



Jenni Richards KC

Year of call: 1991 | Silk: 2011

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"She is absolutely outstanding in all aspects of her career. Her ability to get on top of huge amounts of complex material in pressured circumstances is quite incredible. Her legal analysis and judgement are second to none, and her advocacy is outstanding." The Legal 500, 2022

Jenni has an extensive public law, human rights and regulatory practice acting for claimants, defendants and interested parties in all areas affected by public law and public decision-making. Her expertise is wide-ranging and includes healthcare, local government, civil liberties, equalities, professional and financial regulation, community care and mental health, education, welfare benefits and prison law. She appears before courts of all levels, in particular the Administrative Court, Court of Appeal and Supreme Court. She often advises public bodies (including local authorities, NHS bodies and regulators) on a broad range of issues relating to their powers, responsibilities and duties. Jenni is Counsel to the Infected Blood Inquiry, in which role she has been responsible for questioning government ministers, senior civil servants, clinicians and academics about aspects of political, governmental, clinical and ethical decision-making from the 1970s to the present day. Jenni is also an experienced mediator, with a particular focus on the mediation of judicial review claims and Court of Protection disputes.



Areas of expertise

Administrative and Public
Civil Liberties and Human Rights
Inquests and Inquiries
Regulatory and Disciplinary
Local Government
Healthcare
Inquests
Court of Protection and Medical Treatment
Alternative Dispute Resolution

Regulatory and Disciplinary

"Jenni is an outstanding lawyer and advocate. She makes complex legal issues seem simple. She comes up with creative ways to pursue cases." (The Legal 500, 2022)

Jenni's regulatory and disciplinary work covers a wide range of areas, including financial services, but with a particular emphasis on the regulation of healthcare professionals by the GMC, HCPC and others, the regulation of fertility services by the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority, the regulation of hospitals and care homes and the regulation of teachers. She acts for regulators and for individual professionals facing fitness to practise or disciplinary allegations.

Cases of note:

- ***General Medical Council v Bramhall* [2021] EWHC 2109 (Admin)** - Appeal under s.40A of the Medical Act 1983 challenging the decision of the Medical Practitioners Tribunal to suspend rather than strike off a surgeon who had marked patients' livers with his initials.
[Judgment](#)
- ***Haris v General Medical Council* [2021] EWCA Civ 763** - Appeal under s. 40A of the Medical Act 1983 in a case concerning the Medical Practitioners Tribunal's decision that a doctor's conduct had not been sexually motivated.
[Judgment](#)
- ***Sanusi v General Medical Council* [2019] EWCA Civ 1172** - Appeal under s40 of the Medical Act regarding the requirements of fairness where the doctor was not present before the tribunal.
[Judgment](#)
- ***Bawa-Garba v General Medical Council* [2018] EWCA Civ 1879** - Jenni acted for the British Medical Association as an intervenor in this appeal regarding the approach to be taken by the court in section 40A Medical Act appeals.
[Judgment](#)
- ***Lovett v Health and Care Professions Council* [2018] EWHC 1024 (Admin)** - Appeal under the Health and Social Work Professions Order by a clinical psychologist. The case examined issues of fairness in the conduct of the disciplinary proceedings and the approach to evaluating dishonesty allegations
[Judgment](#)
- ***Professional Standards Authority v Health and Care Professions Council & Doree* [2017] EWCA Civ 319** - Case examined the significance of indicative sanctions guidance and the approach to insight where a professional disciplinary panel had decided to impose a cautions order.
Judgment - no link

Recommendations

- *"An extremely compelling advocate and a first rate silk"* (Chambers and Partners, 2022)
- *"Her drafting and attention to detail are excellent. On her feet she is able to work quickly and has near encyclopedic knowledge"* (Chambers and Partners, 2022)
- *"She can be incredibly compassionate but also ruthless in getting witnesses to discuss facts they don't want to"* (Chambers and Partners, 2022)
- *"Always very pleasant to work with, makes herself available at short notice and is very good with clients. Extremely clever but makes things accessible to lay people. She's also a brilliant advocate."* (Chambers and Partners, 2022)
- *"Extremely steeped in regulatory work and very good"* (Chambers and Partners, 2022)
- *"Jenni's ability to devour huge amounts of information is phenomenal. She gives every case everything she has. She always has the ear of the court and brings a real clarity to the issues in her submissions. Her written work is also cogent and to the point and presented in a way that clients understand and are able to properly consider and digest."* (The Legal 500, 2022)

Memberships

- Administrative Law Bar Association
- Human Rights Lawyers Association
- Association of Regulatory and Disciplinary Lawyers

Qualifications

- 1989 BA Hons Law (First Class) – Clare College, Cambridge
- 1991 LLM – University of Toronto

Languages

- Working knowledge of French

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