

## Laura Giachardi

Call 2009

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### Introduction

Laura King's College London.

Laura's practice is predominantly PI but she has also worked on various contract, property, trusts and probate matters as well as cases of professional and clinical negligence. She has an academic background and has taught at King's College London, LSE and Queen Mary University London. She has been praised for her ability to approach problems from a very practical standpoint and to simplify the most complex of legal and factual issues in order to maximise the impact of how a case should be presented. Laura's drafting and writing skills have been described as being consistently of a very high standard.

Laura teaches and convenes the Medical Negligence and Misadventure LLM/MA course at King's College London.

Laura is married with two children. When time permits, she enjoys yoga, reading and spending time with her family renovating their home in the French countryside.

### Clinical Negligence and Personal Injury

Laura has a lot of experience of personal injury work and regularly acts in PI matters arising out of RTAs. She regularly appears in the county court on behalf of Claimants and Defendants in trials and interim applications, as well as drafting pleadings and advising on all stages of PI litigation.

Laura has also acted and provided advice in a range of Clinical Negligence matters. She is the course convenor and lecturer for the Medical Negligence MA and LLM course at King's College London which covers all aspects of clinical negligence and also liability for medicinal products. Laura also regularly gives seminars at conferences on clinical negligence. In recent years these have included seminars for paediatricians from Great Ormond Street and Imperial Hospitals, the Independent Doctors Federation and

European lawyers at Paris Descartes.

## Commercial

Laura has experience working on cases including contractual disputes, contested wills and probate matters. She recently appeared as a junior in the Supreme Court case of *Wells v Devani* (judgment pending), a case concerning contractual interpretation and implication in the context of estate agents commission. She has also worked as a junior on a number of Financial Services Authority cases involving various schemes that were alleged to be collective investment schemes and thereby prohibited activities under the Financial Services & Markets Act 2000 and subordinate legislation.

Laura spent a year at the Law Commission working on both the Illegality in Trusts and Contract Law and Insurance Law Reform projects.

## Property

Laura has experience as a junior working on cases including specialist chancery disputes involving trusts of property. Additionally, she has drafted skeleton arguments and schedules in relation to a hotly contested nuisance matter involving a multi-million pound property, resulting in a success for her client and also a substantial costs award in their favour. She has taught Property and Trusts law on the LLB course at LSE.

## Court of Protection

Laura has acted in a number of Court of Protection cases. She undertook an MA in Medical Ethics and Law and has a detailed knowledge of most aspects of Medical Law, including Mental Health Law and also consent issues relating to both adults who lack capacity, and to teenagers and young children. She wrote her masters dissertation on Advance Directives and the Mental Capacity Act 2005.

## Qualifications and appointments

- LLB Law, First class: King's College London (2004)
- MA Medical Ethics and Law, Merit: King's College London (2005)
- Bar Vocational Course, Very Competent (2009)

## Scholarships and awards

- LSE: Research Studentship 2006-2008 – researched children's rights to freedom of religion and refusal of medical treatment
- KCL: 3 Serjeant's Inn Medical Law Prize, Leathes Prize for AKC, Barry Prize for AKC