



"Outstanding on police misconduct matters." *Police Law, Chambers UK 2017*

"He's particularly strong on his feet where his thorough analysis pays off." *Police Law, Chambers UK 2017*

"He is very efficient and knowledgeable, and has sound judgement." *Police Law, Chambers UK 2017*

"He is outstanding in police misconduct matters." "A very clever and highly astute tactician, he's a very affable man and an extremely effective advocate." *Professional Discipline, Chambers UK 2017*

"He is a very thorough and robust advocate." "He is very intelligent and grasps the issues of the case very quickly." *Professional Discipline, Chambers UK 2015*

"He is very confident and businesslike, and he manages the client's expectations appropriately." *Police Law, Chambers UK 2015*

He is a very good jury advocate, who pitches it well and is persuasive and thorough.' *Police Law, Chambers UK 2014*

'Robust advocate' Matthew Holdcroft 'argues his cases fantastically very well, as demonstrated by his recent defence of the Chief Constable of Leicestershire in a case where the claimant alleged assault, unlawful detention and malicious prosecution. The claim was discontinued after Holdcroft's cross-examination of witnesses, and the defendant was awarded costs' *Police Law, Chambers UK 2013*

Matthew has a 'fantastic keenness and a great eye for detail' and 'a drafting ability that is second to none' *Chambers and Partners* 'Always finishes well before deadline and is very clear and to-the-point' *Police Law, Chambers UK 2014.*

Background:

Matthew read Jurisprudence at St. Catherine's College, Oxford. He took the BVC at the Inns of Court School of Law and was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn in October 1998, he has subsequently become an 'adeundem' member of the Middle Temple. He is an advocacy trainer at Middle Temple.

Police Law:

Matthew's police practice touches on almost every aspect of police law and Matthew has been instructed in some of the most high profile cases of the last few years including Raoul Moat, Ian Tomlinson and Hillsborough.

Civil Actions - Matthew is regularly instructed in civil claims alleging unlawful arrest, assault, malicious prosecution, misfeasance and allegations of discrimination; together with EL claims.

Matthew is very well known for his clear tactical overview for managing the litigation and putting clients at ease. This is particularly relevant where the civil claim is brought in parallel with other proceedings e.g. criminal, Baker and Brogan v Chief Constable of the South Yorkshire Police, associated judicial review proceedings, Crosby v Commissioner of Police for the Metropolis, or inquests, Mengutay v Commissioner of Police for the Metropolis.

Advisory - Matthew is asked to advise across the whole range of police work, including civil actions and proposed judicial review claims plus all other areas involving the police e.g. the letting of police houses, the position in relation to transferees and entitlements, the de-criminalisation of moving traffic offences, the use of mobile processing units, the retention and seizure of vehicles, and the correct interpretation of PACE.

Misconduct - Matthew is recommended as a leader in the field of misconduct in Chambers and Partners 2014. Matthew's regulatory practice includes roles for the Nursing and Midwifery Council, the Bar Standards Board and police misconduct hearings. He has been involved in a very wide range of misconduct hearings. He has appeared regularly in judicial review proceedings arising out of disciplinary investigations and hearings.

Public/Administrative Law:

Matthew is regularly instructed in judicial review claims in a wide variety of areas including:

Police misconduct - R on the application of Gardner v IPCC and the Commissioner of Police for the Metropolis, R on the application of Fatima Boussid v IPCC and the Commissioner of Police for the Metropolis, R on the application of Mendy v the Commissioner of Police for the Metropolis, R on the application of Casaluci v the IPCC.

Disclosure and Enhanced Criminal Record Certificates - R on the application of SL v Commissioner of Police [2008] EWHC 1442 (Admin), Moodie v Chief Constable of Lancashire, R on the application of Bailey v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis and other more discrete areas e.g. Costs Taylor v Commissioner of Police for the Metropolis [2009] EWHC 264 (Admin).

Funding of separate representation - Friend and Others v Greater Manchester Police Authority and the Chief Constable of the Greater Manchester Police.

Legality of arrests - R on the application of Bradley Wright-Phillips v Chief Constable of the Hampshire Constabulary.

Lawfulness of cautions - R on the application of Lee v the Chief Constable of the Essex Police.

Inquests:

Matthew specialises in personal injury and police law, so frequently appears at inquests. He represents the police in inquests arising from deaths in custody or from circumstances in which the police are involved. He also appears for parties who are involved in related fatal accident claims.

Personal Injury Law:

Matthew acts on behalf of both Claimants and Defendants in personal injury and fatal accident claims arising from workplace, road traffic and holiday accidents, as well as claims under the Highways Act and the Occupiers' Liability Acts.

His practice includes claims involving catastrophic injuries and acting on behalf of Marks & Spencer, Tesco, Asda and C2C. Matthew accepts instructions under Conditional Fee Agreements.

Lectures:

Matthew provides lectures in both personal injury and police law.

Significant work and cases

R (on the application of the Chief Constable of West Yorkshire) v Independent Police Complaints Commission [2013] EWHC 2698 (Admin)

R (on the application of Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis) v Police Appeals Tribunal [2013] EWHC 1684 (Admin); Official Transcript

R (on the application of Lee) v Chief Constable of Essex [2012] EWHC 283 (Admin)

R on the application of L v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis and the Secretary of State for the Home Department and Liberty [2009] UKSC 3, (2009) 3 WLR 1056, Times, November 2, 2009.

R on the application of Crosby v Independent Police Complaints Commission and the Commissioner of Police for the Metropolis [2009] EWHC 2515 (Admin).

Desmond v Chief Constable of Nottinghamshire – Nottingham County Court (First Instance), High Court on appeal [2009] EWHC 2362 (QB).

Interests:

Matthew has a keen interest in rowing, travel, film, music and wine.