



1 CROWN OFFICE ROW

Lois Williams

Call: 2012



Lois Williams has a broad practice across the main areas of Chambers' work, including public law, human rights, inquiries, inquests, immigration, personal injury and clinical negligence.

Lois has been instructed in several major inquiries and multi-party actions. She is currently instructed as junior counsel to the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA), working on the Accountability and Reparations investigation and the Roman Catholic Church investigation. Lois is also regularly instructed in inquests, including those involving healthcare issues, mental health issues and deaths in custody, along with clinical negligence claims, personal injury and abuse claims.

Before commencing pupillage, Lois worked as an Immigration and Asylum Accredited caseworker for Refugee and Migrant Justice, where she regularly represented claimants in their appeals in the Asylum and Immigration Tribunal. Lois also worked in a freelance capacity, assisting on numerous legal challenges and applications – from the Administrative Court to the European Court of Human Rights – as well as contributing to publications and training about immigration and human rights. Lois continues to be instructed in immigration cases, including bail applications, asylum appeals and judicial review claims.

Clinical Negligence

Lois has considerable experience of acting in clinical negligence claims for both claimants and defendants, drafting pleadings, advising on merits and settlements, as well as appearing in case management hearings and application hearings. She has dealt with a broad range of cases including birth injuries, surgical problems, failure to diagnose claims, and dental negligence.

Public Inquiries

Lois is currently acting as counsel in the Independent Inquiry into Child Sex Abuse (IICSA). She was previously one of a team of barristers that represented over 500 military witnesses in the Al Sweady Public Inquiry and was also instructed in the 'Mau Mau' litigation.

Selected Cases

- **Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA):** Currently instructed as junior counsel working on the Accountability and Reparations investigation and the Roman Catholic Church investigation.
- **Al Sweady Public Inquiry:** Part of the 1COR team that represented over 500 military witnesses.
- **Independent Review:** Acted as junior counsel in this independent review into historic child abuse allegations.

Inquests

Lois regularly acts for families, NHS Trusts and doctors at inquests, including those involving healthcare issues, mental health issues and deaths in custody.

Immigration

Lois has considerable experience of acting for Claimants in immigration cases, having worked as an Immigration and Asylum Accredited caseworker for Refugee and Migrant Justice prior to joining the Bar.

Lois continues to be instructed by claimants in immigration cases, asylum appeals, judicial review claims and bail applications.

Lois is instructed in judicial review claims involving immigration matters, including challenges to third country removals and unlawful detention.

Human Rights

Lois has considerable experience of dealing with human rights issues across many of her practice areas, including asylum appeals, deportation cases, unlawful detention cases, care home and abuse cases, inquests and healthcare claims.

Personal Injury

Lois is instructed in personal injury cases, including abuse claims. She was instructed in the 'Mau Mau' litigation, which involves allegations of mistreatment by the Colonial Government of Kenya in the 1950s.

She regularly acts for children and vulnerable adults in abuse claims (sexual and physical) against local authorities and institutions, including group litigation care home cases and failure to remove cases.

Awards

- Buchanan Prize, Lincoln's Inn (2011)
- Lord Mansfield Scholarship, Lincoln's Inn (2008)
- Professional Preparation Masters Award, AHRC (2007)
- Lord Brougham Scholarship, Lincoln's Inn (2006)
- Hardwicke Award, Lincoln's Inn (2006)
- Grundy Prize, King's College Cambridge (2004)

Education

- Bar Vocational Course (Outstanding), BPP, London (2011)
- Masters in Law (LLM) (Merit), LSE (2008)
- Graduate Diploma in Law (Distinction), City University (2007)
- MA (Cantab) Classics (Hons), (First Class), King's College, Cambridge University (2004)

Memberships

- ILPA

Publications

- Co-author of the chapter "Deaths in Custody", *The Inquest Book: The Law of Coroners and Inquests* (Hart Publishing 2016)