

## **Rachel Birks**



Rachel is Chair of ARDL and heads Ward Hadaway's professional discipline and regulatory team in their Manchester office. She is a solicitor-advocate and a ranked lawyer for Professional Discipline in Chambers and Partners.

Rachel has a regulatory career spanning 20 years, both in-house and in private practice, and much of her current work centres around regulation within healthcare, social care, childcare and the talking therapies. She also carries out work in the legal and professional services sectors.

Rachel sits as a Legally Qualified Chair at the Medical Practitioners Tribunal Service and as a Legal Adviser for Social Work England.

# **Timothy Dutton KC**



Practising from Fountain Court Chambers in the Temple, Tim has been ranked as the Star Individual by Chambers' & Partners for Professional Discipline in London. As well as being a former chairman of ARDL, Tim has served as chairman of the Bar Council, Leader of the South Eastern Circuit and Head of Chambers at Fountain Chambers. In 1994, he helped to found and for the next ten years directed the South Eastern Circuit's Advanced International Advocacy Course, affectionately known as "Keble" to the thousands of junior advocates who have benefited from it.

## **Richard Coleman KC**



Richard Coleman KC is a leading practitioner in the fields of commercial dispute resolution, banking, financial services, administrative and public law and professional discipline.

He has been instructed in some of the most significant matters in these areas in recent years, such as the test case under the Financial Markets Test Case Scheme concerning COVID-19 related business interruption insurance claims, the Ingenious Litigation (film schemes and bankers' duties), regulatory investigations into LIBOR manipulation, claims for the

mis-selling of interest rate hedging products, FCA enforcement proceedings and FSMA-related work, SRA disciplinary proceedings involving City firms and solicitors, the PPI judicial review and the Bank Charges Litigation. Richard was shortlisted by Chambers & Partners for its Professional Discipline Silk of the Year award in 2017 and 2020, and for Commercial Litigation Silk of the Year by The Legal 500 in 2022.

From 1999 to 2012, Richard was a member of the Attorney General's panels of barristers approved to conduct cases on behalf of Government departments (including the A Panel from 2007 to 2012), and gained wide experience of trial and appellate advocacy extending well beyond his core practice areas. He is a member of the New York Bar (non-practising) and is used to working in cases involving foreign laws. He is a co-author of the chapter on the documentary credits in The Law of Banks Payments (5th ed 2017, edited by Brindle and Cox).



# Sean Marchesi-Denham



Sean is the Deputy Branch Head responsible for oversight of the professional regulation reform project and wider branch business. Sean joined the Department in October 2018 and has worked in a number of policy roles across various teams. Prior to that, Sean was a solicitor working in commercial litigation.

## **Duncan Hall**



Duncan is an experienced policy professional at the Department of Health and Social Care who has been leading the reform of professional regulation for a number of years. His previous roles include working on the establishment of Social Work England, introducing nursing associates into regulation and delivery of the Care Certificate for healthcare assistants and social care support workers.

# Rosemary Rollason



Rosemary Rollason has practised as a solicitor in regulatory and disciplinary law throughout her career. She has been a partner in regulatory teams at Field Fisher Waterhouse and Russell Jones & Walker/Slater & Gordon and a Consultant at Bevan Brittan LLP. In late 2017, Rosemary established her own practice, R J Rollason Law, advising a wide range of professional regulators in healthcare, finance, law and the built environment. She is appointed as a legal assessor or panel member on the disciplinary panels of several regulatory bodies and as Convener for the Financial Reporting Council. In 2020-21, Rosemary was a solicitor member of the Queens Counsel Selection Panel. She also regularly prepares and presents training for regulatory panellists and in-house teams.

Rosemary was a founder committee member of ARDL and for several years, the association's Secretary. She is currently a member of ARDL's Committee and the Education Sub-Committee.

#### Alexandra Felix KC



Alexandra represents regulators and professionals in tribunals and has experience of related Judicial Review proceedings. Her experience is in a wide range of professional tribunals including the GMC, GDC, SDT, the Accountancy and Actuarial Discipline Board, Police Misconduct Hearings and Police Appeals Tribunal. She uses her highly analytical approach in developing a strategy to her cases to support her carefully structured and effective advocacy.

Alexandra's criminal practice, both defending as prosecuting, spans the full range of offences of serious violence, sexual offences and fraud. She is recognised for her ability to deal with cases that cross over from the



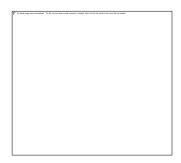
regulatory field into the criminal jurisdiction as investigations run in tandem; she is ideally placed to represent the professional client.

Alexandra has substantial experience in the High Court arising out of her significant regulatory law practice. She also has experience of the work arising out of the interface between criminal law and public law issues, in particular in relation to production orders and search warrants. Her analytical skills and meticulous approach to her work is an asset in dealing with the many technical issues that arise in these types of cases.

Alexandra's practice also extends to inquests where she unusually represents not only families but also IPs. She is experienced in representing professionals at inquests particularly where there are significant risks of disciplinary or criminal proceedings arising out of them.

A fiercely intelligent and committed silk with a meticulous approach to her work, Alexandra has been described by Chambers and Partners (2022) as "Very able, really good to have as an opponent. Authoritative and always on top of the facts of the case."

# Fiona Horlick KC



Fiona Horlick KC was consistently ranked as a Band 1 (top tier) leading junior before her elevation to silk, in both Chambers & Partners and Legal 500. She is now ranked as a respected New Silk. She is praised for her unrivalled advocacy skills, her unbending will to succeed as well as her charisma and her ability to handle clients with sensitivity.

Fiona's practice encompasses a wide variety of Regulatory work, disciplinary proceedings, inquests, Health and Safety and Specialist Crime – particularly medical crime, business crime, and health and safety criminal proceedings. She has extensive experience as an advocate in all

courts from the Privy Council (defending in murder appeals), the Court of Appeal, the High Court, Crown Courts (all types of crime), regulatory proceedings and inquests. She honed her skills on criminal work and jury trials before expanding her work profile.

Fiona is the co-editor and major contributing author of the leading work 'Lissack and Horlick on Bribery and Corruption' now in its 3rd edition and published internationally by LexisNexis.

Directory quotes include:

"Incisive, intelligent and brilliant at cross-examination"

"She has a phenomenal understanding of her cases and is always able to pick up on the key issues, regardless of the volume of information"

"Her advocacy skills are unrivalled and she is fantastic to watch. She knows when to have a fight and when to have people listen to you and like you"

"Persuasive and appropriately firm in her advocacy, making her a fearsome opponent"

"Her approachable manner puts clients at ease"

# **James Counsell KC**



James is well known as one of the leading silks in the field of regulatory and disciplinary law across the full range of tribunals. He regularly represents doctors and dentists both at first instance, and on appeal to the Administrative Court and in judicial reviews. He has recently appeared in two High Court appeals/JRs, the first involving a cosmetic surgeon accused of dishonesty (successful with costs awarded below and on appeal) and the second relating to a privacy issue in a case involving a doctor suffering from mental health problems. He has just completed a preliminary hearing where he successfully



argued both abuse of process and voluntary erasure before an MPT, shortly before trial.

For many years he represented the Council of Lloyd's in disciplinary proceedings against members and brokers and appears in the SDT and ICAEW Tribunal. Until recently he was a silk on the BSB prosecuting panel and acted for the BSB in high profile cases brought against leading and well-known barristers. More recently, he has switched to defending barristers and also acts at SDT level and on appeal for the SRA in proceedings brought against solicitors.

Outside the regulatory field, his busy Clinical Negligence and Personal Injury practice is a good fit for him, including acting for claimants in high profile, non-recent sexual and racial abuse in claims against football clubs.

James took silk in 2017 and is a Heads of Chambers and the Head of Governance at Outer Temple Chambers, a chambers of almost 90 barristers with offices in the Strand and the Middle East.

# **Kenneth Hamer**



Kenneth Hamer is a practising Barrister and former Recorder of the Crown Court. He sits as a legal qualified chairman at the General Medical Council/Medical Practitioners Tribunal Service, and as a legal adviser/legal assessor at the General Dental Council and the Nursing and Midwifery Council. He is the former chairman of the Appeal Committee of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants, and former member of the prosecuting panel of the Bar Standards Board. Kenneth regularly represents regulators and practitioners on a range of professional issues, as well as advising and lecturing on fitness to practise processes. He is the author of "Professional Conduct Casebook", a director and council member of the

Incorporated Council of Law Reporting in England and Wales, and joint editor of ARDL's Quarterly Bulletin.

#### **Kate Steele**



Kate is a Partner in the Regulatory Division at Capsticks. With more than 15 years' experience in fitness to practise and associated civil litigation, Kate leads a team of solicitors and barristers preparing and presenting professional disciplinary cases for a number of regulators across the range of sectors covered by ARDL - in particular healthcare, education and emergency services. Kate oversees a team who are go-to advisers in fitness to practise and regulatory law, working together to deliver for clients on a case load of several hundred matters at different stages of the fitness to practise process and supporting regulators with continuous improvement projects and process improvements. Kate has particular expertise in cases involving sexual misconduct and vulnerable witnesses.

She handles appeals, defends judicial reviews, provides training to panel members and in-house client teams and provides advice on wider policy and public law issues. Kate is described by her clients as a 'talented and technical lawyer with the ability to progress complex cases' and as 'a hugely knowledgeable lawyer whose pragmatism, skill and experience really come together excellently; she is supportive and willing to go above and beyond'. Capsticks aims to be the firm of choice for organisations that work to make a difference – delivering results that matter, putting people first, doing the right thing and at all times forward thinking. Like the organisations she acts for, making a positive impact on people's lives is important to Kate and her team, and the work they do means just that – speaking up for fairness and inclusion and treating all clients, employees, registrants and stakeholders with kindness and respect. Kate brings these values and her regulatory experience to her role on the ARDL Committee and as Chair of the ARDL Seminar Sub-Committee.



#### **Juliet Oliver**



Juliet is responsible for legal advice and support on the development of legislative and regulatory reform, including leading a root and branch rewrite of the SRA's Standards and Regulations - as well as wider strategic initiatives and matters of governance and compliance. She also leads the SRA's legal and enforcement function, as well as the organisation's dedicated anti money laundering directorate.

Previously a partner at Fieldfisher she acted for regulatory bodies across sectors including healthcare and law. This built on her previous experience in house at the General Medical Council, which she joined in 2003. Her responsibilities included advising on high profile disciplinary cases and matters, including the

Shipman and Mid Staffordshire public inquiries.

She is Chair of the Investigation Committee of the General Optical Council, and sits on the Professional Standards Committee of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants as well as the Law Society's Mental Health and Disability Committee.

## **Nimi Bruce**



Nimi is a Partner at Capsticks and Head of Advocacy Services (Regulatory). Nimi's clients include including the Solicitors Regulation Authority, the General Dental Council, Social Work England, the General Chiropractic Council, the General Optical Council and the General Osteopathic Council. Nimi has particular experience and expertise in presenting sexual misconduct cases and is recognised as a specialist in this area in the Legal 500.

Nimi represents our clients in the High Court dealing with appeals and interim order extensions. She also has experience of advising the Professional Standards Authority for Health and Social Care on appeals against decisions of statutory regulators.

Nimi specialises in witness skills training and has run sessions for a variety of corporate and regulatory clients, including specialist vulnerable witness training for case investigators and advocates. Nimi has been a trainer for the Middle Temple Advocacy Programme for a number of years (Advocacy, client care & ethics)

## **Sam Thomas**



Sam is the Vice Chair of the Association of Regulatory and Disciplinary Lawyers, and is the head of the ARDL Sports Law Practice Group. Sam's regulatory practice includes financial regulation, healthcare and sports. He is regularly instructed to advise and represent the regulator and individual registrants. Sam is the co-author of Blockchain and Cryptocurrency: International Legal and Regulatory Challenges, and is recognised by Chambers & Partners and the Legal 500 as a leading junior in professional discipline and regulation.



# **Martin Forde KC**



mental health element.

Martin Forde KC has a practice which covers all aspects of Health Law. He appears regularly in all the Regulatory and Disciplinary tribunals predominantly for practitioners including doctors, dentists, osteopaths, chiropractors and optometrists. He has acted for the General Medical Council and the General Dental Council. He has appeared in a number of major cases in the Privy Council and has been involved in medical related judicial review hearings in the Administrative Court as well as judicial review hearings involving mental health and immigration issues. His clinical negligence and personal injury practice is exclusively undertaken in the High Court involving injuries of maximum severity. His experience of Inquests is extensive particularly in cases involving a

He has appeared on many occasions in the Employment Tribunal acting for NHS Trusts and medical practitioners. He has appeared in HC (90) 9 proceedings, internal Trust and PCT hearings and has an extensive First and Upper Tier of the HESC Chamber practice.

The Lawyer named him one of the 'Hot 100 Lawyers of 2019.' He has also been recognised as a Band 1 barrister by Chambers & Partners for many years.

"A very impressive advocate who is excellent on his feet. He is also an effective negotiator." "He has been doing some really outstanding and important work." "He develops a good rapport with clients and is highly experienced." Chambers & Partners 2022.

# Rachel Troup



Drawing regular praise for her meticulous, "no stone unturned" approach to preparing cases, her superb client care and for her incisive and intuitive advocacy, Rachel has a specialist practice in inquiries and investigations, including criminal investigations and enforcement, regulatory law and environmental crime.

Rachel spent 18 months as counsel in the Litigation and Dispute Resolution Department of a leading UK commercial firm, where she handled a range of complex commercial disputes. She also led the firm's Regulatory Team, advising external corporate and individual

clients as well as teams across the firm on all aspects of various regulatory regimes, enforcement proceedings, criminal and quasi-criminal matters.

With her combined experience of commercial, regulatory and criminal law, Rachel is ideally placed to advise and support individual and corporate clients on all areas where criminal sanctions may be in play and in matters involving compliance, investigations, adjudication, enforcement and prosecutions.

Rachel has been instructed as Junior Counsel to the Grenfell Tower Inquiry since March 2018.



## **Catriona Watt**



Catriona Watt is a partner in Scottish law firm Anderson Strathern LLP where she leads the firm's top ranked Professional Regulation Group. Her work in public inquiries began with the Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry chaired by Lady Smith at which she represented two schools in the Boarding Schools phase and continues with representation for an organisation in that Inquiry's forthcoming List D Schools etc. phase which will take place in 2023. Catriona is currently involved in the current Post Office Horizon IT Public Inquiry chaired by Sir Wynn Williams which is looking into the actions of Post Office Ltd, the UK Government, IT companies and other organisations following recent miscarriages of justice.

She'll be appearing on behalf of the National Federation of Sub-Postmasters in Phase 2 of that Inquiry in October. She is now instructed in the Scottish Covid 19 Public Inquiry where she acts for the Royal College of Nursing Scotland and which will run concurrently with the UK-wide Covid 19 Public Inquiry.

#### **Rachel Sullivan**



Rachel Sullivan accepts instructions across all areas of Chambers' work, with a particular interest in public, commercial, and planning and environment law. She regularly appears in the County Court, Court of Protection and High Court.

Prior to joining chambers, Rachel worked as a legal officer at the Free Representation Unit, representing employment claimants pro bono.