

Elizabeth-Anne Gumbel QC

Call: 1974 QC: 1999



Elizabeth-Anne Gumbel QC is a leading practitioner in Clinical Negligence and Personal Injury claims. Lizanne has a distinguished reputation for representing Claimants with highly complex claims for catastrophic injury. In clinical negligence she has particular expertise and experience in birth damage and neo-natal claims but acts in claims arising in a wide range of circumstances. In personal injury she acts for Claimants with head injuries, spinal injuries and other complex multiple injuries.

Lizanne's work also involves multi-party actions and she recently acted for over 700 Claimants in the litigation against Mr Ian Paterson, Spire Healthcare and HEFT. Lizanne has also been instructed in a number of multi-party actions arising out of sexual abuse and physical abuse of children and adults in institutions including the Jimmy Savile litigation and the Winterbourne View claims. Lizanne is now acting for woman abused by Mr Harvey Weinstein. Claims against private hospitals, the catholic church and local authorities have involved a number of cases which have resulted in the development of the law in respect of vicarious liability.

Lizanne is recommended as a leading and a star silk for both the clinical negligence and personal injury fields by Chambers & Partners Directory UK and in the Legal 500.

Since 2016, Lizanne has frequently been named both the Legal 500 'Personal Injury & Clinical Negligence Silk of the Year', and Chambers and Partners 'Personal Injury & Clinical Negligence Silk of the Year'.

In 2020, Lizanne was awarded 'Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence Silk of the Year' by Legal 500.

"A fantastic barrister who is pragmatic and sensible – she's absolutely amazing." "Her wealth of experience is second to none and she is incredibly hard-working."

Chambers & Partners 2021

"Quality from start to finish. Takes on difficult cases and gets fantastic results."

Legal 500 2022

“She has an outstanding mind and work ethic, is very compassionate and always up for a challenge.” “She continues to strive to achieve excellence for her clients. She puts experts through their paces in conference and is formidable in negotiations.”

Chambers & Partners 2022

Clinical Negligence

Lizanne Gumbel is a leading practitioner in the legal field of Clinical Negligence. Lizanne has a distinguished reputation for representing Claimants with highly complex claims for catastrophic injury. In clinical negligence she has particular expertise and experience in birth damage and neo-natal claims but acts in claims arising in a wide range of circumstances. In personal injury she acts for Claimants with head injuries, spinal injuries and other complex multiple injuries.

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In 2017 Lizanne won the Legal 500 Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence Silk of the Year for the second year running.

Contested cases in 2017 have included two appeals in clinical negligence cases in which the Court of Appeal have reversed the findings of the first instance Judge to find in favour of the Claimant and a birth damage case in which the Claimant succeeded after a trial on liability and causation.

Selected Cases

- **Barclays Bank v Various Claimants [2020] UKSC 13:** Determining whether an employer (bank) was vicariously liable for sexual assaults committed by an independent contractor (doctor) during medical examinations of the bank’s current and prospective employees.
- **Al-Zahra (PVT) Hospital & 7 ors v DDM (2019):** An 11-month period of time to serve a claim form out of the jurisdiction, beyond the additional six months allowed by the CPR, was justified where the claimant had obtained advice that service in Dubai was likely to take more than 12 months. However, a further extension was refused in view of delays by the claimant’s solicitors and their failure to take prompt expert advice on foreign law, and the fact that proceedings had been issued very close to the limitation period.

- **CN & GN v Poole BC [2019] UKSC 25:** The Supreme Court summarised the circumstances when a local authority could be said to have a duty of care when exercising statutory functions. A local authority which had exercised functions under the Children Act 1989 s.17 and s.47 had not had a duty of care towards the children concerned as it had not assumed responsibility for their safety or welfare.
- **BCD v University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (2019):** £30m settlement for young boy deprived at oxygen at birth with right-sided physical difficulties and neurodevelopmental and neurocognitive problems.
- **ABC v St George's Healthcare NHS Trust and others (2019):** Complex case concerning the disclosure of confidential medical information.
- **XXX v King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (2018)**
- **TW v Royal Bolton Hospital NHS Foundation Trust [2017] EWHC**
- **FB v Princess Alexandra Hospital NHS Trust [2017] EWCA Civ 334.**
- **ABC v (1) St George's Healthcare NHS Trust (2) South West London and St George's Mental Health NHS Trust (3) Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust [2015] EWHC1396, [2017] EWCA.**
- **Sean Hunt v Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust [2016]EWHC 47.**
- **(1) DR E (2) DR G v Somerset Partnership NHS Trust (2016).**
- **SXX (By Their Litigation Friend NXX) v Liverpool Women's NHS Foundation Trust [2015] EWHC 4072.**
- **X (by her mother & litigation friend AX MX) (Appellant) v Dartford & Gravesham NHS Trust (Respondent) & (1) Personal Injury Bar Association (2) Press Association (Interveners) [2015] EWCA civ 96.**
- **(1) Louise Bradbury (2) Maureen Dalton (3) Emma Measey (4) Julie Nicholson (5) Jennifer O'Donnell v (1) Ian Paterson (2) Spire Healthcare Ltd (3) Heart of England NHS Trust [2014] EWHC 3992.**
- **Gary Moore v Plymouth NHS Trust [2013] EWHC 3193.**
- **MXB v East Sussex Hospitals NHS Trust [2012] EWHC 3279.**
- **XYZ v Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust (2011).**
- **Simon Bourstead v North West Strategic Health Authority [2008] EWHC 2375.**
- **Braithwaite v Homerton University Hospitals Foundation Trust [2008] EWHC 353.**
- **A (a child suing by his father and litigation friend C) v B Hospitals NHS Trust [2006] EWHC 1178.**
- **Ahsan v University Hospitals Leicester NHS Trust [2006] EWHC 2624 (QB).**
- **Royal Victoria Infirmary & Associated Hospitals NHS Trust v B (A child) [2002] Lloyd's Rep Med 282.**
- **Lucy Reynolds v North Tyneside Health Authority [2002] Lloyds Rep Med 459.**

Personal Injury

Lizanne Gumbel QC is a highly distinguished practitioner in Personal Injury claims. She is instructed in a range of catastrophic injury claims, including spinal injuries, arising out of road traffic and other accidents.

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Selected Cases

- **Barclays Bank v Various Claimants [2020] UKSC 13:** Determining whether an employer (bank) was vicariously liable for sexual assaults committed by an independent contractor (doctor) during medical examinations of the bank's current and prospective employees.
- **Various Claimants v H and MIB (2020):** Acted for group of survivors and families of victims in the Westminster Bridge Terrorist Attack.
- **DFX and others v Council (2020):** Representing 4 Claimants bringing a claim against a local authority for failure to remove them from an abusive home.
- **KPR v OF (2020):** Catastrophic injuries sustained in road traffic accident.
- **PQ v Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust [2020] EWHC 1676:** Unusual birth injury claim.
- **GHI v North Bristol NHS Trust (2020):** Birth injury claim settled in excess of £16.7m.
- **BXY v Western Sussex Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (2020):** High value birth injury case where mother was prescribed Nifedipine before the birth.
- **CN & GN v Poole BC [2019] UKSC 25:** The Supreme Court summarised the circumstances when a local authority could be said to have a duty of care when exercising statutory functions. A local authority which had exercised functions under the Children Act 1989 s.17 and s.47 had not had a duty of care towards the children concerned as it had not assumed responsibility for their safety or welfare.
- **R (on the application of criminal injuries compensation authority) (Claimant) v First Tier Tribunal criminal injuries compensation & MB (Interested Party) [2016] EWHC 2745.**
- **JL v (1) Michael George Bowen (2) Scout Association [2015], C of A [2017] EWCA Civ 82.**
- **RE v GE [2015] EWCA Civ 287.**
- **P (by his litigation friend the official solicitor) v Cheshire West & Chester Council & Anor: P & Q (by their litigation the Official Solicitor) v Surrey County Council [2014] UKSC 19.**
- **Darren Griffin v George Ponsonby [2013] EWHC 3410.**
- **Robert Ayres v Mahesh Odedra [2013] EWHC 40.**
- **Boyle v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis [2013] EWCA.**
- **Ndiki Mutua and others v The Foreign and Commonwealth Office [2012] EWHC 2878.**
- **JGE v (1) English Province of our Lady of Charity (2) Trustees of the Portsmouth Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust [2012] EWCA Civ 938.**
- **Maga (By his litigation friend the Official Solicitor) v Trustees of the Birmingham Archdiocese of the Roman Catholic Church [2010] EWCA Civ 256.**
- **David Rowe v Dolman [2008] EWCA 1040.**
- **X and Y v London Borough of Hounslow [2009] EWCA civ 285.**
- **A v Iorworth Hoare [2008] HL 2 WLR 311.**
- **Jake Pierce v Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council [2007] EWHC 2968 (QB).**
- **C v Middlesbrough Council [2004] EWCA Civ 1746.**
- **Sowden v Lodge, Crookdake v Drury [2005] 1WLR 2129.**
- **McDonnell v Congregation of Christian Brothers Trustees (formerly Irish Christian Brothers) & Anor,**

Hof L [2004] 1 AC 1101.

- **Z v UK [2001] 2 FLR 612.**
- **S v Gloucestershire County Council, C of A [2000] FLR 825.**
- **Heil v Rankin [2000] 2 WLR 1173.**
- **X v Bedfordshire CC [1995] 2AC 663.**

Awards

- Shortlisted for 'Woman of the Year' and 'Barrister of the Year' by Women in Law Awards 2020
- Legal 500 Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence Silk of the Year (2020)
- Legal 500 Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence Silk of the Year (2017)
- Chambers & Partners Clinical Negligence and Personal Injury Silk of the Year (2016)
- Legal 500 Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence Silk of the Year (2016)

Education

- MA (Oxon)

Memberships

- APIL
- AVMA
- PIBA
- PNBA

Publications

- Joint author of "Clinical Negligence – A Practitioner's Handbook", published by OUP.
- Joint author of "Child Abuse Compensation Claims", published by the Law Society and "Guide to Child Abuse Compensation Claims" published by Jordans.
- Contributor to "Risk Management and Litigation in Obstetrics and Gynecology" edited by Roger Clements, published by RSM Press.
- Contributor to the 1COR Quarterly Medical Law Review (QMLR)