



Background:

After reading Modern Languages at Oxford, teaching in Austria and being accepted into Sandhurst, Simon read for the Bar from 1986 to 1987. Having practised for nearly 20 years from Bridewell Chambers, Simon joined 5 Essex Court in 2007.

He has a keen interest in the City of London where he was an elected member of the City Corporation for 23 years, which included terms as the Chairman of the City of London Police Authority and of the City's Licensing Authority.

Election as an Alderman of the City in 2000 led to Simon sitting for over a decade as a Justice of the Peace and Bench chair and sitting ceremonially as a judge of the Central Criminal Court. He is a Freeman of the City of London and a liveryman of two livery companies. In wider London politics Simon served two terms as the Mayoral representative on the London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority.

Practice Areas

POLICE LAW
LICENSING LAW

News

[5 Essex Court is rated highly in its specialist fields in Chambers and Partners 2013](#)

[5 Essex Court welcomes four new members](#)

Contact us

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Police & Regulatory Law:

After many years working for police forces across the country, giving advice and appearing as advocate in inquests and in cases before the High Court, the Employment Appeals Tribunal and the County Courts in civil jury trials, Simon began to specialise in police discipline cases (both as legal advisor and presenting counsel) following the Taylor review and the introduction of the Police (Conduct) Regulations in 2008 and 2012.

He has led teams from Chambers lecturing across the country to all types of stakeholders in the new Regulations, ranging from ACPO officers to panels of independent members, where his two decades of Police Authority membership has proved unique and invaluable.

Simon also acts on a regular basis as a legal assessor for regulatory panels of the Nursing and Midwifery Council, sitting in England and Northern Ireland.

Licensing Law:

Since the introduction of the 2003 Licensing Act, Simon has drawn on his police law background and his experience as a local politician to develop a specialisation in licensing law. With an emphasis on major city centres (such as the City of Westminster, Leeds and Manchester) he regularly appears before licensing authorities, magistrates on appeal and increasingly in judicial review work in the High Court. He also lectures extensively on all aspects of licensing and local authority regulation to audiences ranging from enforcement officers to elected members.

Lectures:

Simon is happy to provide tailor-made lectures and seminars on all aspects of his work to any interested parties - with CPD accreditation where appropriate. Simon has also lectured at the University of Durham on development in pornography legislation.

Interests:

The Commonwealth, civic responsibility, 19th century French novels, municipal tramways, promoting the survival of real ale and the ecclesiastical life of the City of London - where Simon has been a Churchwarden since 2000.

Education:

The Manchester Grammar School (1972-1980)

Balliol College, Oxford (MA Modern Languages) (1980-84)

Pädagogische Akademie des Bundes in Oberösterreich (1982-3)

Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst (1985)

City University, London (Diploma in Law) (1986)

Significant work and cases

Albert Court Residents v Westminster City Council - judicial review of a local authority's process of local notification.

Re Harper's Nightclub (Guildford) - First instance decision before judicial review to determine ability of licensing authority to dismiss cases as an abuse of process.

Re: Bulldog Bash (Warwickshire) - licence review of a major annual Hell's Angels gathering.