

Barrister: Oliver Millington

Overview:

Oliver is an experienced barrister with a busy practice in civil and family law. The focus of his civil work is on personal injury, clinical negligence and CICA claims. The focus of Oliver's family practice is on the law relating to children, in particular care proceedings.

Oliver's practice in personal injury and clinical negligence law has provided him with a distinct advantage in the many family cases that concern complex medical issues. Similarly his experience in public law children's cases gives him an invaluable insight into civil claims that involve the abuse of children and the involvement of Social Services.

He has a burgeoning practice in Court of Protection work in matters relating to both welfare and financial affairs.

Oliver is known as a calm but firm negotiator. Given his practice areas, Oliver has significant experience in dealing with very vulnerable clients. He has a sensitive but pragmatic approach with clients. As an advocate, Oliver has the benefit of drawing on a common law background, which has given him exposure to a wide variety of tribunals, including jury trials.

Oliver is qualified to accept Direct Access instructions. If you are a member of the public and are considering instructing Oliver directly (ie not via a solicitor) please see his profile on 9Squared by [clicking here](#).

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Family

Family:

The focus of Oliver's family practice is on public law proceedings in which he represents local authorities, parents, extended family members, prospective adopters and children via their guardians. He is regularly instructed in cases concerning serious non-accidental injury, sexual abuse and complex mental health issues, as well as general neglect cases. Oliver is used to dealing with international issues concerning jurisdiction and placements abroad.

Oliver is regularly instructed in private law disputes, in particular where there are allegations of serious physical or sexual abuse, cases involving intractable hostility and where the children are separately represented.

Oliver has a particular interest in the law relating to 'alternative' families and surrogacy, including applications for Parental Orders under the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008.

He is a contributing author to *The PLO Explained*, a practitioners' handbook to the Public Law Outline published by 9 Gough Chambers (First and Second editions). He regularly gives seminars as well as practical court training to lawyers and social workers.

Oliver is member of the Association of Lawyers for Children and the Family Law Bar Association. He was on the Executive Committee of Association of Lawyers for Children from 2014 to 2017.

He sits as a Recorder (part-time Circuit Judge) in the Family Court.

Oliver is ranked as a leading junior for children law in both The Legal 500 and Chambers & Partners. Testimonials include the following:

"A fantastic litigator, he is reliable, presents cases very clearly, and has excellent client skills" (**Legal 500 2019**)

"Oliver is very grounded, with a good sense of proportion. He doesn't pretend that black is white, and sees the bigger picture in a case" (**Chambers & Partners 2019**)

"A pleasure to instruct" (**The Legal 500, 2018**).

"His civil practice really helps in cases where there are sophisticated medical issues such as non-accidental injury. An excellent choice in those cases, he's very well respected and has a good client manner. He's a very pragmatic, sensible advocate" (**Chambers & Partners, 2018**).

Notable Cases

- **C (A Child) [2020] EWCA Civ 987**: This was a case about the perils of a hybrid hearing where the judge failed to close down the Zoom link and was overheard making negative comments about the mother when back in her judge's chambers. The judge refused the application to recuse herself but the decision was overturned on appeal. Oliver represented the Local Authority in both the High Court and the Court of Appeal. For further details click



Call: 2003

Appointments:

Recorder of the Family Court

Education:

Postgraduate Diploma in Law, College of Law; BA (Hons) Modern Languages (Oxon)

Practice areas

- Clinical Negligence
- Commercial and Property
- Court of Protection
- Family
- Local Government
- Personal Injury
- Police Law
- Professional Negligence

Recent News

- Oliver Millington appointed a Recorder of the Family Court of the Wales Circuit
- Removal of new-born babies in care proceedings: Nottingham City Council v LW & others
- When is a final order 'final' in the Family Court?

[here](#) for Oliver's related news article

- **A Local Authority v X (2019)**: Oliver acted as Special Advocate for a parent in a closed hearing in the High Court in relation to whether his client should receive highly confidential and sensitive material.
- **A Local Authority v O [2016]**: Oliver represented the 5 children in this case. This was an unusual case in which the father had covertly recorded the mother abusing the children in the family home using a secret camera over an 18-month period. There were complex issues of risk analysis in respect of both parents (including issues of cultural norms) and conflicting expert evidence as to the risk the mother presented.
- **Re U (Children) [2015] EWCA Civ 334**: Oliver represented the Local Authority in this long-running care case, which ended up in the Court of Appeal. For further details click here for Oliver's related news article.
- **London Borough of Tower Hamlets v D & Others [2014] EWHC 3901 (Fam)**: Oliver represented the father in this reported High Court case concerning the death of a baby in the mother's care. For further details click here for Oliver's related news article.
- **Re AK & MK (Fact Finding: Physical Injuries) [2013] EWHC 3158 (Fam)**: Oliver represented the children in this reported High Court case concerning serious non-accidental injuries to a child. At the final hearing there was a complex issue of what orders would safeguard the children, who were to be placed with the paternal grandparents in India.

Personal Injury

Personal Injury:

Oliver has a predominantly Claimant-based personal injury practice which encompasses a wide variety of claims concerning employers' liability, industrial disease, road traffic accidents, accidents abroad, public liability, fatal accidents and MIB claims.

Oliver's other work includes coroner's inquests and hearings before the First Tier Tribunal (Criminal Injuries Compensation).

Oliver has considerable experience of costs issues in relation to personal injury claims, including detailed assessment hearings and costs budgeting.

Oliver was a contributing author to the [APIL Guide to RTA Liability](#) (first and second editions, published by Jordans, edited by Andrew Ritchie QC). Between 2012 and 2014 he was the co-ordinator of the Procedure Special Interest Group of APIL. He regularly lectures and gives seminars.

Clinical Negligence

Clinical Negligence:

Oliver has a very busy clinical negligence practice. He has experience across a wide range of cases, including surgical negligence; cases involving systemic failures in hospital; negligent failure to diagnose and/or prescribe the correct medication; cases involving negligent cosmetic surgery; dentists' negligence; GPs' negligence; failure of nursing care and other ancillary medical services; failure to obtain informed consent.

He regularly appears in the coroner's court; the majority of his coronial work relates to deaths in hospital arising from clinical negligence.

Oliver was a contributing author to *Clinical Negligence Claims: a Practical Guide* (first, second and third editions, published by 9 Gough Chambers, edited by Graham Aldous QC).

Recommendations



For more information please call our clerks on **020 7832 0500**

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