

**Background**

Peter's practice is mainly focused on Inquests and on work across the broad range of Police law and Public law. Peter also practises in Employment law, where he has the benefit of experience dating back from before he was called to the Bar.

Peter's academic background includes reading Philosophy, Politics and Economics at Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford University. On the ICSSL's Bar Vocational Course, Peter was graded Outstanding.

Peter is security cleared to SC level.

Practice Areas

POLICE LAW

INQUESTS

PUBLIC / ADMINISTRATIVE
LAW

PUBLIC INQUIRIES

EMPLOYMENT LAW

LICENSING LAW

Clerks

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Police Law

Peter's practice is centred on both advising and acting on behalf of police forces. He regularly appears in Inquests as well as in a wide range of County Court and High Court matters, including in relation to ECRCs, claims of unlawful arrest and false imprisonment, assault, negligence, conversion, misfeasance, malicious prosecution, judicial reviews, and human rights claims.

Peter also frequently acts for police forces at misconduct hearings, including the Police Appeals Tribunal.

Peter is regularly instructed to advise or act in matters concerning Legal Professional Privilege or special procedure material. He frequently acts as independent counsel conducting the LPP sift. He also appears in applications under Schedule 1 of PACE and for Production Orders. Peter recently drafted a guidance note for operational officers to brief them on the law around LPP.

Inquests

Peter is regularly instructed to represent the interests of various public bodies, and on one occasion so far – a bereaved family, in Inquests, including high-profile cases with the potential to affect organisational reputations. He has considerable experience of multi-week Article 2 Inquests.

Cases have involved matters including (among others) death in prison, high-speed Police pursuit by car, a fall off a balcony while handcuffed and about to be taken to hospital by Police, a death a few hours after release from Police custody, death by pneumonia (contributed to by alcohol abuse) metres away from a Police station, a shooting by gang members in the vicinity of a funeral, a suicide in a children's home, alleged neglect by a hospital, and a late-night collision with a car while hitch-hiking home from hospital.

Public/Administrative Law

Peter frequently represents public bodies in claims for judicial review in a wide range of contexts. Recent instructions have included both paper advocacy and attendance at both permission and substantive hearings, dealing with human rights claims and matters of public importance, from cautions and Police National Computer entries to Police licensing functions.

Having been supervised by Jeremy Johnson QC, and having shadowed Alan Payne, during his pupillage, Peter also maintains his interest in immigration law. He is keen to expand his portfolio in this area.

Employment Law:

Peter has extensive experience in both Employment Tribunal and EAT cases, representing claimants and respondents, including police forces and public bodies, across a broad range of employment law, including all types of discrimination, harassment, victimisation, unfair and constructive dismissal, redundancy, TUPE, employment status issues, breach of contract, holiday pay and wages claims.

Peter has experienced a wide range of cases – from cases heard in private on grounds of national security to an unfair dismissal subsequent to allegations of gross misconduct on social media. Peter has also assisted clients with drafting of employment contracts and policies for staff handbooks.

Licensing Law:

Peter appears, on behalf of Police forces and licensing authorities, before Licensing Sub-committees as well as the Crown Court. Matters he covers relate to firearms, liquor or entertainment licensing. Peter has taken part in the delivery of training on behalf of the Institute of Licensing on the law and practice of licensing hearings.

Peter also appears in Private Hire Vehicle Driver and Operator Licence appeals. He accepts instructions in respect of Hackney Carriage matters.

Other Specialisms:

Peter frequently appears in hearings in County Courts in general civil matters on all tracks.

Peter also has considerable experience of advising both claimants and defendants (including police forces and public bodies) upon a broad range of personal injury matters. These include road traffic accidents, occupiers' liability, manual handling, workplace and construction regulations, PUWER, Highways Act claims and slipping and tripping.

Publications & Lectures:

Peter gave a presentation at the 5 Essex Court Annual Police Law Conference 2015 on the law concerning retention of data by Police forces, discussing in particular *R (Catt) v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis* [2015] UKSC 9.

'Dismissed or not dismissed?', New Law Journal, 8th February 2013:
<http://www.newlawjournal.co.uk/nlj/content/dismissed-or-not-dismissed>

Peter has presented a webinar for Central Law Training on Social Media and Employment Law.

Together with **John-Paul Waite** and **Richard Oulton**, Peter frequently delivers a Workshop on Grievance and Disciplinary Processes to lawyers and staff from a national utility company.

In September 2015, Peter delivered a talk to a firm of solicitors in East Anglia, updating them on recent developments in Discrimination law, as part of an Employment Law Update delivered together with Victoria von Wachter and Claire Palmer.

Peter took part in the delivery of NPIA-approved training to Police forces on the 2008 Conduct and Performance Regulations.

Peter has taken part in the delivery of training on behalf of the Institute of Licensing on the law and practice of licensing hearings.

Peter is happy to provide CPD lectures to solicitors on all aspects of his practice.

Education:

ICSL, 2006-2007

City University, London, 2005-2006

Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford University, 2002-2005

Westminster School, London, 1996-2001

Università per Stranieri di Perugia, Italy, July – Sep 2002 & May – July 2008

Languages:

English (native), Persian (fluent), Italian (good working knowledge), French (to A-level)

Interests:

Music, Squash, Football (particularly Arsenal FC)