



1 CROWN OFFICE ROW

Sarah Lambert QC

Call: 1994 QC: 2018



Sarah Lambert QC is an experienced specialist in the fields of personal injury, clinical negligence and professional disciplinary work. In addition, Sarah also has a notable specialist costs practice.

She is recognised both by Chambers UK and by the Legal 500 as a Leading Junior in the fields of Clinical Negligence and Costs Litigation.

Direct Access

Sarah accepts instruction from lay clients, with particular interest in professional discipline. For further information please see the [Direct Access Portal](#).

"Wonderful with clients and fantastic in court. She knows what she's doing and on her feet she is excellent."

Chambers & Partners 2019

'She has an extensive experience in respect of all areas of medicine and dentistry.' 'Recommended for wasted costs cases.'

Legal 500 2018

"She has great attention to detail and is a really good advocate."

Chambers & Partners 2018

Clinical Negligence

In the Clinical negligence and Healthcare fields Sarah has extensive experience in respect of all areas of medicine and dentistry, from small injuries to highly complex multi-million pound brain injury, spinal and obstetric injury claims, acting both for Claimants and Defendants. Noted for her empathy, she also has a significant case load of fatal cases, particularly those arising out of delayed cancer diagnoses, and cases of suicide by mental health patients.

Sarah is recognised both by Chambers UK and by the Legal 500 as a Leading Junior in the field of Clinical Negligence.

'She has an extensive experience in respect of all areas of medicine and dentistry.' (Legal 500 2018)

"Very professional, approachable and accessible." (Chambers & Partners 2018)

"A decisive and skilful advocate." (Legal 500 2017)

"Particularly robust when dealing with high-value, complex clinical negligence matters." "She gets to the root of the case very quickly and is excellent on her feet." (Chambers & Partners 2017)

"Ruthlessly efficient in dealing with experts and cross-examining witnesses." (Legal 500 2016)

Selected Cases

- **DGMP (a child who proceeds by way of his litigation friend, RSTP) v Bedford Hospital NHS Trust (with Central Bedfordshire Council intervening)**: Approval 2015, £9 million settlement for a cerebral palsy sufferer, residential school fees secured.
- **Joseph Cairns v Medway NHS Trust**: Judgment 2014, successful defence at trial of a claim alleging orthopaedic negligence.
- **Melissa Cutting v Dr Islam 2014 EWHC 720 (QB)**: Judgment for the Claimant given on 17 March 2014, acting for widowed Claimant in delayed diagnosis of cancer claim.
- **Daniel Appleton v Medway NHS Foundation Trust (2013)**: Successful defence at trial of high court claim re amputation.
- **Jacqueline Watson v David Ross RCJ (2012)**.
- **Paul Wright v Basildon & Thurrock University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, RCJ (2011), LTL 8/12/2011 Document No. AC9301002**.
- **Chipchase v Marsh, 2010, LTL AC 9200961**: Claim arising out of the encirclement of a patient's ilio-inguinal nerve.
- **Christopher Kebby (by his mother and litigation friend Catherine Patricia Kebby) v South West Strategic Health Authority**: Settled 2009 for £5 million, cerebral palsy claim acting on behalf of adult c.p. Claimant with a young child of his own.
- **Kim Marion Jones v Matthew Newland (2007)**: Successful defence at trial in a Dental Negligence case. Issue of informed consent. Causation and *Chester v Afshar* considered.
- **Smith v Mr Dai Davies (2006)**: Successful defence at trial of Consultant Plastic Surgeon arising out of

rhino-plasty on a patient with active lupus.

- **Steven John Richard Juliff v Drs Hillard, Trigg, Lukaszewicz (2001)**: Allegation of failure to diagnose HIB meningitis on the part of GPs.
- **Matthew Henry Poynter (By Kevin John Poynter) v Hillingdon Health Authority, (1997)**: Paediatric cardiology.

Costs

Sarah has a notable specialist costs practice. Her experience covers complicated points of law, test points, Part 36, wasted costs cases (both sides), CFA compliance and success fees, claims against third party funders, costs budgeting and capping, and personal liability claims against experts. On costs issues Sarah appears regularly in the SCCO, as well as before the County and High Courts, and in the Court of Appeal. In 2016 she was instructed on behalf of the Law Society in its intervention in the leap frogged appeal of *J C and A* in which the Court interpreted the fixed costs provisions in the Pre-action protocol for low value personal injury claims in road traffic accidents. Sarah's costs work has also taken her to the UK Supreme Court, and she appeared in the first case to be heard there on 14 October 2009.

Sarah also sits as a deputy costs judge in the Senior Court Costs Office.

Sarah is recognised both by Chambers UK and by the Legal 500 as a Leading Junior in the field of Costs Litigation.

"Approachable and easy to work with. Recommended for wasted costs cases." (Legal 500 2018)

"She is very competent" and "judges like her." (Chambers & Partners 2018)

"A pleasure to work with." (Legal 500 2017)

"She gets to the root of the case very quickly and is excellent on her feet. She knows how to read a judge and take the points which need to be taken." (Chambers & Partners 2017)

Selected Cases

- **JC & A Solicitors Ltd v (1) Andeen Iqbal (2) EUI Ltd: JC & A Solicitors Ltd v (1) Lucas Lonsdale Smith (2) EUI Ltd: JC & A Solicitors Ltd v (1) Holly Pitts (2) EUI Ltd (2017) EWCA Civ 355.**
- **Webb v Liverpool Women's NHS Foundation Trust Court of Appeal (Civil Division) [2016] EWCA Civ 365; [2016] C.P. Rep. 30; [2016] 2 Costs L.R. 411; (2016) 150 B.M.L.R. 42**
- **Michael Richard Cashman v Mid Essex Hospital Services NHS Trust [2015] EWHC 1312 (QB)**
- **Marion Haycock v Heart of England NHS Trust (2014)**: Costs arguments in respect of CPR Part 36 and Part 44.2.
- **Martin Church Deceased v Great Western Hospitals NHS Trust 2012**: High Court Part 8 Claim by Claimant seeking to obtain relief from usual costs consequences of accepting a Part 36 offer out of time.
- **Walter Hall v Thomas, Hardwick, Rathbone & Everton Football Club, Manchester District Registry 21 (2012).**

- **Medway Primary Care Trust v Marcus [2011] EWCA Civ 750.**
- **Fortune v Roe [2010] EWHC 90180.**
- **E, R (on the application of) v Governing Body of JFS & Anor (Rev 3) [2009] UKSC 1.**
- **Cullen & Anor v Chopra [2007] EWHC 90093.**
- **Arkin v Borchard Lines Ltd & Ors [2005] EWCA Civ 655.**
- **Cafane v London Borough of Lambeth [2004] EWHC 90042.**
- **Smith v Havering Hospitals NHS Trust [2003] EWHC 9002.**
- **Arkin v Borchard Lines Ltd [2003] EWHC 2844 (Comm).**

Personal Injury

Her Personal Injury practice includes group litigation, abuse claims, RTA claims, employee claims, criminal victim claims, occupier's liability, trips and slips.

Selected Cases

- **Winterbourne View Care Inquiry:** Instructed on behalf of owner/operator of the home in Group Litigation by various Claimants (2013).
- **Carol Watkins-Protain v Beaulieu Enterprises Limited (2012):** Employee claim by the personal assistant, driver and general factotum to Lord and Lady Montague of Beaulieu.
- **Re LM (2011):** Successful settlement of claim by UK's best aspiring young American footballer shot in a London nightclub, claim pursued against the nightclub.

Inquests

Instructed by NHS Trusts/ GPs and by families, Sarah has many years of experience in Inquests, and particular expertise in medical deaths. Her practice encompasses jury and non jury inquests, and also deaths in custody.

Selected Cases

- **Re Graham Stoten (2016-2017):** Sarah is currently representing one of ten families (the Stoten family, re Graham Stoten Deceased) at an inquest due to take place in Horsham, where the conduct of disgraced urologist, Mr Paul Miller, is under scrutiny. 3 P.I.R.s have already been held and 3 more deaths have been linked since the commencement of the proceedings.
- **Re Stella Alao 2017:** Sarah persuaded the coroner to open and hold an inquest this year into a maternal death which occurred in 2014. This is an Article 2 inquest raising issues of Neglect and Systemic failings in care. There have already been 2 substantive hearings and the Verdict is awaited.
- **Re baby Frank Gamble 2013 (secondary victim claim settled 2017):** Neonatal death.
- **Re Michael Taylor Deceased (2011-2012):** Jury inquest, death from cardiac arrest in Lewes prison of a life serving prisoner.

Professional Discipline & Regulation

Sarah appears before both the GMC and GDC, in defence of practitioners. Her experience encompasses alleged personal and professional misconduct cases, clinical malpractice, professional fraud and non clinical criminal matters, as well as health and substance dependency cases. She appears both at the interim stages and at full hearings.

Sarah is qualified to accept [Direct Professional Access](#) in this area.

Selected Cases

- **GMC v Justin Stebbing (2017).**
- **GDC v Thamasine Stephenson (2013-2014):** A 6 week GDC hearing, allegations of fraud and conspiracy, co-defending in a 3 practitioner charge; dentist found not to have been dishonest and sanction of reprimand only given.
- **GMC v Dr Caolin McLaverty (2012).**
- **GMC v Dr Tony Steele (2011).**
- **GMC v Dr Mark Mellor (2010).**
- **GMC v Dr Sonia Val-Carreras (2010).**
- **GDC v Steven Bal Sharma (2009-2010).**
- **GMC v Richard Evans (2008).**
- **Operation Ore (2005):** Represented surgeon charged in respect of downloading child pornography.

Appointments

- Accredited PICarbs Arbitrator
- Granted Civil Ticket (2017)
- Granted Serious Sex Offences Ticket (2016)
- Deputy Costs Judge (Taxing Master) of the Senior Courts Costs Office (2013)
- Recorder on the South Eastern Circuit (crime) (2012)

Education

- Inns of Court School of Law (Very Competent)
- BA Hons, Magdalen College, Oxford

Publications

- Contributor to Westlaw online law encyclopaedia (2012)
- Costs entries for Jowitt's Dictionary of Law (2010)
- Contributor to the Law Society's Ethics for Advocates Manual (2008)

- Co-author of “Wasted Costs and Costs against Non-Parties” Sweet & Maxwell Personal Injury Handbook, (2001 & 2007)
- Contributing author to “An Introduction to Human Rights and the Common Law”, English & Havers (2000)