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Georgina Crawford

Year of Call: 2006

Telephone: 0115 947 2581



Overview

Georgina is typically instructed in catastrophic and other high-value claims in the High Court and multi-track matters in the County Court.

Her particular expertise is in Animals Act claims. Georgina was successful in the much publicised High Court case of <u>Ford v Seymour Williams</u> in 2021, against a silk. With leading counsel in the Court of Appeal, she went on to win the appeal [2021] EWCA Civ 1848.

Her practice also routinely includes inquests, clinical negligence, disease work, road traffic accidents and the full raft of public and employer's liability claims. Her practice is both claimant and defendant.

Expertise

Personal Injury

Georgina's career began in London and her personal injury practice has been built up over 16 years of extensive courtroom litigation with experience in the spectrum of personal injury claims, ranging from employer's liability/ industrial accidents to public liability and everything in between. She deals with predominately high-value catastrophic claims, such as spinal and brain injuries but engages in cases of various value and complexity.

Georgina is frequently successful in achieving findings of lack of credibility and fraud and was at the forefront of the emerging fundamental dishonesty case law (*Menary v Darnton*, Unreported, HHJ Hughes QC at Portsmouth County Court, (cited in *London Organising Committee of the Olympic And Paralympic Games (LOCOG) v Sinfield* [2018] EWHC 51 (QB))

Georgina is very familiar with and has a particular interest in Criminal Injuries Compensation Appeal matters and has advised on and been instructed on many appeals over the years.

Her focus has naturally gravitated towards the victims of crimes of violence and abuse, who have suffered life-changing injuries, both physical and psychological. Georgina is noted for her courtroom persuasion and has only ever lost one appeal.

Animals & Equine

Georgina is the 'go to' junior in the region for equine claims engaging the Animals Act, negligence, and employer's liability. Georgina was successful in the much publicised High Court case of *Ford v Seymour Williams* in 2021, against a leading silk. With leading counsel, in the Court of Appeal, she went on to win the appeal [2021] EWCA Civ 1848.

Georgina was brought up in a rural environment and equestrianism and country pursuits are her passion. She is a keen and competent horsewoman and brings personal knowledge and experience to equine claims. She has dealt with all manner of claims involving, for example, racing yard and hunting accidents, every day riding school and hireling accidents, and accidents at international events. She frequently deals with very high value claims involving life changing injuries.

She is frequently instructed in other animal-related accidents including dog bites and livestock related accidents.

Georgina also deals with contractual disputes, for example those arising from the buying and selling of horses and livestock, involving issues of consumer rights and misrepresentation.

Georgina is experienced in professional claims involving allegations of farriery and veterinary negligence etc.

Georgina was appointed to the British Equestrian Federation in 2016, in order to help determine appeals on anti-doping and competition selection decisions.

Clinical Negligence

Georgina has extensive experience of fatal and catastrophic claims. Her clinical negligence work is usually conducted in the High Court and involves conferences with and cross-examination of expert witnesses.

She has acted for protected parties in brain injury claims, children in negligent delivery claims, patients in failed surgery actions, delayed diagnosis claims and the victims of failed cosmetic and reversal procedures etc.

Georgina is valued for putting her lay clients at ease in difficult circumstances.

Disease

Georgina represents both claimants and defendants on a broad range of disease claims, such as HAVS, asbestosis and mesothelioma, occupational asthma, dust exposure, chlorine exposure, leptospirosis and work-related upper limb disorders.

She is currently junior to <u>Jayne Adams KC</u> in a case involving a claimant suffering intractable asthma within the worst 1% of such cases.

Professional Negligence

Georgina has contributed to Atkin's Court Forms on professional negligence and is experienced in defending disciplinary actions and both defending and acting for the claimant in professional negligence claims.

She has dealt with a range of cases over the years, with recent cases focusing in particular on the negligent ending of solicitors' retainers in cases where fundamental dishonesty is in issue.

Inquests

Over the years, Georgina has been instructed in many inquests both as counsel for the bereaved family and from a protective position representing interested parties.

Her experience covers fatal road traffic collisions, drug-related deaths, clinical care related deaths, fatal falls in care homes, suicide, fatal accidents at work and more.

She has met with challenges over the years in this fraught environment and has successfully cross-examined forensic road traffic collision experts, pathologists, neurosurgeons, oncologists and the like.

Appointments

- Deputy District Judge
- Direct Access
- Judicial panel member, <u>British Equestrian Federation</u>

Professional Memberships

- Personal Injuries Bar Association
- Association of Regulatory and Disciplinary Lawyers

Qualifications

- London Faculty of Laws
- LLB Law (First Class Hons), University College, London
- BVC (Very Competent), University College, London

Recommendations

"Georgina is a very strong all-round barrister. She is very thorough in her review and preparation of a case. In court or an inquest, she is not fazed by the complexity of a matter and stays calm even in difficult and challenging circumstances."

- Legal 500 2024

"Georgina is excellent with clients. Her attention to detail is second-to-none. She is very good on her feet with thorough preparation."

- Legal 500 2024

"Georgina is excellent at grasping the issues in the case and dealing with them. She is great with clients and immensely personable."

- Legal 500 2023

"Georgina gets an excellent grasp of the issues; she establishes a good rapport quickly with clients and has the ability to think outside the box."

- Legal 500 2022

Ropewalk Chambers

24 The Ropewalk Nottingham NG1 5EF T 0115 947 2581 E clerks@ropewalk.co.uk