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Aaron Moss
Call: 2013



Aaron accepts instructions across Chambers' main practice areas with particular interest in police law, information law, inquests and inquiries. He has undergone vetting.

He was appointed to the Attorney General's C Panel of Counsel in March 2019, the panel from which Government departments instruct counsel in civil law matters.

He is currently instructed in the **Undercover Policing Inquiry**, and the **Police Overtime Claims Litigation** concerning payments to CHIS handlers and undercover officers. He recently acted as junior Counsel to the Chief Coroner in the **Westminster Bridge and Palace Inquests**, the **London Bridge Inquests**.

Before joining 5 Essex Court, Aaron served as a Special Constable in the Metropolitan Police Service from 2009 to 2014, spending the last 18 months leading a team as a Special Sergeant in Westminster. He has a first-hand understanding of operational policing, both as a constable and as a line manager, which gives him a good insight into the legal and practical problems confronting public servants.

Aaron is a contributor to the Employment Tribunal Handbook Fifth Edition (Bloomsbury Professional) published in 2017.

Aaron accepts Direct Public Access instructions.

Recommendations

He is absolutely fantastic and - mark my words - will end up as a leading silk in this area. He's a terrific lawyer and a very good advocate who has fantastic judgement."
Chambers UK 2020

"He knew everything about the case and cut a very impressive figure in it. He'll rise through the ranks very quickly."
Chambers UK 2020

Police Law

Building on his experience as a Special Sergeant, Aaron frequently represents police forces in the Crown and Magistrates' Courts in applications for, and challenges to, civil Orders including POCA forfeitures, SHPOs and Football Banning Orders, as well as the destruction of dangerous dogs. He appeared for the Police in a challenge to dangerous dog legislation (***Webb v Chief Constable of Avon and Somerset Constabulary (Secretary of State for Food, Environment and Rural Affairs intervening)*** [2017] EWHC 3311 (Admin)).

Aaron has particular recent experience in relation to new Account Freezing Orders both under the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 and the Anti-Terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001. He has acted in case for the Metropolitan Police Service and specialist regional units, including an application arising from the conviction of the first all

female terror group in Britain.

He is frequently instructed to defend civil actions against the Police in the County Court, as well as often advising on such cases. He has also appeared on behalf of prison service providers. He was instructed, as junior to Jeremy Johnson QC, in defending the judicial review of a police search warrant in ***R (Hafeez) v Southwark Crown Court [2018] EWHC 954 (Admin)***.

Aaron often advises on the exercise of operational police powers, including the exercise of covert tactics, and the application of the Police Regulations in cases such as pay and pensions. He is currently instructed by most of the country's Chief Officers in the **Police Overtime Claims Litigation**.

He represents the Police in issues of disclosure and PII in Family proceedings, and has experience in relation to issues of National Security. Aaron has also successfully represented a Local Authority applying for a Forced Marriage Protection Order for reasons of capacity.

He was instructed by the Metropolitan Police in a large disclosure review as part of a sensitive inquiry into the alleged misconduct and criminality of undercover officers, having also carried out sensitive disclosure reviews for the Government Legal Department.

Inquests

Aaron has experience representing the Police in Inquests lasting multiple days, including A2 Inquests. His current and recent instructions include cases concerning a woman's possible suicide whilst the police carried out a missing person's investigation and the murder of a woman by a man she met on a dating website. He also has experience appearing for the ambulance service in relation to deaths in prison custody.

He was instructed as junior counsel to the **Westminster Bridge** and **Westminster Palace Inquests** and to the **London Bridge Inquests**. Aaron was previously instructed as junior counsel to the **Tunisia Inquests**. He is very familiar with issues regarding national security and other sensitive material, and the admission of such material in evidence in Inquests and other proceedings.

Public Inquiries

Aaron is currently instructed by a number of individual police officers in the **Undercover Policing Inquiry**. This area of practice overlaps with Aaron's experience in coronial law in matters involving national security in the **Tunisia, Westminster Bridge and Westminster Palace, and London Bridge Inquests**.

Recently, Aaron was led by Alan Payne QC in a judicial review claim arising from the **Undercover Policing Inquiry** in ***R (Da Silva and Others) v Sir John Mitting and Others [2019] EWHC 426 (Admin)***, for a client whom they continue to represent in the Inquiry.

Information Law

Issues of information law and data protection arise throughout Aaron's practice. Examples of Aaron's recent work include representing a police force in a civil claim for failure to comply with a Subject Access Request, defending a claim concerning the value to be attributed to data which was lost when a computer was unlawfully destroyed, and drafting a data sharing MOU between public sector organisations.

He is currently acting for a police force, defending a privacy claim arising out of the alleged sharing of information with a media organisation prior to the execution of a search warrant. A second current case concerns the release

of a witness's personal details to a suspect.

Aaron is vetted, and as such often handles material of the utmost sensitivity.

Aaron is currently instructed in the Westminster Bridge Inquests and the London Bridge Inquests, and previously acted in the Tunisia Inquest. He gives frequent advice on data protection issues arising in the course of disclosure in these cases.

Aaron is a member of the Data Protection Forum.

He is particularly keen to accept Direct Public Access instructions in this area.

Public / Administrative

Aaron has a particular experience and interest in matters concerning National Security, including arising from the use of covert tactics. He has undergone vetting.

Recently, Aaron was led by Alan Payne QC in a judicial review claim arising from the **Undercover Policing Inquiry** in *R (Da Silva and Others) v Sir John Mitting and Others* [2019] EWHC 426 (Admin), for a client whom they continue to represent in the Inquiry.

He is instructed by a police force defending a judicial review claim after allegedly giving information to the media ahead of the execution of a search warrant, he has advised on the judicial review of police cautions and appeared for the Police in a challenge to the destruction of a dangerous dog in the Administrative Court (*Webb v Chief Constable of Avon and Somerset Constabulary (Secretary of State for Food, Environment and Rural Affairs intervening)* [2017] EWHC 3311 (Admin)).

Aaron was instructed, as junior to Jeremy Johnson QC, in defending the judicial review of a police search warrant in *R (Hafeez) v Southwark Crown Court* [2018] EWHC 954 (Admin). He is currently acting for a police force in a challenge by Case Stated to police powers of cash forfeiture under the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002.

He has recently been instructed in a number of immigration matters for the Government.

Personal Injury

Aaron advises on issues of liability and quantum in personal injury cases, including highways, occupiers' liability, employers' liability and RTA claims. He is frequently instructed in fast-track trials, having gained experience in these areas whilst providing in-house advice to a firm of personal injury solicitors.

His current instructions include defending a claim which includes significant special damages for hair replacement treatment, and acting for the Ministry of Justice in a number of claims brought by prisoners.

Aaron accepts instructions on a CFA basis in appropriate cases.

Licensing

Aaron has successfully represented Transport for London in multiple appeals in the Crown and Magistrates' Courts, in respect of both Driver and Operator Licence decisions taken by Taxis and Private Hire.

He represents the Police in licensing appeals in firearm and shotgun matters, and has appeared for the Police in reviews of alcohol licences, including a high profile application concerning Niche Nightclub in Sheffield.

Healthcare

Aaron has experience of healthcare work across his practice in inquests and personal injury litigation. A significant proportion of Aaron's work concerns allegations of professional negligence against public authorities, with the potential impact on the individual and the organisation, including reputational risk, which such claims entail.

In inquests, as well as having specific experience acting for the ambulance service, Aaron is often instructed in inquests concerning issues of survivability. He is currently instructed as junior counsel to the Westminster Bridge and Westminster Palace Inquests and to the London Bridge Inquests. Aaron was previously instructed as junior counsel to the Tunisia Inquests.

Aaron is often instructed in small claim and fast track trials concerning personal injuries, and advises on the same and on quantum.

Before joining Chambers, Aaron volunteered for the charity AvMA (Action Against Medical Accidents), attending a number of Inquests to support bereaved families.