

1GC | Family Law

Frances Orchover

Year of Call: 1989



Practice Overview

Frances has thirty years' experience at the Bar, she has an extensive background in criminal defence advocacy and now specialises in family law. She has experience in ancillary relief and TOLATA but now practices exclusively in Children's law.

Frances has expertise in complex and serious cases involving non-accidental injury; including shaken babies, burns, murder of one parent by another, fabricated illness, sexual abuse (intergenerational and paedophile rings), pornography, domestic violence, forced marriage, chronic neglect, and trafficking.

She frequently undertakes relocation cases and cases involving religious issues. She has excellent mastery of medical issues and complex voluminous documentation.

Frances is regularly instructed on behalf of all parties in public and private law cases regularly instructed by Cafcass High Court team and NYAS, also acts for children without Guardian. She also sits as a Deputy District Judge in London and the South East, in civil, private, and public family law.

Robust, succinct, insightful, tenacious and assertive, Frances offers excellent client care. She is known for being extremely hard working and thorough.

Frances accepts public access instructions.

Children (public law)

Children (private law)

Court of Protection

Domestic violence & injunctions

International family law

Notable Cases

***K V K Ors* [2008] EWHC 1561 (Fam)**

Frances worked at fact finding in this private law case. The case included forensic evidence in respect of arson and stabbing, the involvement of police, and required a rehearing after fresh evidence to determine the role of the Guardian.

B v B (Financial Provision: Welfare of Child and Conduct) [2002] 1 FLR 555

The case involved the husband's failure to disclose his assets and his disposal of assets, as well as the husband's abduction of the child. The court sought to determine whether departure from equality was justified given the husband's conduct and the failure to make a Mesher order on the matrimonial home.

Education

English Literature BA (Hons) UCL University
PGL (distinction) PCL
Bar Professional Exams - Inns of Court
Blackstone Minor Award

Memberships & Associations

Member Family Law Bar Association (FLBA)
Member Association Lawyers for Children (ALC)
FJC diversity Sub Committee
PLO Monitoring Group

Lectures - Seminars

Frances lectures to Local Government groups on international adoption, post adoption contact, and public law.

Frances is a BBC consultant legal advisor.

Articles

Conflict of laws: adoption - Westlaw UK Insight 2014