

## Martin Forde KC

Call: 1984 KC: 2006



Martin Forde KC has a practice which covers all aspects of Health Law. He appears regularly in all the Regulatory and Disciplinary tribunals predominantly for practitioners including doctors, dentists, osteopaths, chiropractors and optometrists.

In 2021 and 2020, the [Powerlist](#) named Martin as one of the most influential people for their impact on Politics, Law & Religion. He was listed in The Lawyer's [Hot 100](#) lawyers of 2019. In June 2020, [Counsel Magazine](#) interviewed Martin about Windrush, citizenship and diversity at the Bar as their front cover feature ([here](#)).

He has acted for the General Medical Council and the General Dental Council. He has appeared in a number of major cases in the Privy Council and has been involved in medical related judicial review hearings in the Administrative Court as well as judicial review hearings involving mental health and immigration issues.

His clinical negligence and personal injury practice is exclusively undertaken in the High Court involving injuries of maximum severity.

His experience of Inquests is extensive particularly in cases involving a mental health element.

He has appeared on many occasions in the Employment Tribunal acting for NHS Trusts and medical practitioners. He has appeared in HC (90) 9 proceedings, internal Trust and PCT hearings and has an extensive FHSAA practice.

He has been recognised as a band 1 practitioner by Chambers & Partners since 2010. He was the Independent Advisor to the Windrush Compensation Scheme (2018 – 2021). Recently, Martin succeeded in a legal first for a [freedom of speech](#) claim.

In 2022, Martin was named Professional Discipline Silk of the Year at the Chambers & Partners UK Bar Awards.

## The Forde Inquiry

Martin was appointed to undertake an independent investigation into the circumstances and contents of a report into antisemitism within the Labour Party by the National Executive Committee of the Labour Party. The report was published in 2022.

Notable cases include:

- **The Forde Inquiry (2020)**
- **Windrush Compensation scheme (2018-2021)**
- **Dr Michael Jonathan Fish v GMC [2012] EWHC 1269 (Admin)**
- **R (on the application of X) v GMC [2011] EWHC 3271 (Admin)**
- **Dr Casey v GMC NIQB 95**
- **Negin Shamsian v GMC [2011] EWHC 2885 (Admin)**
- **Azzam v The General Medical Council [2008] EWHC 2711 (Admin)**
- **R (on the application of Anderson & Ors) v HM Coroner for Inner North Greater London LTL 3/12/2004**  
"The Roger Sylvester Inquest."
- **Preiss v General Dental Council – Privy Council 2001 HRLR56 2001 Lloyd's Rep Med 491**
- **Bainton v General Dental Council Privy Council Times October 17 2000**
- **Bhanot v South West London St Georges NHS Trust 2000 Lloyds Rep Medical 324**
- **Dr Emmanuel Dibua Nwabueze v General Medical Council (2000)**

*"Martin is a master of cross-examination. He handles witnesses well both in conference and court." "He is a very personable barrister."*

Chambers & Partners 2023

*"A very impressive advocate who is excellent on his feet. He is also an effective negotiator." "He has been doing some really outstanding and important work." "He develops a good rapport with clients and is highly experienced."*

Chambers & Partners 2022

*"A highly personable barrister." "Very experienced and a safe pair of hands." "A charming opponent. He has a beautiful speaking style and is very confident in court. He has a tremendous reputation for his representation of medical professionals."*

Chambers & Partners 2021

## Clinical Negligence

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Martin Forde KC's Clinical Negligence practice is exclusively undertaken in the High Court involving injuries of maximum severity.

He has been recognised by Chambers & Partners since 2010.

*"A highly personable barrister." "Very experienced and a safe pair of hands." (Chambers & Partners 2021)*

*"Martin is very knowledgeable, very good with clients and extremely experienced." "An excellent barrister who is charming and persuasive." "He is very strong in negotiations." (Chambers & Partners 2020)*

*"A fantastic advocate." "Smart and a good negotiator." "Personable and always a pleasure to deal with." (Chambers & Partners 2019)*

*"One of the standout names. Very tenacious and determined, with a very attractive and easy manner." (Chambers & Partners 2018)*

*"He leaves no stone unturned in pursuit of the best outcome for his clients." (Chambers & Partners 2017)*

*"He's very personable and he has an excellent way with the lay client." (Chambers & Partners 2016)*

*"He was exceptional...very knowledgeable and understanding of my situation." (Chambers & Partner 2015)*

*"He is absolutely lovely. Very reassuring and realistic." (Chambers & Partners 2014)*

He comes highly recommended for *"a broad practice and impressive experience in maximum severity claims."* (Chambers & Partners 2013)

*"Great reputation in this field," "a very smooth operator." (Chambers & Partners 2012)*

*"Committed, astute and personable operator who is always on top of his brief." (Chambers & Partners 2011)*

*"Steadfast defence of their clients' interests." (Chambers & Partner 2010)*

## Personal Injury

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Martin Forde KC's Personal Injury practice is exclusively undertaken in the High Court involving injuries of maximum severity.

## Inquests

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Martin Forde KC work in Inquests is predominantly in cases with a mental health element. He is an experienced advocate for families and other Interested Persons.

## Selected Cases

- **Re: Smith (2021):** Represented family at inquest into death of young man with history of sickle cell

disease who had a delay in receiving blood transfusions.

- **Re: Agyapong (2021)**: Represented inquest into the death of pregnant Nurse from COVID-19 begins
- **Re: Chithira (2019)**: Acted for family of Irish woman who died after termination of pregnancy.

## Professional Discipline & Regulation

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He has appeared on many occasions in the Employment Tribunal acting for NHS Trusts and medical practitioners. He has appeared in HC (90) 9 proceedings, internal Trust and PCT hearings and has an extensive FHSAA practice.

Recently, Martin defended a doctor in a significant appeal on dishonesty in professional regulation in *General Medical Council v Chaudhary* [2017] EWHC 2561 (Admin).

He has been recognised as a band 1 practitioner by Chambers & Partners since 2010.

*"A charming opponent. He has a beautiful speaking style and is very confident in court. He has a tremendous reputation for his representation of medical professionals."* (Chambers & Partners 2021)

*"Highly experienced in the medical regulatory field, he is able to master a complex brief with speed. He is an excellent advocate who can pursue arguments robustly and authoritatively." "Extremely knowledgeable and helpful."* (Chambers & Partners 2020)

*"He thinks outside the box and is not afraid to take on the tribunal." "Always a pleasure to deal with."* (Chambers & Partners 2019)

*"He is phenomenal and clients absolutely love him." "Clever, able and personable."* (Chambers & Partners 2018)

*"He has a very smooth and persuasive oral advocacy style and is a very tough opponent." "A clear and straightforward advocate with very good judgement as to how to pitch a case and what arguments to run with."* (Chambers & Partners 2017)

*"He's an extremely experienced and classy barrister. He can make unpalatable arguments seem attractive."* (Chambers & Partners 2016)

*"Extremely impressive."* (Legal 500 2015)

*"He is very impressive, especially when you need a QC in a high-profile case."* (Chambers & Partners 2014)

*"Forceful, forthright and clear," "an exceptionally safe pair of hands."* (Chambers & Partners 2013)

A 'robust' advocate who *"will fight every reasonable angle for his client."* (Chambers & Partners 2012)

*"A charming and extremely capable advocate."* (Chambers & Partners 2011)

*"He fights to the end for his clients' best interests."* (Chambers & Partners 2010)

## Appointments

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- Member of Bar Council Pupillage Award Waiver Committee (2003-present)
- Independent Adviser to the Windrush Compensation Scheme (2018 – 2021)
- Judicial Appointments Commissioner (2012)
- Chair Bar Council Progression & Access Committee (2011)
- Recorder of the Crown Court (2009)
- South Eastern Circuit Diversity Mentor (2009)
- Chair South Eastern Circuit Minorities Committee (2009)
- Co-opted Member of the Bar Council (1994)

## Education

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- BA, Oxford

## Publications

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- *Righting Wrongs* (Counsel Magazine, June 2020)
- Law Pod UK Ep. 117: Systemic Racial Inequality : Windrush & the Bar