

Rachel Russell



YEAR OF CALL: 2001

INN: GRAY'S INN

“ Very experienced across a range of inquest matters.”

LEGAL 500, 2020
INQUESTS AND INQUIRIES

Practice Overview

Rachel advises and represents clients in personal injury matters, acting for both claimants and defendants, including claims concerning fatal accidents and injuries of the utmost severity. She has particular expertise in Highways Act 1980 matters, acting regularly for several local authorities throughout England and Wales.

Rachel has considerable experience in dealing with 'disease' and occupational illness litigation ranging from noise induced hearing loss cases, to mesothelioma and stress at work. She regularly advises and appears in trials on such cases, dealing with broad ranging issues from breach of duty to causation and limitation. She often deals with cases concerning accidents involving animals. Her particular interest is equine cases, but she regularly advised and represents clients in cases concerning all types of animals.

Rachel frequently appears at Inquests representing all types of interested persons and the bereaved, and has been instructed in a number of high profile inquests which have attracted national press coverage. She is able to deal with all issues arising from, and associated with, Inquests, including Inquests where Article 2 is engaged.

Rachel is willing to accept instructions on a CFA basis in appropriate cases and is qualified to undertake Public Access work in appropriate cases.

Areas of Expertise

Inquests & Public Inquiries

Rachel frequently appears at Inquests representing all types of interested persons and the bereaved and has

been instructed in a number of high profile inquests which have attracted national press coverage. She is able to deal with all issues arising from and associated with Inquests, including Inquests where Article 2 is engaged.

In 2016, Rachel was involved in the Inquest touching the death of Lord Ballyedmond, Declan Small, Carl Dickerson and Lee Hoyle.

Personal Injury

Rachel is an experienced personal injury barrister who acts for both claimants and defendants with extensive experience in claims concerning fatal accidents and injuries of the utmost severity. She has particular expertise in Highways Act 1980 matters, acting regularly for several local authorities throughout England and Wales.

Rachel has broad experience of dealing with claims involving animals, not only using the Animals Act but also in employers' liability and common law negligence. As a keen horsewoman herself, she has a particular interest in equine cases and has had conduct of numerous such cases, including acting for the successful claimant in a case concerning an accident at a leading racehorse trainer's stables.

Rachel also has considerable experience in dealing with 'disease' and occupational illness litigation ranging from noise induced hearing loss cases, to mesothelioma and stress at work. She regularly advises and appears in trials on such cases, dealing with broad ranging issues from breach of duty to causation and limitation.

She has a developing practice in the field of aviation accidents and personal injury claims arising from such accidents. She recently represented the family of the deceased pilot at the Inquest into a helicopter crash in Norfolk which concerned the death of all four occupants, including the Conservative peer Lord Ballyedmond.

Rachel is familiar with the CICA regime and is able to advise and represent clients pursuing such a claim. Rachel has experience of CICA claims of the highest value having represented claimants who were brain injured as children and received multi-million pound awards.

She is willing to accept instructions on a CFA basis in appropriate cases and is qualified to undertake Public Access work in appropriate cases.

Industrial Disease

Rachel has considerable experience in dealing with 'disease' and occupational illness litigation ranging from noise induced hearing loss cases, to mesothelioma and stress at work. She regularly advises and appears in trials on such cases, dealing with broad ranging issues from breach of duty to causation and limitation.

Recent successes include representing the defendant at the trial of limitation in a noise induced deafness claim, following which the claim was dismissed.

Personal Injury Fraud

Rachel frequently conducts cases where fraud is an issue, acting in the main for defendants in cases of this type. She has advised in and conducted trials in cases covering a wide variety of such issues including vehicle occupancy, stage and semi-staged accidents, LSI and deliberate exaggeration and had enjoyed high success rates in persuading courts to dismiss such claims.

Rachel has recently authored and delivered lectures on the issue of 'fundamental dishonesty' in relation to the new QOCS regime and s.57 CJ&CA 2015.

Recommendations

"Very experienced across a range of inquest matters."

LEGAL 500, 2020
INQUESTS AND INQUIRIES

"Noted for her expertise in employers' and public liability claims. "

LEGAL 500, 2018
PERSONAL INJURY AND CLINICAL NEGLIGENCE

"Very experienced across a range of inquest matters. "

LEGAL 500, 2018
INQUESTS AND INQUIRIES

"Recommended for all types of inquest work."

LEGAL 500, 2017
INQUESTS AND INQUIRIES

Professional Memberships

- ▶ Personal Injury Bar Association
- ▶ Employment Law Bar Association

Qualifications & awards:

- ▶ MA (Oxon)
- ▶ Gray's Inn Scholar

Contact Rachel:

rachel.russell@stjohnschambers.co.uk

Contact the clerks:

T: 0117 923 4730

E: piclerks@stjohnschambers.co.uk