

Suzanne Lambert

Call: 2002



Suzanne Lambert has a broad civil and public law practice. She undertakes a wide range of common law cases, with a particular focus on healthcare and medical law, including clinical negligence and inquests, but also contractual matters involving institutions and GPs, cases involving ethical questions such as consent to treatment, human rights, mental health law, confidentiality issues and product liability. She also has extensive experience in personal injury, judicial review, professional discipline and regulatory law, as well as public inquiries. She is recommended as a leading junior by Legal 500.

She is instructed by both Claimants and Defendants in a wide variety of cases arising from allegations of clinical negligence. She acts in both low-value cases as well as high-value cases involving serious and catastrophic injuries (for example, cerebral palsy, spinal injuries, neurological injuries, loss of fertility, IVF and surrogacy, and delayed diagnosis of cancer). She has experience with complex legal issues such as contributory negligence, apportionment between Defendants, fatal accident claims, consent, and secondary victim claims.

Suzanne has appeared in a number of different fora (including Tribunals, Coroner's Courts, the General Medical Council, the General Dental Council, and the Nursing and Midwifery Council), and she has experience of all levels of courts, from the County Court up to the Supreme Court and Privy Council.

"Suzanne is excellent with clients, who have huge confidence in her calm but robust manner. Suzanne is an outstanding advocate, understated yet deadly in cross examination."

Legal 500 2023

"Suzanne handles conflict with calm diplomacy. She has a strong grasp of complex issues." "She is calm and collected in court."

Chambers & Partners 2023

"Intelligent, hardworking, very calm under pressure and extremely professional. An excellent advocate."

Clinical Negligence

Suzanne is instructed by both Claimants and Defendants in a wide variety of cases arising from allegations of clinical negligence. She acts in both low-value cases as well as high-value cases involving serious and catastrophic injuries (for example, cerebral palsy, spinal injuries, neurological injuries, loss of fertility, IVF and surrogacy, and delayed diagnosis of cancer). She has experience with complex legal issues such as contributory negligence, apportionment between Defendants, fatal accident claims, consent, and secondary victim claims.

She deals with cases relating to both liability and quantum at the drafting and advisory stage as well as in settlement negotiations. She has trial experience in both the county courts as well as the High Court and she has significant experience of procedural hearings and applications at the interlocutory stage.

Selected Cases

- **Ledsham v NHS Foundation Trust (2020)**: Defended against claim alleging failures to appropriately investigate and diagnose TB.
- **MXW v 2 NHS Foundation Trusts (2020)**: Birth injury claim. For the Claimant.
- **Jama v J Kuye and 12 others (2020)**: Junior Counsel for tetraplegic Claimant seeking damages for alleged failures in primary and hospital care.
- **ARB v IVF Hammersmith Ltd & R [2018] EWCA Civ 2803**: Supreme Court refused to grant appeal for claim of wrongful conception.
- **Bellv Ashford & St Peters Hospital NHS Trust (2016) Lawtel 28/7/2016**
- **Amelia Kate Garcia (By Her Litigation Friend Paula Garcia) v East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust [2006] EWHC 2062 (QB)**

Public Law

Suzanne has a particular interest in public law and human rights, with a particular focus on immigration and asylum, unlawful detention, prisons, inquests and mental health.

Suzanne has extensive experience in judicial review and particularly in immigration, prisons and tax judicial review, as is indicated by the list of selected cases below. She has appeared in all levels of courts up to the Supreme Court and the Privy Council.

Suzanne is passionate about immigration, asylum and human rights. She has been using her experience and expertise gained as a former member of the Attorney General's Panel of Counsel (between 2007 and 2016) to build her Claimant public law practice in this area as well as in prisons and human rights more generally. She has experience in relation to Tier 2 and Tier 4 immigration, as well as asylum, and appears instructed to

appear in the High Court and the Upper Tribunal for judicial review challenges, as well as the First Tier Tribunal (appeals).

Suzanne has significant experience with inquests and appears regularly in the Coroner's Court. She is instructed by families as well as institutions (particularly healthcare institutions and prisons) and healthcare professionals. She has considerable experience of Article 2 inquests and jury inquests.

Selected Cases

- **Juman v The Attorney General of Trinidad & Tobago & Anor [2017] UKPC 3.**
- **R (ota Minister for Economic Development of Jersey and Guernsey) v HMRC [2012] EWHC 718 (Admin).**
- **Massey v Governor of HM Prison Liverpool & Anor [2011] EWHC 2270 (Admin).**
- **R (ota Gyamfi) v SS for Justice [2010] EWHC 349 (Admin).**
- **R (ota Chester) v Parole Board & Anor [2008] EWHC 1318 (Admin).**

Immigration

Suzanne is passionate about immigration, asylum and human rights. She has been using her experience and expertise gained as a former member of the Attorney General's Panel of Counsel (between 2007 and 2016) to build her Claimant public law practice in this area as well as in prisons and human rights more generally. She has experience in relation to Tier 2 and Tier 4 immigration, as well as asylum, and appears in instructed to appear in the High Court and the Upper Tribunal for judicial review challenges, as well as the First Tier Tribunal (appeals).

Selected Cases

- **R (ota UK Business Academy) v SSHD [2012] EWHC 2385 (Admin); Thamby.**
- **R (on the application of Thurairasa) v SSHD [2012] EWHC 2412 (Admin).**
- **R (on the application of Gulzar) v SSHD [2010] EWHC 2138 (Admin) .**
- **R (on the application of) v SSHD [2011] EWHC 1763 (Admin).**
- **R (ota Mjemer) v SSHD [2011] EWHC 1514 (Admin).**

Public Inquiries

Suzanne has a good knowledge and understanding of public inquiries, having been involved in two major public inquiries (the Robert Hamill Inquiry, and the Al Sweady Inquiry). She has also been instructed in environmental inquiries on behalf of the EPA.

Selected Cases

- **The Al Sweady Public Inquiry.**
- **The Robert Hamill Public Inquiry.**
- **North Walsham & Dilham Canal Inquiry.**

Professional Discipline & Regulation

Suzanne has experience of representing healthcare professionals in regulatory proceedings and draws upon her experience and expertise in healthcare and medical matters. She has been instructed in fitness to practise proceedings before the GMC, MPTS, GDC and NMC.

Tax

Suzanne has extensive experience of indirect tax, VAT and excise fraud, and customs and excise duties and rating, having advised and represented HMRC in a large number of cases while she was a member of the AG's Panel of Counsel, as is demonstrated by the selected cases below.

Suzanne has also been instructed in judicial reviews involving issues of taxation. For example, she was junior counsel in the team that successfully defended the challenge to the decision to remove the low-value consignment exemption to goods imported from the Channel Islands.

Suzanne has appeared in all levels of courts and Tribunals in tax matters from the First Tier Tribunal up to the Supreme Court.

Suzanne is keen to use her expertise and experience to develop her practice on behalf of taxpayers in both tax appeals and judicial review.

Selected Cases

- ***Regency Factors v HMRC* [2022] EWCA Civ 103.**
- ***Aimia Coalition Loyalty UK Ltd (formerly Loyalty Management) v HM Revenue & Customs* [2013] UKSC 42.**
- ***SDM European Transport Ltd v HMRC* [2011] UKFTT 211 (TC), [2013] UKUT 251 (TCC).**
- ***R (ota Minister for Economic Development of Jersey and Guernsey) v HMRC* [2012] EWHC 718 (Admin).**
- ***M & J Communications Ltd v Revenue & Customs* [2012] UKFTT 427 (TC).**
- ***Marcus Webb Golf Professional v Revenue & Customs* [2012] UKUT 378 (TCC).**
- ***Lebara Ltd v Revenue & Customs* [2011] UKFTT 67 (TC).**
- ***Rahman (t/a Adibs Indian Takeaway) v Revenue & Customs* [2008] UKVAT V20529.**
- ***Neales Waste Management Ltd v Revenue & Customs* [2008] UKVAT(Excise) E01092.**

Costs

Suzanne is often called upon to advise on issues relating to costs arising out of her main areas of practice. She has appeared in front of the costs draftsman in detailed assessment proceedings.

Personal Injury

Suzanne has experience acting for both Claimants and Defendants in personal injury claims of all types, including work-related injuries and illness, and occupier's liability. She is instructed in both high-value claims involving serious injuries and multi-party proceedings. She also has been involved in historic child abuse claims.

She deals with cases relating to both liability and quantum at the drafting and advisory stage as well as in settlement negotiations. She has trial experience in both the county courts as well as the High Court and she has significant experience of procedural hearings and applications at the interlocutory stage.

Human Rights

Suzanne has extensive experience in human rights matters whether arising as part of judicial review claims, civil claims or in inquests. Suzanne has a particular interest in medical law, inquests, mental health, immigration and asylum, unlawful prosecution, unlawful detention, prisons, and tax.

She has appeared in all levels of courts up to the Supreme Court and the Privy Council as is indicated by the list of selected cases below.

She acts for both Claimants and Defendants.

Selected Cases

- **ARB v IVF Hammersmith Ltd & R [2018] EWCA Civ 2803**: Supreme Court refused to grant appeal for claim of wrongful conception.
- **R (ota UK Business Academy) v SSHD [2012] EWHC 2385 (Admin)**
- **Thamby; R (on the application of Thurairasa) v SSHD [2012] EWHC 2412 (Admin)**
- **R (on the application of Gulzar) v SSHD [2010] EWHC 2138 (Admin)**
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- **R (ota Mjemer) v SSHD [2011] EWHC 1514 (Admin)**
- **Juman v The Attorney General of Trinidad and Tobago & Anor (Trinidad and Tobago) [2017] UKPC 3**
- **R (ota Minister for Economic Development of Jersey and Guernsey) v HMRC [2012] EWHC 718**

(Admin)

- **Massey v Governor of HM Prison Liverpool & Anor [2011] EWHC 2270 (Admin)**
- **R (ota Gyamfi) v SS for Justice [2010] EWHC 349 (Admin)**
- **R (ota Chester) v Parole Board & Anor [2008] EWHC 1318 (Admin)**

Inquests

Suzanne has significant experience with inquests and appears regularly in the Coroner's Court. She is instructed by families as well as institutions (particularly healthcare institutions and prisons) and healthcare professionals. She has considerable experience of Article 2 inquests and jury inquests.

Healthcare and Court of Protection

Selected Cases

Suzanne has extensive experience in health law including clinical negligence and inquests, but also contractual matters involving institutions and GPs, cases involving ethical questions such as consent to treatment, human rights, mental health law, confidentiality issues and product liability.

Appointments

- Attorney General's B Panel of Junior Counsel to the Crown (2019 – present)

Awards

- Droop Scholarship, Lincoln's Inn
- Lord Denning Major Scholarship, Lincoln's Inn
- Littleton Chambers Prize for Labour Law, Oxford University
- Fitzgerald Prize for Final Examinations, Oxford University
- Trinidad & Tobago National Scholar, Languages

Education

- BVC (Very Competent), College of Law
- BA (First Class) Hons, Exeter College, Oxford University
- BA (Summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa), Dartmouth College, New Hampshire, USA:
Rhodes Scholar, Caribbean Region

Memberships

- PNBA
- PIBA
- HRLA
- JUSTICE
- Liberty
- ALBA
- Bar Pro Bono Unit
- Bar of Trinidad and Tobago (Called 2004)

Publications

- Editorial Team for the 1COR Quarterly Medical Law Review (QMLR)
- Law Pod UK Episodes 56, 14.
- 'Psychiatric injury: Primary rules' *Personal Injury Law Journal*, #174, April 2019
- 'Patient consent and IVF clinics' *APIL PI Focus* February 2019 Vol. 29 Issue 1