

5RB

Media and communications law

Clara Hamer

...is back from Maternity leave



Clara Hamer

Year of call: 2013

Clara specialises in all areas of media, communications and information law.

She has acted in many high-profile and significant cases in this area, including successfully defending the former King of Spain, His Majesty Juan Carlos de Borbon y Borbon, in a harassment claim for £126m damages; acting for the successful defendant in Johnny Depp's libel action against The Sun; and representing Bloomberg in the Supreme Court in the privacy case of ZXC v Bloomberg LP, and in the Court of Appeal in the Court of Protection reporting restrictions case of Hinduja v Hinduja.

Clara is listed as a Leading Junior in the Legal 500 and in Chambers and Partners for Defamation, Privacy and Data Protection. She won the Media and the Arts Junior of the Year award at the Legal 500 Bar Awards 2022 and was shortlisted for the same award in 2023 and 2024. Clara was also shortlisted in 2021 for Media, Defamation, Privacy and Data Protection Junior of the Year by the Chambers UK Bar Awards.

Areas of work

Reporting the Courts and Contempt

Data Protection and Information Law

Defamation and Malicious Falsehood

General Common Law

Harassment

Human Rights

Injunctive Relief

Pre-publication Advice

Privacy and Confidence

Recent work

Defamation and Harassment

Sayn-Wittgenstein-Sayn v HM Juan Carlos I:

successfully defending the former King of Spain in a harassment claim for an injunction and £126m damages (led by Adam Wolanski KC)

Jusan Technologies Ltd v The Bureau of Investigative Journalism:

for the defendant in a libel action concerning the former president of Kazakhstan (led by Gavin Millar KC)

Rebekah Vardy v Coleen Rooney [2022] EWHC 1209 (QB):

for the Sun in applications for disclosure of documents and journalists' sources in the "Wagatha Christie" case (led by Adam Wolanski KC)

Johnny Depp v News Group Newspapers Ltd [2020] EWHC 2911 (QB) and [2021] EWCA Civ 423:

acting for the Sun newspaper in its successful defence of Johnny Depp's libel action (led by Sasha Wass KC and Adam Wolanski KC)

Caine v Facebook Ireland Limited [2021] EWHC 2264 (QB):

for Facebook in applications for civil restraint orders, and Caine v Advertiser and Times Ltd [2019] EWHC 39 (QB) and [2019] EWHC 2278 (QB) for the defendant newspaper in related libel and malicious falsehood claims

Public Joint Stock Company Rosneft Oil Co. v HarperCollins Publishers Ltd [2021] EWHC 3141 (QB):

for the claimant in trial of meaning/opinion as a preliminary issue (led by Desmond Browne CBE KC)

Ward v Associated Newspapers Ltd [2020] EWHC 2797 (QB) and [2021] EWHC 641 (QB):

for the Mail on Sunday in claim for libel and malicious falsehood (led by Catrin Evans KC and Andrew Caldecott KC)

Miah v BBC [2018] EWHC 206 (QB), [2018] EWHC 1054 (QB):

for the BBC in libel, privacy and data protection claim (led by Catrin Evans KC)

Rowland v Mitchell:

work on 'Plebgate' case for the claimant police officer against Andrew Mitchell MP (led by Desmond Browne CBE KC and Catrin Evans KC)

Privacy/Confidence/Data Protection/FOIA

ZXC v Bloomberg LP [2019] EWHC 970 (QB), [2020] EWCA Civ 611 and [2022] UKSC 5:

for Bloomberg in trial of privacy/confidence and data protection claim over an article about a fraud, bribery and corruption investigation into the claimant at a time when he had not been charged with any offence (led at trial by Gavin Millar KC and on appeal to the Court of Appeal and Supreme Court by Antony White KC)

Your Lawyers Ltd v Capital Interchange Ltd [2024] EWHC 287 (Ch):

for defendant broker of litigation funding in claim for breach of a non-disclosure agreement concerning the funding of the Volkswagen diesel emissions litigation (led by Stuart Isaacs KC)

Verlingue Ltd v Persons Unknown [2022] EWHC 616 (QB):

for the claimant company on a cyber-attack data breach injunction application involving allegations of blackmail (led by Adam Speker KC)

Lownie v University of Southampton; Cabinet Office:

for the claimant in data protection Subject Access Request claim and FOIA case to access archival material relating to the late Louis Mountbatten, 1st Earl Mountbatten of Burma

XKF v BBC [2018] EWHC 1560 (QB):

for the BBC in interim privacy injunction to restrain Panorama from revealing the claimant's spent convictions (led by Andrew Caldecott KC)

Dyer v News Group Newspapers Ltd:

for the Sun in privacy and data protection claim brought by Danny Dyer

Kutcher v Associated Newspapers Ltd:

for Wyatt Kutcher in application to approve child settlement agreement in privacy and data protection claim

Doyen Global Ltd v Times Newspapers Ltd [2016] EWHC 3642 (QB):

for the Sunday Times in privacy injunction (led by Catrin Evans KC)

Clara Hamer

Recent work

Reporting the Courts/Open Justice

KRD v PTL [2023] EWHC 1952 (Fam):

reporting restrictions case involving novel application of the Family Court Transparency Reporting Pilot Guidance to a non-Pilot case (led by Adam Wolanski KC)

R v Jian Wen:

for the Financial Times in applications to lift reporting restrictions and for access to documents in bitcoin laundering case

Hinduja v Hinduja [2022] EWCA Civ 1492 and [2022] EWCOP 36:

sole counsel for Bloomberg LP in the Court of Appeal and the Court of Protection in reporting restrictions applications

Inquest into death of Neal Saunders:

for ITN, the BBC and the Guardian in application for media access to body worn video and CCTV footage

R v Imran Khan MP:

for the Sun in reporting restriction applications in magistrates' court and Central Criminal Court

R (Learndirect Ltd) v OFSTED:

for education magazine in application to lift reporting restrictions and injunction in judicial review proceedings

Northern Ireland Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry:

for the BBC in application to lift reporting restrictions in public inquiry

Times Newspapers Ltd v Newman:

for the Sunday Times (Ireland) in application for media access to bankruptcy court file

Additional experience

Pre-publication advice to major newspapers and book publishers

On-set legal adviser to Denial, a BAFTA-nominated film about the Holocaust denial libel case of David Irving v Professor Deborah Lipstadt and Penguin Books Ltd [2000] All ER (D) 523

Prior to coming to the Bar, Clara worked as an editorial intern at a leading publisher of political and current affairs books, and as a copy-editor.

Scholarships & awards

Winner or shortlisted for Legal 500 Media and the Arts Junior of the Year Award (2022, 2023 and 2024)

Shortlisted for Chambers UK Media, Defamation, Privacy and Data Protection Junior of the Year Award (2021)

Inns of Court Pegasus Scholarship to the United States (2015)

Winner, Inner Temple Lawson Moot (2013)

Inner Temple Major Scholarship (2012)

University of Cambridge Reddaway Scholarship; Burton Prize; and Fitzwilliam College Foundation Essay Prize (2009)

Publications

Contributor to *The Law of Privacy and the Media* (OUP, 2024)

Contributor to *Information Rights* (Bloomsbury Publishing, 2023)

Contributor to *Arlidge, Eady & Smith on Contempt* (Sweet & Maxwell, 2019)

"When legally privileged material is accidentally sent to the wrong recipient: Advertising Standards Authority Ltd v Mitchell", LexisNexis Q&A, 2019

"Anonymity Orders in Harassment Claims: Khan (formerly JMO) v Khan (formerly KTA)", LexisNexis Q&A, 2018



Clara is, in many ways, the perfect junior – incredibly smart and diligent, with a hugely impressive eye for detail. Others cannot think of another junior they would rather have on the team for a trial.”

Legal 500



5RB

Media and communications law

5RB | 5 Gray's Inn Square, London, WC1R 5AH

T 020 7242 2902 **E** clerks@5rb.com

Follow us on social media:

  @5RB

Scan for more info:



www.5rb.com