

1GC | Family Law

Oliver Woolley

Year of Call: 2012



Practice Overview

Oliver's practice is centred on disputes relating to financial matters and children following relationship breakdown. He has a particular interest in cases with an international element. Oliver also has significant expertise in Court of Protection work.

Oliver is dual-qualified, having been admitted to the New York State Bar in 2018 whilst spending a year working in the matrimonial department of a New York City law firm.

In 2015, Oliver was shortlisted for the Jordans Family Law "Young Barrister of the Year" award.

Oliver is licensed to undertake Direct Access work.

Children (private law)

Oliver regularly represents and advises clients in the full range of private law children disputes. He has experience of complex cases such as those involving implacable hostility, mental health or domestic violence issues. He has represented parties in a broad variety of private law cases ranging from relocation to change of name applications.

Family finance & property

Oliver has broad experience in the family finance field and has regularly been instructed in complex matrimonial finance proceedings and disputes between cohabitants concerning property (TOLATA 1996) and/or financial provision for their children under Schedule 1. Oliver also has expertise in acting for interveners in financial remedy proceedings.

Court of Protection

During his pupillage, under the supervision of Andrew Bagchi QC and Malcolm Chisholm, Oliver gained extensive exposure to work in the Court of Protection. From that foundation, Oliver quickly developed a strong expertise in Court of Protection work, principally in health and welfare cases where he has been instructed by local authorities and by the Official Solicitor. Oliver is also interested in cases involving financial arrangements of persons lacking mental capacity under MCA 2005.

Family Law Act 1996

Oliver appears at both without notice and on notice (contested) hearings for both non-molestation and occupation orders. He has acted successfully for both applicants and respondents in such applications at final hearing. Oliver has also been instructed in Forced Marriage Order applications (both for family members and on behalf of the applicant).

Cases

D v E [2016] EWFC 3: <http://www.bailii.org/ew/cases/EWFC/H CJ/2016/3.html>

Complex private law dispute in which the High Court made a 'live with' order in favour of the maternal aunt, as opposed to the child's father, despite a contrary recommendation in the court-ordered section 7 report.

Education

Bar Professional Training Course, City Law School – Outstanding
LLB (Hons) Law, Durham University

Awards

Shortlisted for Jordans Young Family Barrister of the Year, 2015
Certificate of Honour, Middle Temple

Memberships & Associations

Family Law Bar Association
Court of Protection Bar Association
Advocate
New York State Bar Association (Admitted 2018)

Personal

Oliver is a keen (but not always particularly able) sportsman. Predominantly, he enjoys seeing the countryside by dusting off his bicycle or hitting a few golf balls.

Publications / Seminars

Oliver has contributed to several publications, including Butterworths' Civil Court Precedents (Family Law Section) and "Applications under Schedule 1 to the Children Act 1989".

Oliver has provided seminars to solicitors and local authorities on Financial Remedy, Private Law Children and Court of Protection matters.

Oliver regularly writes Case Summaries for Family Law Week.