

Georgina Wolfe

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Georgina Wolfe is recognised as a leading junior, specialising in the areas of police law, public law, human rights and civil liberties, inquests and public inquiries, prison law and malfeasance claims (assault, false imprisonment, malicious prosecution and misfeasance).

Georgina was nominated for the Chambers UK Public Inquiries and Inquests Junior of the Year 2023 and The Legal 500 Awards Public Law Junior of the Year 2023. She is ranked in Chambers UK for Police Law (Band 1) and Inquests and Public Inquiries (Band 1) and The Legal 500 for Police Law (Tier 1) and Inquests and Inquiries (Tier 1).

Georgina is on the Attorney General's A Panel of Counsel (having been on the Panels since 2012). She appears regularly as sole counsel and junior counsel before a range of courts and tribunals. She has appeared in some of the leading cases in her fields of expertise, including **R (Cabinet Office) v Chair of the Covid Inquiry**, **Belhaj v Jack Straw and ors** and in the Supreme Court in **R (Roberts) v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis** and **R (Catt and T) v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis and ACPO**.

Georgina has particular expertise in inquests and inquiries and is currently instructed in the Covid Inquiry, the Dawn Sturgess Inquiry, the Undercover Policing Inquiry and the Infected Blood Inquiry. She has also appeared in the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse and the inquests into the deaths arising from the Fishmongers' Hall terror attacks (for West Midlands Police) and those of Carl Sargeant (for the Labour Party), Max Clifford (for the Ministry of Justice) and Geoff Gray at Deepcut Barracks (for the MoD).

Georgina is happy to provide training to solicitors on all aspects of her practice and has recently presented a Masterclass in Inquests to numerous police forces and public authorities.

Georgina co-authored a chapter of National Security Law (OUP, 2021) with Charlotte Ventham and The Path to Pupillage (Sweet & Maxwell, 2008; Third Edition 2013) with Alexander Robson. She has co-authored a new chapter for the forthcoming edition of National Security Law with Rory Phillips KC about the National Security and Investment Act 2021.

Georgina was runner up in the First 100 Years' Inspirational Women in Law Award 2017 and is a Trustee of the Harold G. Fox Scholarship.

Expertise

Public and Administrative

Georgina was shortlisted for Public Law Junior of the Year 2023 in The Legal 500 Awards.

Georgina undertakes all areas of public law work, including prison law, judicial review, human rights and inquests. She regularly appears in permission and substantive hearings before the Administrative Court (including Divisional Courts) as well as appeals up to the Supreme Court.

Notable Public and Administrative cases

R (LIT FM Holdings and LetterOne Core Investments) v Secretary of State in the Cabinet Office

junior counsel in this ongoing JR. Georgina successfully applied for the declaration under section 6 of the Justice and Security Act 2013 permitting a closed material application to be made to the court. This is the first such declaration in proceedings brought pursuant to the National Security and Investment Act 2021.

R (Cabinet Office) v Chair of the Covid Inquiry [2023] EWHC 1702 (Admin)

as junior counsel for the Interested Party, the Rt Hon Boris Johnson, in the judicial review of the Chair's decision to request unredacted WhatsApp messages.

Belhaj v Jack Straw, Sir Mark Allen, Security and Intelligence Service, Security Service, Attorney General, Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Home Office

on the Defendants' counsel team in this closed material procedure case concerning alleged complicity in extraordinary rendition and torture. The claim was settled following an apology issued by the Prime Minister.

R (Khosa) v Secretary of State for Justice and Governor of HMP Long Lartin

Article 8 challenge to a prison's decision to limit a prisoner's contact to children

R (Roberts) v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis [2015] UKSC 79, [2016] 1 WLR 210

challenge to s60 stop and search powers, led by Jeremy Johnson QC

R (Catt and T) v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis and ACPO [2015] UKSC 9; [2015] A.C. 1065

linked appeals relating to police retention of information about a protester and a harassment warning letter, led by Jeremy Johnson QC

R (TD) v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis [2014] EWCA Civ 585

police retention of CRIS reports, led by Jeremy Johnson QC

R (E7) v Chairman of the Azelle Rodney Inquiry [2014] EWHC 452 (Admin)

challenge to the findings of a public inquiry, led by Samantha Leek QC

Brookfield Aviation International Ltd v Guildford Crown Court [2015] EWHC 3465 (Admin)

challenge to a police search warrant

R (Ramsden) v IPCC [2013] EWHC 3969 (Admin)

defending a challenge to the IPCC's decision not to take witness statements from witnesses to an alleged assault

R (Chief Constable of West Yorkshire) v IPCC [2014] EWCA Civ 1367

a challenge to the ambit of IPCC reports, led by Matthew Holdcroft

R (AXT) v Chief Constable of Kent Constabulary

a challenge to the police's decision not to refer a case to the CPS prior to discontinuing the investigation

Inquests

Georgina is shortlisted for Public Inquiries and Inquests Junior of the Year 2023 in the Chambers UK Awards.

Georgina has particular expertise in inquest law and is recommended by Chambers UK for Inquests and Public Inquiries (Band 1) and as an Inquests and Inquiries Leading Junior (Tier 1) in The Legal 500.

She regularly appears on behalf of the police, the prison service, the CPS, NHS Trusts, care homes and social services as well as other Interested Persons and families. She often appears in subsequent civil actions.

She is acting as junior counsel for West Midlands Police in the Inquests following the Fishmongers' Hall Terror Attacks, for the Labour Party in the inquest touching on the death of Carl Sargeant, for the Ministry of Justice in the inquest touching on the death of Max Clifford and as junior counsel for the Ministry of Defence in the inquest into the death of Geoff Gray (Deepcut).

She has a particular experience in inquests with a national security element (including those that convert into a public inquiry), deaths in custody and death following restraint.

Georgina also has experience acting in inquests involving healthcare and alleged clinical negligence. She has acted for NHS Trusts and County Councils (social services) in inquests involving the treatment of diabetes, bed sores, heart conditions, myocarditis, epilepsy, cirrhosis of the liver and neurosaroidosis, among others.

Notable Inquests cases

Inquests into the deaths arising from the Fishmongers' Hall and London Bridge Terror Attacks

acting as junior counsel for West Midlands Police (led by Jason Beer QC)

Inquest into the death of Carl Sargeant

acting for the Labour Party; Mr Sargeant died following allegations of sexual misconduct

Inquest into the death of Max Clifford

acting for the MoJ; Mr Clifford died in custody allegedly as the result of delay in diagnosis of a heart condition

Inquest into the death of Geoff Gray

junior counsel for the MoD in the inquest arising from the death of a private at the Deepcut barracks

Inquest into the death of Carole Lovett

acted for the NHS Trust; Ms Lovett died after medical staff failed to calculate and act upon National Early Warning Signs scores

Inquest into the death of Stephen Akinyemi

acted for Cheshire Constabulary in the inquest arising from the shooting of Mr Akinyemi (and as junior in the subsequent civil action [2018] EWHC 34 (QB))

Inquest into the death of Kingsley Burrell

junior for West Midlands police following Mr Burrell's death having been under police restraint

Inquest into the death of Jan McLean

acted for Surrey Police; Mr McLean died in police custody having ingested cocaine

Inquest into the death of George Mason

acted for social services in the inquest arising from the death of a dementia patient who absconded from a care home

Inquest into the deaths of Roger and Mathilde Lamb

acted for the family; the couple died in unusual circumstances while abroad.

Public Inquiries

Georgina is shortlisted for Public Inquiries and Inquests Junior of the Year 2023 in the Chambers UK Awards.

Georgina has extensive experience of public inquiries and is recommended by Chambers UK for Inquests and Public Inquiries (Band 1) and as an Inquests and Inquiries Leading Junior (Tier 1) in The Legal 500.

She has appeared in public inquiries for numerous Core Participants including His Majesty's Government and the police, as well as other Core Participants. She has also appeared in judicial reviews challenging the decisions of Inquiry Chairs, notably *R (Cabinet Office) v Chair of the UK Covid-19 Inquiry* [2023] EWHC 1702 (Admin) (on behalf of the Rt Hon. Boris Johnson, led by Lord Pannick KC) and *E7 v Chair of the Azelle Rodney Inquiry* [2014] EWHC 452 (Admin) (on behalf of E7, led by Sam Leek KC).

Notable Public Inquiries cases

Covid-19 Inquiry (for the Rt Hon. Boris Johnson)

Dawn Sturgess Inquiry (for His Majesty's Government)

Infected Blood Inquiry (for the Department for Health and Social Care)

Undercovering Policing (for two police forces)

Education & Qualifications

- 2006 – Called to the Bar by Middle Temple
- Harold G. Fox Scholar, Middle Temple
- Queen Mother Scholar, Middle Temple
- Blackstone Entrance Exhibition, Middle Temple
- 2006 – Inns of Court School of Law, Bar Vocational Course
- 2005 – City University, Graduate Diploma in Law
- 2004 – Edinburgh University, MA (Hons) English Literature (with third year exchange to Queen's University, Canada)

Awards & Scholarships

