

Sophie Cartwright

1998 Inner Temple

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Education	Professional Associations	Appointments
Blackburn College	Health and Safety Lawyers Association	Recorder 2018 (Northern Circuit)
Warwick University (LLB)	Association of Regulatory and Disciplinary Lawyers	Assistant Coroner 2012 (Derbyshire)
Inns of Court School of Law	COPPA	List of Specialist Regulatory Advocates in Health and Safety and Environmental Law (List A)
Salford University (MA: Health and Safety and Environmental Law)	Criminal Bar Association	

Areas of Specialism

Inquests

Health and Safety

Business Crime and Regulatory

Community Care Law

General Medical Council

Mental Health Law

Court of Protection

Profile

On completion of her Masters in Health and Safety and Environmental Law Sophie's practice developed significantly into the regulatory and disciplinary fields with regular instructions from the GMC, Local Councils, the HSE, FSA and companies.

Sophie has an extensive Inquest practice, regularly appearing at Inquest to represent Local Authorities, Companies, NHS Trusts and Entities, Prisons, Fire and Rescue Services, CQC, Transport Providers, Ambulance Services and Families.

In particular Sophie has acted in many complex Article 2 inquests and has also acted as Counsel to the Inquest.

Sophie's practice also encompasses work in the areas of Judicial Review, Health and Social Care Regulation and in the Court of Protection.

Sophie is top ranked in Chambers UK 2018 in the area of Professional Discipline and also ranked for Inquests and Administrative and Public Law. Sophie is also ranked as a Leading Junior by Legal 500 for the Regional Bar in the area of Regulatory and Health and Safety.

Notable Cases

Court of Appeal

The Queen on the application of Sreedharan v HM Coroner for the County of Greater Manchester and others, Court of Appeal [2013] EWCA Civ 181

Judicial Review

The Queen on the Application of Augustine Housing Trust v Bolton Magistrates Court [2013] EWHC 4399 (Admin), 2014 WL 287665

Court of Protection

R (on the application of C) v A Local Authority et al [2011] All ER (D) 171 (Jun) Neutral Citation: [2011] EWHC 1539 (Admin)

Court of Protection and Administrative Court decision dealing with breaches of Article 3, 5 and 8.

Inquest Law Issue 19 2010 pp 19-20

Inquest Law Issue 20 2010 pp 36-37

What the Directories say

"She's very good in court, and she prepares really well." Recent work: Resisted a challenge by a patient at Ashworth Hospital to the adoption of a Night Time Confinement Policy on the ward on which he was residing, alleging breaches of Articles 5 and 8.

Chambers and Partners, 2019

"Her attention to detail is second to none and she has the ability to put clients at ease in very stressful situations and explain complex legal issues in simple terms. She foresees potential issues well in advance and is always prepared." "She's a very safe pair of hands and a very good opponent."

Chambers and Partners, 2019

"Extremely helpful and excellent with clients." Recent work: Acted on behalf of HSE in the prosecution of AGC Chemicals for a chemical spillage of a large container of acid onto the foot of a worker at the chemical plant.

Chambers and Partners, 2019

Experienced prosecutor on behalf of the GMC, also handling high-profile public inquiry police cases. Her professional discipline practice also takes in the representation of regulated professionals and organisations. "Very approachable." Recent work: Acted as counsel to an inquest relating to the shooting in Iraq of two men by Daniel Fitzsimons while working as an armed security contractor for G4S.

Chambers and Partners, 2019

'She provides exceptional client care.'

Legal 500, 2018

Experienced prosecutor on behalf of the GMC, also handling high-profile public inquiry police cases. Her professional

discipline practice also takes in the representation of regulated professionals and organisations. "Very able and personable. I'm really impressed by her." "Very thorough and engaging."

Chambers and Partners, 2018

Revered for her knowledge of coronial law. She frequently acts for interested parties, coroners and NGOs in inquests and judicial reviews which determine the boundaries of coronial law. She is capable across a broad range of subjects, including health and safety, police shootings, mental healthcare and other Article 2 inquests. An encyclopaedic knowledge of law in the coronial and health and safety arena." "She is absolutely excellent. Very efficient, very easy to deal with and she won't be fazed no matter what you say to her. She approaches everything with a refreshing positivity."

Chambers and Partners, 2018

Practises health and safety law as well as professional discipline and public law. She has extensive experience representing parties in inquests and also sits as an assistant coroner. She regularly prosecutes and defends in health and safety proceedings. She is particularly experienced in cases arising out of workplace fatalities. "Ms Cartwright has an encyclopaedic knowledge of the law surrounding the coronial and health and safety arenas. She is able to advise on these issues and put clients at ease." "Highly organised, competent and personable."

Chambers and Partners, 2018

Renowned for her expertise in inquests. She is frequently engaged in judicial review proceedings challenging the scope of inquests and the conduct of coroners. She routinely acts for local authorities and healthcare trusts in challenges against policy and decisions. She is also experienced in public law cases involving mental capacity and the Court of Protection. "Sensible and measured, and her written work is of very good quality. She produces excellent skeletons." "Good in court. She is thorough, clear, articulate and to the point."

Chambers and Partners, 2018

'Recommended for health and safety cases.'

Legal 500, 2017

Revered for her knowledge of coronial law. She frequently acts for interested parties, coroners and NGOs in inquests and judicial reviews which determine the boundaries of coronial law. "Encyclopaedic knowledge of the law, sound judgement and extremely good at dealing with people."

Chambers UK, 2017

Experienced prosecutor on behalf of the GMC and handler of high-profile public inquiry police cases. Her professional discipline practice also takes in the representation of individual professionals, local authorities and NHS trusts. "She has an encyclopaedic knowledge of the relevant area of law. She has sound judgement and is extremely good at dealing with people." "She is extremely knowledgeable in relation to healthcare crime and regulation. A team player who impresses clients with a personable manner and effective advocacy."

Chambers UK, 2017

Renowned for her expertise in inquests. She is frequently engaged in judicial review proceedings challenging the scope of inquests and the conduct of coroners. She routinely acts for local authorities and healthcare trusts in challenges against policy and decisions. "Hard-working, well informed and well prepared." "A lawyer with a very good grasp of the law, she is a persuasive advocate who is strong in negotiations." "Really good with clients and witnesses."
Chambers UK, 2017

'She has an ability to put clients at ease in very stressful situations'
Legal 500, 2016

Well regarded for her regulatory and public law work, with particular experience in community care and healthcare matters. She frequently acts on behalf of NHS trusts, local authorities and companies. She also represents healthcare bodies and doctors in judicial reviews. (Administrative & Public Law) "She's a very approachable person and very good with clients." "She's very good technically and gets a good grasp on the case. She always goes that extra mile to help with cases."
Chambers UK, 2016

Handles regulatory and disciplinary matters on behalf of local councils, the GMC, FSA and ICO. She has particular experience of inquests involving the death of a child or vulnerable adult. (Professional Discipline) "She's very capable and very effective at cross examining. She is very good at putting vulnerable witnesses and patients at ease while ensuring the best evidence is obtained." "She is an advocate of the highest standard. She is intelligent, able, hard working and meticulous; a credit to the chambers."
Chambers UK, 2016

'Able to explain the key aspects of the case succinctly' (Regulatory, health and safety, and licensing)
Legal 500, 2015

Acts on behalf of clinical commissioning groups, foundation trusts, local authorities and individual doctors in judicial review proceedings. She is also experienced in handling medical inquests. "She is very confident, very competent and very knowledgeable. She's a very experienced advocate."
Chambers UK, 2015

Regularly represents the GMC in professional discipline cases. She also has experience in inquests and public law work, and is frequently instructed by NHS trusts and local authorities.
Chambers UK, 2015

'Regularly acts for local authorities, NHS Trusts and prisons during inquests.' (Regulatory, health and safety, and licensing)
Legal 500, 2014

'is regularly instructed by major transport companies.'
Legal 500, 2014

"She is very good at dealing with the technical issues that arise during a case, and she is excellent at dealing with clients. She quickly grasps the key issues and goes out of her way to make herself accessible to us and to the client." - Public and Administrative Law

Chambers UK, 2014

"She is excellent with clients, and really helps to put them at ease." - Professional Discipline

Chambers UK, 2014

"is recommended for inquest work"

Legal 500, 2012

'is recommended for complex inquests and Court of Protection matters'

Legal 500, 2011

'Highly recommended for complex inquest instructions.'

Legal 500, 2010

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