



Emma-Louise Fenelon

Call: 2015

Emma-Louise Fenelon accepts instructions in all areas of Chambers' work and is developing a broad practice in particular in Clinical Negligence, Child Abuse Compensation, Inquests, Public Inquiries, Public Law, Personal Injury and Human Rights. Emma joined Chambers as a tenant in September 2016 following successful completion of her pupillage. She has a First Class Honours degree from Trinity College Dublin and a Masters in Law from Harvard Law School. She is the Vice-Chair of the Human Rights Lawyers Association.

Clinical Negligence

Emma is regularly instructed in a broad range of clinical negligence work by claimants and defendants. She regularly advises on both liability and quantum, including high-value claims, complex future loss issues and Fatal Accident Act claims. She regularly appears in case management hearings, interim applications and mediations, along with drafting pleadings and advising in writing and in conference with experts. She has particular experience in claims relating to delayed cancer diagnosis, vascular problems and/or diabetes and gastroenterology.

Selected Cases

- Recently instructed to represent several NHS Trust Employees following serious allegations made against them by a minor's parents following a sonogram. The Court gave permission for a range of medical experts to assist in determining the likely cause of minor's fractures, and ultimately found that no Trust employee had caused or contributed to the injuries sustained. Click [here](#) for further details.
- Currently led by Philip Havers QC, instructed by Leigh Day, in a complex clinical negligence claim.

Child Abuse Compensation Law

Emma is developing a practice in child abuse claims on behalf of claimants against local authorities, schools and individuals. She has experience before the Criminal Injuries Compensation Appeals panel.

She is currently junior counsel, acting for the main group of Core Participants in the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse, led by Iain O'Donnell. She is instructed on the modules examining historic child abuse in the Roman Catholic Church (Ampleforth, Downside and Ealing Abbeys) and by the late Greville Janner.

Emma was seconded to Bolt Burdon Kemp Solicitors for three months in 2018, where she worked primarily on claims relating to the Shirley Oaks/Lambeth Childrens' Homes Redress Scheme.

Personal Injury

Emma accepts instructions in all areas of personal injury work acting for both Claimants and Defendants. She regularly advises on both liability and quantum and appears at infant approval hearings. She frequently appears in County Court trials arising from accidents at work, on holiday and road traffic injuries.

Selected Cases

- Previously instructed by HMRC on an ongoing-basis to advise on personal injury claims arising out of accidents involving employees across the Government Estate

Inquests

Emma is regularly instructed on behalf of NHS Trusts, individual doctors and bereaved families in inquests. She has appeared on behalf of public health services in contentious Article 2 inquests arising from deaths in custody and inquests involving a mental health aspect.

She is currently instructed by Fieldfisher to assist the Coroner's Legal Team in preparation for the Inquests into the Birmingham Pub Bombings (1974).

Emma is committed to pro bono representation and has been instructed on a pro bono basis for both AvMA and the Bar Probono Unit.

Selected Cases

- **Inquest into the death of DB:** Represented The Forward Trust, a charity providing substance misuse services, at an inquest into the death of a man at HMP Lewes.
- **Inquest into the death of AM:** Represented the family in an inquest into the death of a man who was found unconscious in the bath at a psychiatric hospital.
- **Inquest into the death of AA:** Represented Essex Partnership University NHS Trust at an Article 2 jury inquest into the death of a man who committed suicide in prison.
- **Inquest into the death of PA:** Represented Pennine NHS Foundation Trust in an inquest into the death of a man who committed suicide at a London underground station.
- **Inquest into the death of WT:** Appeared for the family at the PIR in an inquest concerning the death of a man following A&E discharge and currently instructed to attend the inquest.
- **Inquest into the death of Baby O:** Instructed to represent a Paediatric Registrar during an inquest into the death of a baby who died shortly after being born at St. Mary's Hospital on the Isle of Wight.
- **Inquest into the death of MB:** Appeared for the NHS Trust at Bedford Prison in an Article 2 jury inquest into the death of a man who committed suicide in prison.
- **Inquest into the death of TS:** Instructed to represent the NHS Healthcare provider at Chelmsford Prison in an Article 2 jury inquest into the death of a man who died from a drug overdose in prison.
- **Inquest into the death of MB:** Appeared for the NHS Trust in an inquest into the death of a woman who died following a missed hip fracture diagnosis.
- **Inquest into the death of HC:** Appeared for the NHS Trust in an inquest concerning the death of a man with a cardiac condition who had been under the care of the cardiology department at St Barts Hospital.

Public Inquiries

Emma is developing a broad public inquiry practice.

Selected Cases

- **Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse:** currently instructed by Slater and Gordon to represent a large number of victims in three modules of this major inquiry.
- **Undercover Policing Inquiry** instructed for a key Core Participant and is currently led by Peter Skelton QC on the civil litigation arising out of that Inquiry, instructed by the Metropolitan Police.
- She has undertaken significant disclosure and legal professional privilege reviews in relation to other investigations, instructed by the Metropolitan Police.

Human Rights

Emma is developing a varied practice in public law and human rights. She is currently the Vice-Chair of the Human Rights Lawyers Association.

Before coming to the bar, Emma spent two years at the AIRE Centre, a specialist legal charity where she advised

and represented individuals in matters of EU free movement of persons, EU social security, anti-discrimination and ECHR law. This included working on litigation before the European Court of Human Rights and domestic courts, establishing a monthly legal clinic for Roma migrants in Luton and representing individuals before the First-tier Tribunal (Social Entitlement Chamber).

Emma also spent two years as a Parliamentary Aide to Lord Lester of Herne Hill QC, in particular assisting his work as a member of the Joint Committee on Human Rights, and in human rights analysis of draft legislation.

She gained further human rights experience as a legal trainee at the European Court of Human Rights, Strasbourg (UK Division), as an intern on the case involving Radovan Karadzic at the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia in the Hague and working for the Innocence Project while studying at Washington and Lee University, Virginia.

Data Protection & Cyber

Emma has a keen interest in data protection and cyber law and has appeared in the Information Tribunal in relation to matters of data protection and freedom of information.

Environmental Law

Emma is looking to develop her practice in environment law, and has experience advising on matters involving protected habitats and fishing rights.

Awards

- Lady Templeman Award, Middle Temple (2015)
- Jules Thorn Scholarship & Blackstone Exhibition Award, Middle Temple (2012)
- Satter Harvard Law School Human Rights Fellowship (2011)
- John F. Kennedy Award for post-graduate study, National University of Ireland (2010)
- Julian Prize for 2nd place overall in degree results, Trinity College Dublin (2010)
- First Class Honours Book Prize for 3rd year exam results, Trinity College Dublin (2009)
- Scholar, Trinity College Dublin (2008)
- Entrance Exhibition Award, Trinity College Dublin (2005)

Education

- Bar Professional Training Course, BPP, London (2014)
- LLM, Harvard Law School, Massachusetts (2011)
- LLB, Trinity College Dublin (2010)

Memberships

- ALBA
- BHRC
- HRLA (Vice-Chair)
- PIBA
- Liberty

Publications

- Law Pod UK