



Beatrice specialises in the areas of police law, public law, mental health law, human rights and civil liberties, inquests and public inquiries.

She is a versatile and experienced advocate, recommended as a Police Law junior in Chambers & Partners. Recent quotations from the directories describe her as: “well educated, well qualified and bright” (2017); “careful and conscientious” (2016) and as having “an excellent grasp of employment law” and “an effective advocate” (2015).



Practice Areas

POLICE LAW

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

INQUESTS

PUBLIC INQUIRIES

COSTS

PERSONAL INJURY LAW

Clerks

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Email: clerks@5essexcourt.co.uk

The Legal 500 - She has an exceptional level of experience beyond her level of call (2017)

Police Work

Beatrice has acted in high profile litigation involving the police and has expertise in a wide range of police law.

She advises and represents police forces in a range of areas including search warrants, covert policing, informants, Human Rights Act claims, including claims under Article 3 ECHR alleging a failure to investigate, claims under Article 5 ECHR for unlawful detention, false imprisonment, assault, malicious prosecution, misfeasance, negligence claims, stop and search, public order, assorted police powers under PACE 1984, data and information retention/disclosure including claims under the Data Protection Act 1998, misuse of private information, and Article 8 ECHR.

She is currently instructed to represent the IPCC in the ongoing Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse.

Beatrice's recent cases:

Medihani v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis (2017) (led by Jeremy

Johnson QC)

Negligence/Article 2 ECHR claim brought against the MPS by family of a girl murdered by her friend.

Francis v Chief Constable of Thames Valley Police (2017)

Judicial review claim challenging the outcome of a PSD investigation into the claimant's complaints concerning numerous aspects of a police investigation

Sutton v Chief Constable of South Wales Police (2017)

Assault, false imprisonment, and malicious prosecution claim

Toros v Chief Constable of Nottinghamshire Police (2017)

Assault, false imprisonment, and malicious prosecution claim

Wilson v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis (2016)

Assault, false imprisonment, and malicious prosecution claim

Lady Caledon v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis [2016] EWHC 2214

Part 8 claim for disclosure of information obtained by the police during the course of a criminal investigation into a third party (phone hacking-type claim)

Jallow-Halake v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis (2016)

Judicial review challenge to the retention of information about the Claimant in police systems

Melville v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis (2016)

Claim for damages for an alleged failure to investigate a serious criminal offence

Mouncher v Chief Constable of South Wales Police [2016] EWHC 1367 (led by Jeremy Johnson QC)

Claim by 16 former officers of false imprisonment, malicious prosecution, misfeasance, breach of Article 8, trespass arising out of the collapse in 2011 of the UK's largest criminal trial involving alleged police corruption.

Beatrice's recent advisory work has included the following topics:

- Numerous aspects of policing and mental health, including the use of s135 and s136 of the Mental Health Act 1983
- Whether there should be a fresh independent investigation into the 1985 Bradford City stadium fire
- The policing of drug testing tents at music festivals
- Numerous claims asserting that a police investigation of a serious offence has been inadequate (Article 3 ECHR)
- Challenges to a police decision to take no further action / CPS decision not to prosecute
- Claims for overtime brought by undercover officers
- The retention by the police of sensitive personal data
- The legality of search warrants

Inquest Work

Beatrice has wide-ranging experience of inquest work and is used to advising and representing clients throughout the inquest process. She has the knowledge and skills to help clients identify potential impact and risks at an early stage, to advise on witnesses and evidence and to represent clients at the inquest. She understands the importance of working with other interested persons where appropriate and helping clients to manage any post-inquest matters, including any Regulation 28 Reports.

Her inquest work usually overlaps with other areas of her expertise, including policing (police pursuits/restraint) prisons (death in custody) and mental health and capacity (care homes/social care/psychiatric patients/dementia sufferers).

Beatrice's recent inquests include:

Inquest into the death of Kirsty Walker (2017) representing the NHS Trust

Inquest into the death of Ashley Forde (2017), representing the police

Beatrice Collier, 5 Essex Court

Inquest into the death of John McKeown (2017), representing the police
Inquest into the death of Leah Ratheram (2017) representing the social care provider
Inquest into the death of Jack Davies O'Neill (2017), representing the local authority
Inquest into the death of Stewart Atkins (2016), representing the police
Inquest into the death of Monica Wallace (2016), representing the local authority
Inquest into the death of Christiaan Woestenburg (2016), representing the IPCC
Inquest into the death of Paul Crick (2016), representing the commissioning authority
Inquest into the death of Lakwinder Singh (2016), representing the prison

Mental Health Law

Beatrice is an acknowledged authority on policing and mental health and has expanded her practice to include mental health and capacity law more generally, including detention, deprivation of liberty and best interests. Her clients include the Ministry of Justice, NHS providers, prisons and local authorities.

Education

ICSL, Bar Vocational Course
St Hugh's College, Oxford University, BA in Law
Corpus Christi College, Cambridge University, BA in History and English
St Paul's Girls' School, London (Junior & Senior Scholar)

Interests

Contemporary Art, Arsenal FC, running, cooking