

39 Essex Chambers
Tel: +44 (0)20 7832 1111
Email: clerks@39essex.com



Rory Dunlop KC

Year of call: 2002 | Silk: 2019

Email: rory.dunlop@39essex.com

Phone: +44 (0)20 7832 1111

"He is up there in the top five busiest silks and can turn his mind from one case to another very easily." Chambers and Partners 2022

"A brilliant advocate who is really highly skilled and experienced in very challenging cases, and whose work is simply masterful." Chambers and Partners 2020

Rory is recommended as a leading silk by The Legal 500 and Chambers and Partners in six practice areas: administrative and public law, professional discipline and regulatory law, data protection, immigration and education. He has been shortlisted by Legal 500 for Immigration Silk of the Year 2023

Before taking silk, Rory spent 12 years on the Attorney General's panels, including four years on the A panel. Rory has acted in over thirty cases in the Court of Appeal, five in the Supreme Court and more than a hundred in the High Court. He is the co-author of the Oxford University Press textbook, Detention Under the Immigration Acts: Law and Practice and he wrote the chapter on appeals and judicial review in the most recent editions of the LexisNexis textbook, Disciplinary and Regulatory Proceedings.

On 23 January 2023 Rory was appointed as a Deputy High Court Judge.



Areas of expertise

Administrative and Public

Regulatory

Immigration and Business Immigration

Data Protection and Information Law

Education

Civil Liberties and Human Rights

Healthcare

Inquiries

Parole Board and Prisons

Civil Liberties and Human Rights

Rory is recommended by The Legal 500 and Chambers and Partners as a leading silk in civil liberties and human rights. He acts for the government in sensitive immigration, asylum and deportation challenges, typically those involving national security matters. He is currently acting in several human rights challenges concerning individuals deprived of British citizenship for travelling to Syria and aligning with terrorist organisations.

Early in his career, Rory worked at the European Court of Human Rights, drafting judgments and decisions in numerous British and Irish cases. He gave lectures on human rights on behalf of the Council of Europe and the Raoul Wallenberg Institute in Strasbourg, Armenia and Azerbaijan. He has also advised in relation to constitutional claims in jurisdictions with constitutions similar to the European Convention on Human Rights, for example the Turks and Caicos Islands.

Cases of note

- ***Shamima Begum, C8, C10, C11 and D4 v SSHD (SC/163/2019, SC/172/2020, SC/174/2020, SC/175/2020, SC/182/2020)*** - It was not in the interests of justice to allow appellants, in Camp Roj in Syria, to pursue some grounds of appeal but not others.
- ***R3 v SSHD (SC/150/2018)*** - The SSHD was entitled to deprive a dual national of his British citizenship after he travelled to Syria and aligned with an Al-Qaida aligned group, even though some of R3's work in Syria was charitable and he had a British wife and children in the UK.
- ***L3 v SSHD (SC/144/2017)*** - The SSHD was entitled to exclude a Libyan national from the UK, even though he had a wife and child in the UK, as he held a leadership position in a Libyan militia group which contained hard-line Islamist elements.

Recommendations

"He is up there in the top five busiest silks and can turn his mind from one case to another very easily." Chambers and Partners 2022

"Rory is always on top of his brief and he is very smooth in submissions." "He is a very, very eloquent advocate. He is a very knowledgeable barrister and he has wide expertise." Chambers and Partners 2022

"He is extremely talented and is a very fair opponent who is well respected." Chambers and Partners 2022

"Even at the immigration Bar, Rory's command of the authorities is unequalled. He uses this knowledge to great effect, on his feet he can cut down other counsel by showing their submissions are based on misreadings of complex cases." The Legal 500, 2022

"Such a tough opponent – there's no aspect of a case he doesn't advance, and you can't miss a single thing because he will spot it. I didn't enjoy that day in court!" Chambers and Partners 2021

"He has an understated and calm advocacy style, is extremely intelligent and quickly gets on top of complex issues." Chambers and Partners 2021

"Analytically sharp and unflappable in court." Chambers and Partners 2021

"There is nothing nicer than listening to him in court, as he makes it all so straightforward and attractive."
Chambers and Partners 2021

*"A formidable class act."*The Legal 500 2020

*"His practice is mostly on the government side but he's equally good at acting for claimants. He's thorough, reliable, easy to work with and extremely proficient."*Chambers and Partners, 2020

Memberships

- Association of Regulatory & Disciplinary Lawyers
- Administrative Law Bar Association
- Immigration Law Practitioners' Association
- Human Rights Lawyers' Association
- Bar Pro Bono Unit
- Free Representation Unit

Qualifications

Education

- 1999: BA (Mods) Literae Humaniores (First Class). Examiners' special commendation for an outstanding paper in Logic.
- 1999: BA (Hons) Literae Humaniores (First Class).
- 2000-2001: City University: Postgraduate Diploma in Law (Distinction).
- 2002: Inns of Court School of Law – Bar Vocational Course (Very Competent).

Scholarships and prizes

- 1990: Full fee scholarship (awarded to top 5 in the year) for Eton College
- 1996: Roberts Gawen scholarship to Magdalen College, Oxford.
- 2000-2001: Lord Bowen scholarship to Lincoln's Inn
- 2001-2002: Lord Mansfield scholarship to Lincoln's Inn.
- 2002-2003: Lord Wolfson scholarships to Lincoln's Inn.
- 2005: Pegasus scholarship to the European Court of Human Rights.

Additional Information

Appointments

- 2002: Called to the Bar (pupillage at 39 Essex Chambers)
- 2005: Registry of European Court of Human Rights
- 2007: Attorney General's 'C' panel of counsel.
- 2008: Attorney General's FOI panel.
- 2011: Attorney General's 'B' panel of counsel.
- 2015: Attorney General's 'A' panel of counsel.
- 2019: Queen's Counsel
- 2023: Deputy High Court Judge

Publications

- Detention under the Immigration Acts: Law and Practice (OUP), 2015 (author)
- What We Didn't Say: a novel (Twenty7), 2016 (author)

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