

Holly Sims

Year of Call: 2021

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Overview

Holly specialises in criminal, housing and private law children work. She is known to be both personable and approachable, along with being committed to achieving the best results for her clients.

For criminal matters, Holly is a CPS Level 2 prosecutor. Along with being an experienced prosecutor, Holly frequently defends clients in a range of criminal matters.

Holly undertakes a variety of social housing work, including fast-track and multi-track trials. Holly is frequently instructed in trials involving a variety of social housing issues such as anti-social behaviour, disrepair and possession claims.

In relation to private children, Holly has experience in proceedings on behalf of both parents and children at all stages of proceedings.

Practice Areas

Criminal

Holly has experience both Prosecuting and Defending in the Crown Court, Youth Court and Magistrates court.

She represents clients at all stages of proceedings, from PTPH to trial. Holly has been instructed in matters that involve offences of serious violence, drugs and sexual offences, being exposed to cases beyond her year of call. Holly has a calm and approachable manner when dealing with criminal clients.

Recent Cases:

R v KH - Defending in a trial of sexual assault of a child

R v TC - Defending. Sentence of community order for offences of voyeurism

R v CH - Defending a vulnerable Defendant for domestic violence offences including serious allegations of controlling and co-ercive behaviour

R v FL - Defending. Sentence for conspiracy to control prostitution and conspiracy to facilitate travel for exploitation.

Housing

Holly's social housing practice encompasses a range of matters including possession claims, injunctions, anti-social behaviour, disrepair and committal proceedings. She is regularly instructed in fast and multi-track trials. Holly is known for her personable approach and technical analysis of issues in the cases in which she is instructed. She is regularly instructed in cases that involve complex issues of fact and law, including defences to possession claims under the Equality Act 2010 and public law principles. Holly is known for her advocacy ability being considerably above her year of call.

Holly is keen to be involved in cases at all stages of proceedings in order to ensure the best outcome for her clients. Holly is regularly involved in cases from the drafting of statements of case until the resolution of trial.

Private Law Children

Holly accepts instructions in private law proceedings on behalf of both parents and children (through their rule 16.4 Guardian). This includes instructions for hearings at all stages in proceedings, including final hearings, directions hearings and fact-finding hearings.

Awards and Scholarships

Headridge Scholarship, Gray's Inn, 2020

BTC Dean's Scholarship for Academic Excellence, Nottingham Law School, 2020

Prize for the highest achievement in the Advocacy module, University of Birmingham, 2019

Finalist, 1 High Pavement Plea in Mitigation Competition, 2021

Runner Up, Ropewalk Mooting Competition, 2021

Winner, Instalaw Prison Law Mooting Competition, 2020

Runner Up, Quadrant Chambers Speed Mooting Competition, 2020

National Finalist, BPP's Advocate of the Year Competition, 2019

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