



John became a tenant at 5 Essex Court in September 2016 after successfully completing his pupillage. Previously, he spent six years as a Royal Engineer officer in the British Army, including service in Iraq and Afghanistan. This included working with and advising on the relationship between the British Armed Forces and the Afghan National Police.

John accepts instructions in all of Chambers' main practice areas.

Police Law

John has appeared in the Crown, County and Magistrates' Courts on civil applications by the police relating to anti-social behavior, gang violence, domestic violence, football hooliganism and sexual offending. He has also represented police forces in cash forfeiture proceedings under the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002.

John has also represented police forces defending claims brought in the County Court. During pupillage, he worked on assault, misfeasance and false imprisonment cases under the supervision of Jason Beer QC and Francesca Whitelaw. He has also been involved in resisting judicial review claims on behalf of police forces and the IPCC, and with challenges to CPS decision-making on human rights grounds.

Practice Areas

POLICE LAW

INQUESTS

POLICE DISCIPLINE AND
EMPLOYMENT LAW

Clerks

T. 020 7410 2000

Email: clerks@5essexcourt.co.uk

He appears in the Family Court on behalf of police forces seeking or resisting disclosure of information. He has advised on the Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015 and the extent of the police's obligation to cooperate with annual risk assessments.

John has carried out large-scale disclosure reviews for the Government Legal Department and the Metropolitan Police, as well as acting as independent counsel on LPP sifts in ongoing criminal investigations.

Inquests

John worked extensively with Francesca Whitelaw on the Cheryl James (Deepcut) Inquest. He has assisted in both Article 2 and non-Article 2 inquests involving deaths in prison custody, during police restraint and resulting from police RTAs. He is particularly keen to develop this experience in inquests.

Police Discipline and Employment Law

Under the supervision of both Francesca Whitelaw and Sarah Keogh, John has gained experience in a variety of police discipline cases, including matters arising out of Plebgate and allegations of serious crime. He has also worked on resisting appeals to the PAT. He has assisted with providing advice to respondents in employment disputes and drafting grounds of resistance to Tribunal claims.

Prior to joining chambers, John volunteered for the Free Representation Unit representing employees bringing claims in the Employment Tribunal for unfair dismissal, discrimination and unlawful deductions from wages.

Other areas

John has appeared in infant approval hearings. As part of the Government Legal Department's 'Junior Junior' scheme, he has advised and drafted documents in large-scale personal injury litigation and would like to develop his experience of personal injury work. He is happy to take cases on a CFA basis where appropriate.

John has appeared in the Magistrates' Court to resist appeals against licensing decisions. He has been instructed on firearms licensing appeals to the Crown Court.

Education and Awards

BPTC (Outstanding, Taylor Prize for best in year), Nottingham Law School, 2014-15

Graduate Diploma in Law (Distinction, Law School Prize for best in year), Nottingham Law School, 2013-14

Bedingfield Scholarship and David Karmel Entrance Award from Gray's Inn (2013 & 2014)

BA (Hons) International Studies (1st), Open University, 2010-13

Queen's Medal for best overall performance and Trust Medal for best academic performance on the Commissioning Course, Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, 2007

MA (Cantab) Classics, Pembroke College, Cambridge University, 2003-06

Publications

"Extending non-delegable duties of care: Liability without fault" – an assessment of *Woodland v Swimming Teachers Association* [2013] UKSC 66 (Gray's Inn Student Law Journal 2014)

Other interests

John has a good working knowledge of Pashto and enjoys skiing, hill-walking, running and travel.

Memberships

Administrative Law Bar Association

Institution of Royal Engineers