



Colin Thomann

Year of call: 1999

Email: colin.thomann@39essex.com

Phone: +44 (0)20 7832 1111

“This Colin is phenomenally hard working, has a colossal intellect, good judgment and is a true team player” -The Legal 500, 2024

Colin’s practice spans public law, environmental, personal injury and employment law matters. He has a particular interest in cross-border issues arising in these fields.

He has been appointed to the Attorney General’s A Panel of counsel and has extensive experience of acting for claimants and defendants in the higher courts in civil and public law matters.

Colin has interest in information law as well as acting in appeals concerning decision of the Information Commissioner. He has provided expert evidence on UK data information law in the context of foreign proceedings and has had conduct of a series of matters in the International Labour Organization Tribunal, Geneva.

More recently, Colin acted in a series of Country Guidance determinations in the Upper Tribunal (Immigration and Asylum Chamber) concerning Sudan, Iran, Albania and Iraq, and an inquest concerning the impact of air pollution, and a lead appeal concerning the deployment of fraud in the context of secure English language tests.

Colin is a co-author of Doherty’s Accidents Abroad: International Personal Injury Claims and completed a Pegasus Scholarship at the European Court of Human Rights.

Areas of expertise

Public Law

Environmental Law

Personal Injury

Public Law

The emphasis of Colin’s public law practice is upon the areas of regulatory, prisons and immigration matters, and public law actions concerning the environment.

Cases of note

- *Arogundade v Secretary of State for Business, Environment and Skills* [2013] EWCA Civ 823] - Judicial review action concerning the construction of the qualification criteria for

assistance under the Education (Student Support) Regulations 2009.

- ***R (ST & anr) v Secretary of State for the Home Department* [[2021] EWHC 1085 (Admin)]** - Judicial review action challenging the operation of the 'no recourse to public funds' policy on discrimination and other grounds.
- ***R (Dixon) v Secretary of State for Justice* [[2017] EWCA Civ 961]** - Application for judicial review concerning the timing of reviews of the parole. Whether a finding of culpable delay mandated a damages award under Article 5 of the European Convention on Human Rights
- ***Lewis, R (on the application of) v HM Coroner for the Mid and North Division of the County of Shropshire & Anor* [2009] EWCA Civ 1403** - This appeal concerned the scope for the coroner to leave to the jury non-causative matters.

Judgment

Recommendations

"A conscientious barrister who is understated but produces the highest-quality work." Chambers and Partners 2022

"His knowledge of German and of European civil law generally is particularly helpful." The Legal 500 2022

"He is an excellent advocate; always good in court and in conference." The Legal 500, 2021

"An exceptionally bright and thoughtful specialist." The Legal 500, 2021

"Hardworking and reliable, a clear thinker with extremely good legal knowledge." The Legal 500, 2020

"An extremely reliable and hardworking senior junior, who provides sound tactical sense and great client skills." The Legal 500 2018

Memberships

- Administrative Law Bar Association
- UK Environmental Law Association

Qualifications

Education

- LLB (University of Reading)
- MJur (European and Comparative Law) Oxon

Scholarships and Prizes

- 1999 Eldon Scholarship, University of Oxford
- Queen Mother's Scholarship, Middle Temple
- Pegasus Scholarship, Inner Temple

Appointments

- Pupil Master
- Appointed to the Attorney General's A Panel of Counsel in 2015.
- Reappointed to the Attorney General's A Panel of Counsel 2020.

Languages

- Bilingual English and German
- Working knowledge of French

London

81 Chancery Lane,
London
WC2A 1DD
Tel: +44 (0)20 7832 1111
DX: London/Chancery Lane 298
Fax: +44 (0)20 7353 3978

MANCHESTER

82 King Street,
Manchester
M2 4WQ
Tel: +44 (0)16 1870 0333
Fax: +44 (0)20 7353 3978

SINGAPORE

Maxwell Chambers,
28 Maxwell Road,
WC2A 1DD
04-03 & 04-04, Maxwell Chamber
Suites
Singapore 069120
Tel: +65 6320 9272

KUALA LUMPUR

#02-9, Bangunan Sulaiman
Jalan Sultan Hishamuddin,
50000 Kuala Lumpur,
Malaysia
Tel: +60 32 271 1085

BARRISTERS • ARBITRATORS • MEDIATORS

clerks@39essex.com • DX: 298 London/Chancery Lane • 39essex.com