

ROSS BEATON

Year of call
2013



Ross Beaton specialises in employment and discrimination law. He is also currently instructed for the Metropolitan Police Commissioner on the Undercover Policing Inquiry.

Ross has a particular interest in cases involving medical care. Prior to specialising in employment and discrimination work, Ross also maintained a busy clinical negligence practice and regularly dealt with cases involving complex medical issues which were valued up to seven figures.

He is experienced in dealing with claims for psychiatric injury said to have been caused by stress at work and has settled such cases, generally brought in the civil Courts, for six figure sums when acting as sole counsel.

Ross has appeared in the Employment Appeal Tribunal – Sean Thomas Leacy v Building Craft College [2022] EAT 59

Ross also enjoys working on large scale matters as part of a team, as he presently does for the Metropolitan Police. In 2018, he worked as an in-house barrister at the Government Legal Department, primarily dealing with large scale abuse litigation arising out of military operations abroad.

Outside his work in chambers, Ross is committed to pro bono work with various charities and generally to using his legal skills to help disadvantaged people. He is a long-standing trustee of the Brixton Advice Centre. He is a case reviewer for Advocate, for whom he also continues to take appropriate cases on a pro bono basis. He is also an Advocacy Trainer for Inner Temple.

LEGAL EXPERTISE

Employment

Ross acts for Claimants and Respondents in the Employment Tribunal. Recent examples of his work include a complex case involving alleged whistleblowing, giving rise to multiple preliminary hearings involving arguments about legal privilege, and a one-week case involving alleged racial discrimination and race-based harassment.

Ross also acts in civil claims involving inadequate support for employees suffering from stress at work. Such cases often involve previously high performing and high earning employees, for whom Ross has achieved substantial financial settlements. He has also acted in a number of cases involving claims under the Protection from Harassment Act 1997 for sexual harassment in the workplace.

Ross recently appeared in the Employment Appeal Tribunal (instructed through Advocate for a litigant in person Claimant) in an appeal concerning alleged unfairness at the first instance hearing – *Sean Thomas Leacy v Building Craft College* [2022] EAT 59

Inquests & Inquiries

Ross is currently instructed for the Metropolitan Police Commissioner on the Undercover Policing Inquiry.

He has extensive experience appearing in Coroners' inquests, having acted as counsel in a number of high profile maternity death inquests, including appearing against KCs. He is a contributing author to the practitioner textbook *Coroners' Investigations and Inquests* (Butterworths: 2021), for which he authored chapters on the Coroners' Investigation and on Military Inquests (drawing for the latter on his experience of handling cases involving deaths of service personnel in a training exercise).

Selected Cases

Inquest 1 (2021)

One-week inquest into the death of a new born baby following repeated failures during the delivery process. Received substantial local and national press coverage.

Inquest 2 (2021)

Two-day inquest into the death of a new born baby following the failure to admit his mother to the required specialist centre for delivery.

Inquest 3 (2021)

Three-day inquest into the death of a new born baby following a failure to place him on the required care pathway.

Inquest 4 (2021)

Three-day inquest into the death of a teenager from blood clotting after he was not examined by his GP due

to covid restrictions in place at the time.

Inquest 5 (2021)

Three-day inquest into the death of a toddler as a result of birth injuries following an extensive delay in delivery.

Inquest 6 (2021)

Three-week inquest into multiple linked deaths arising from a specialist procedure. Counsel for one of the families.

Inquest 7 (2022)

One week inquest into the death of a premature baby following the misplacement of a feeding tube.

Inquest 8 (2022)

Three-week jury inquest into a death in custody raising issues of the mental health care available in prisons during the covid-19 pandemic.

Awards



Memberships

- Employment Law Association
- Bar Human Rights Committee
- Inner Temple
- South Eastern Circuit