



Nicholas Allen KC

Nicholas specialises in high value matrimonial finance work. He is well known for his eye for detail, his knowledge of the law, and for his client care skills.

Nicholas was appointed Queen's Counsel in February 2018. He was previously listed as a "leading junior" in the Chambers & Partners (where he was in the top 'Band 1' tier) and Legal 500 directories. He was junior counsel for Charles Sharland (Supreme Court (2015)).

Nicholas was appointed a Deputy High Court Judge in October 2021 (assigned to the Family Division) and is a nominated Judge of the Court of Protection. He was previously appointed a Recorder of the Family Court in March 2016. He was elected a Bencher of The Honourable Society of the Middle Temple in June 2021.



Nick Starks

Nicholas is a senior junior counsel of over 30 years' experience, specialising in family financial provision principally upon:

- Divorce
- ToLATA
- IPFDA
- Sch 1 CA 1989
- Civil partnership proceedings

Nicholas frequently deals with high net worth claims, involving:

- Business
- Farming
- Overseas assets

He was commended by the Court of Appeal for his "lucid argument" in *Kaur v Matharu* [2010] EWCA Civ 930 and appeared in the nationally publicised case of *Colborne v Colborne* [2014] EWCA Civ 1488. He is a keen contributor to legal publications and as a CPD speaker on circuit.



Charmian Jackson

Charmian regularly appears for applicants, respondents and interveners at all stages of proceedings, including multi-day final hearings, under the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973 and the Civil Partnership Act 2004. She also represents parties in applications pursuant to the Trusts of Land and Appointment of Trustees Act 1996 and applications under Schedule 1 of the Children Act 1989.

Charmian excels in cases involving children and parents with disabilities or mental health issues and those with debt and state benefits considerations. The cases in which she is instructed also frequently involve debt and bankruptcy issues, public and private sector pension provision, business assets, the alleged concealment of wealth, inherited wealth and significant pre- or post-relationship acquired assets. Charmian has a particular interest in cases where there is an overlap between the Family Court and the Court of Protection.

Charmian is known for quickly identifying the most important aspects of a case, and for taking a command of matters in Court. She is also known for her personable approach, particularly with vulnerable clients, and is adept at swiftly building a rapport with clients, to ensure that they feel at ease and have confidence in her representation. Charmian seeks to work collaboratively with the client and solicitor to achieve the best possible outcome.



Bethany Stirling

Bethany has represented clients at all stages of finance proceedings including first appointment, preliminary issue, Financial Dispute Resolution, final hearing and enforcement.

- Claims for spousal maintenance;
- Enforcement of consent orders;
- Complex pension assets including public sector pensions;
- Business assets;
- Non-engagement of a party;
- Dissipation of assets.

Bethany has also represented parties in applications pursuant to the Trusts of Land and Appointment of Trustees Act 1996.



Emma Kelly

Emma has experience in First Dispute Appointments and First Dispute Resolution Appointments as well as Preliminary Issue hearings. Emma has a personable approach to clients in what can be incredibly stressful proceedings. This approach ensures calm and considered advice yet robust submissions, ensuring her client's instructions are properly advanced in Court.