative included (amongst other things) the statement that *"there was a failure to meet health and safety guidelines which the home had a responsibility to be aware of."*

Furthermore, the coroner issued a regulation 28 prevention of future deaths report. The inquest was covered by various press outlets.

An out of court settlement was reached in relation to a civil claim arising from the deceased's unfortunate death.

Sports Law

Mass welcomes instructions in cases arising in a wide range of sporting contexts and he accepts direct-access instructions in suitable sports cases. He acts for sports clients performing at all levels of their respective sports and his clients include Premier League football players and their intermediaries. He welcomes instructions from players/athletes, managers, intermediaries, clubs and sporting bodies on a wide range of matters arising in a sporting or commercial context.

During his pupillage, Mass was exposed to various sporting cases where his supervisors were representing

clients which included Premier League football clubs and a Formula One racing team. Following his pupillage and as sole counsel, Mass has since been instructed in multiple sports cases and has appeared on several occasions before Football Association ('FA') panels, including the FA Serious Case Panel and the FA Appeal Board.

Mass's written work in this field has also been published by widely acclaimed sports law publications such as [Law in Sport](#) and [Football Law](#). He is an FA qualified football coach, and prior to joining the Bar, he worked as a football coach for a Premier League Football Club. He is a keen sportsman himself, and as such, he is familiar with the rules of various other sports.

Selected Cases

[Advising on a Premier League Transfer \(2025\)](#)

Mass was instructed to advise Joachim Kayi Sanda's team on his recent transfer from Valenciennes F.C, a French based football club, to Southampton F.C, a football club playing in the English Premier League. The transfer was widely reported in the press.

[Representing a professional football coach who had been charged with offences against a match official \(2024\)](#)

Mass was instructed on this case to represent a professional football coach. At the point that he was instructed, the coach had already been found guilty of Assault against a match official by an FA Serious Case Panel. Consequently, the coach had been banned from all footballing activities for a period of 6 years and 182 days. On behalf of the coach, Mass lodged a written appeal to the FA Appeal Board which successfully argued that the coach had not been given a fair trial and that there should be a re-hearing before a fresh commission. Mass continued representing the coach in the re-hearing and successfully argued that the coach was not guilty of assault, but instead only of the lesser offence of 'Improper conduct against a match official' (to which he pleaded guilty). As a result, the coach's footballing ban was immediately reduced from 6 years and 182 days to just 126 days.

[Advising on a Premier League Transfer \(2023\)](#)

Mass was instructed to advise Carlos Baleba's team on his recent transfer from Lille Olympique Sporting Club, a top-flight French based football club, to Brighton and Hove Albion F.C, a football club playing in the English Premier League. The transfer was widely reported in the national and international press.

[Advising a football player on liability arising from a dangerous tackle \(2023\)](#)

Mass was asked to advise on the merits of bringing a civil claim after a dangerous football tackle caused the potential Claimant to suffer serious injuries (resulting in an admission to intensive care).

[Advising spectators on liability arising after away fans infiltrated the area designated for home](#)

fans (2023)

Mass was asked to advise multiple football fans who visited the stadium of a Premier League Club but were injured after opposition fans infiltrated the area designated for home fans and started a fight.

Representing a football player charged with Assault on a Match Official (2022)

Mass was instructed to represent a football player charged with Assault against a match official. The matter was heard by the FA Serious Case Panel at first instance who found the player guilty of assault and (amongst other things) banned the player from all footballing activities for a period of 5 years. Mass represented the player on an appeal to the FA Appeal Board which overturned the decision. Mass successfully argued that the player was instead guilty of a lesser offence of 'Improper conduct against a match official' (to which he pleaded guilty). As a result, the player's footballing ban was reduced from five years to just one year.

Representing a football club charged with playing an ineligible player (2022)

Mass represented a football club charged with playing an ineligible player in four different matches. Mass successfully argued that any charges relating to the first two games were time-barred and that mitigating circumstances relating to the third and fourth matches meant that any punishment should be minimal.

Representing a football player charged with multiple counts of improper conduct (2021)

Mass was instructed to represent a football player charged with (1) improper conduct aggravated by reference to a person's colour and race; (2) improper conduct including foul and abusive language; (3) improper conduct including threatening behaviour. Following Mass's early intervention in the matter the case was closed against his client without the need for a hearing.

Personal Injury

Mass has a broad range of experience acting in personal injury cases for both Claimants and Defendants. He has appeared in the County Court and the High Court in fast-track and multi-track cases. His work in this area covers a wide range of matters, including sports claims, product liability claims, workplace accidents, occupiers' liability claims and Highways Act claims. He also has a keen interest in group action claims, cross-border claims and claims in international jurisdictions.

Mass is a regular contributor to key legal publications in this area of law. He is a contributing editor for the highly-regarded book, 'APIL Personal Injury Law, Practice and Precedents'. Mass is also the author of an opinion which examines a potential class-action case after toxic cough syrups allegedly caused the deaths of over 70 children in The Gambia. This [opinion](#) was published in the 'International Family Law Journal' and more widely by the Gambian media.

Mass is regularly instructed on matters beyond his level of call to advise on all aspects of claims in this area, including liability, merits, causation and quantum. He is often praised for his ability to draft precise and persuasive pleadings, in addition to his ability to offer sharp strategic litigation advice.

Mass has experience successfully representing individuals faced with allegations of fundamental dishonesty and representing multiple Claimants in the same set of proceedings. He is also well-versed in communicating via interpreters in relevant cases.

International

Mass welcomes jurisdictions in cross-border disputes and other cases originating outside of the jurisdiction of England and Wales. In January 2024, he was called to the Bar of the Gambia and enrolled as a legal practitioner in The Gambia. As early as his pupillage, he was exposed to a range of cases involving multiple jurisdictions such as Monaco, Thailand and Ukraine.

Mass spent the first two years of his practice working at the UK Government Legal Department ('GLD') where he conducted advisory work for a wide range of government departments. Since joining the self-employed Bar, Mass has continued to be instructed by government departments to advise on public law and constitutional law matters. He retains a strong interest in assisting with public law and constitutional law cases in foreign jurisdictions.

Mass is particularly keen in pursuing cross-border claims and class action claims in foreign jurisdictions. He is the author of an opinion which examines a potential class-action case after toxic cough syrups allegedly caused the deaths of over 70 children in The Gambia. This opinion was published in the 'International Family Law Journal' and more widely by the Gambian media.

Mass is happy to accept instructions as sole counsel or to join an existing team of lawyers. He has a proven track record of working well within teams having previously been instructed to join the legal team for multiple national inquiries in the UK, including the UK-Covid 19 Inquiry and the Post Office Inquiry.

Awards



WINNER

UK BAR AWARDS 2022

‘Diversity and Inclusion: Future Leader’

THE LAWYER

Hot 100 2022

advocate



‘Pro-bono Hero of the Month’ (2021)



THE HONOURABLE SOCIETY OF THE
MIDDLE TEMPLE

Winner of the Rule of Law Essay Competition (2021)

THE LAWYER

Barrister of the Week (July 2021)

Appointments

- Chair of Bridging the Bar (2020-present)
- Member of the Bar Council's Race Working Group (2020-2022)
- Steering group committee member of the 10,000 Black Interns Project (2021-2022)

Memberships

- The Honourable Society of the Middle Temple
- Personal Injury Bar Association (PIBA)
- Constitutional and Administrative Law Association (ALBA)
- INQUEST