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Aaron Moss

Call: 2013

Aaron accepts instructions across Chambers' main practice areas with particular interest in police law, inquests and inquiries. He has undergone vetting.

He is currently instructed in the **Westminster Bridge and Palace Inquests**, the **London Bridge Inquests**, the **Undercover Policing Inquiry**, and litigation concerning payments to CHIS handlers and undercover officers.

Before joining 5 Essex Court, Aaron served as a Special Constable in the Metropolitan Police Service from 2009 to 2014, spending the last 18 months leading a team as a Special Sergeant in Westminster. He has a first-hand understanding of operational policing, both as a constable and as a line manager, which gives him a good insight into the legal and practical problems confronting the police service.

Aaron is a contributor to the Employment Tribunal Handbook Fifth Edition (Bloomsbury Professional) published in 2017.

Police Law

Building on his experience as a Special Sergeant, Aaron frequently represents police forces in the Crown and Magistrates' Courts in applications for, and challenges to, civil Orders including POCA forfeitures, SHPOs and Football Banning Orders, as well as the destruction of dangerous dogs. He appeared for the Police in a recent challenge to dangerous dog legislation (***Webb v Chief Constable of Avon and Somerset Constabulary (Secretary of State for Food, Environment and Rural Affairs intervening [2017] EWHC 3311 (Admin)***).

He is frequently instructed to defend civil actions against the Police in the County Court, as well as often advising on such cases. He has also appeared on behalf of prison service providers.

He represents the Police in issues of disclosure and PII in Family proceedings, and has experience in relation to issues of National Security. Aaron has also successfully represented a Local Authority applying for a Forced Marriage Protection Order for reasons of capacity.

Aaron often advises on the exercise of operational police powers, and the application of the Police Regulations in cases such as pay and pensions. He is currently instructed by the MPS and the NPCC in relation to payments for CHIS handlers and undercover officers.

He was instructed by the Metropolitan Police in a large disclosure review as part of a sensitive inquiry into the alleged misconduct and criminality of undercover officers, having also carried out disclosure reviews for the Government Legal Department. Aaron is often instructed for LPP sifting following police seizure.

Inquests

Aaron has experience representing the Police in Inquests lasting multiple days, including A2 Inquests. He also has experience appearing for the ambulance service in relation to deaths in prison custody.

He is currently instructed as junior counsel to the **Westminster Bridge and Westminster Palace Inquests** and to the **London Bridge Inquests**. Aaron was previously instructed as junior counsel to the Tunisia Inquests and is familiar with issues regarding national security and other sensitive material.

Public Inquiries

Aaron is currently instructed by a number of individual police officers in the **Undercover Policing Inquiry**. This area of practice overlaps with Aaron's experience in coronial law in matters involving national security in the **Tunisia, Westminster Bridge and Westminster Palace**, and **London Bridge Inquests**.

Public / Administrative

Aaron has advised on the judicial review of a police caution and appeared for the Police in a challenge to the destruction of a dangerous dog in the Administrative Court (*Webb v Chief Constable of Avon and Somerset Constabulary (Secretary of State for Food, Environment and Rural Affairs intervening)* [2017] EWHC 3311 (Admin)).

He was recently instructed, as junior to Jeremy Johnson QC, in defending the judicial review of a police search warrant.

Human Rights

The vast majority of Aaron's work involves human rights law. For example, applications for police civil behavioural orders (SHPOs, SROs, gang injunctions etc) are typically a balance between a respondent's Article 8 rights and a potential victim's Article 3 rights, and comparable considerations. Arguments based in Article 6 frequently arise in these applications where there are linked criminal proceedings.

Likewise, Aaron's work concerning Public Interest Immunity requires a careful balance between competing rights. The same considerations arise frequently in Aaron's on-going work in the Undercover Policing Inquiry. Aaron has been instructed in Article 2 Inquests of a variety of scale.

Aaron is equally familiar with pure human rights claims and has defended claims including Articles 2, 3, 5, 8.

Information Law

Issues of information law and data protection arise throughout Aaron's practice. Aaron was recently instructed by a police force in a civil claim for failure to comply with a Subject Access Request. Other recent work includes the defence of a claim concerning the value to be attributed to data which was lost when a computer was unlawfully destroyed.

Aaron is vetted, and as such frequently handles documents of the utmost sensitivity. Aaron is unusually experienced for his level of call in matters of national security, anonymity and public interest immunity, having been instructed as junior counsel to the Tunisia Inquests, the Westminster Bridge and Palace Inquests and the London Bridge Inquests, as well as acting for a number of officers in the Undercover Public Inquiry.

Whilst advising on disclosure as junior counsel to multiple large scale Inquests, Aaron frequently handles issues of

data protection.

Personal Injury

Aaron advises on issues of liability and quantum in personal injury cases, including highways, occupiers' liability, employers' liability and RTA claims. He is frequently instructed in fast-track trials, having gained experience in these areas whilst providing in-house advice to a firm of personal injury solicitors.

Aaron accepts instructions on a CFA basis in appropriate cases.

Licensing

Aaron has successfully represented Transport for London in multiple appeals in the Crown and Magistrates' Courts, in respect of both Driver and Operator Licence decisions taken by Taxis and Private Hire.

He represents the Police in licensing appeals in firearm and shotgun matters, and has appeared for the Police in reviews of alcohol licences, including a high profile application concerning Niche Nightclub in Sheffield.

Employment

Aaron is currently instructed by the MPS and the NPCC in relation to payments for CHIS handlers and undercover officers. He often advises on the application of the Police Regulations in cases such as pay and pensions, and been instructed on matters concerning TUPE.

He has experience advising on police discipline matters, and was instructed in relation to disclosure in a long running discipline case concerning an undercover officer.

Although often instructed by the Police, Aaron is also instructed by private bodies and individuals.

Aaron is a co-author of the Employment Tribunal Handbook, Fifth Edition (Bloomsbury Professional) 2017.