

Martin Todd

Barrister

Overview

“Incredibly experienced and knowledgeable.” - Chambers and Partners 2019

Highly experienced in cases involving severe child abuse.’ - The legal 500 2019

Martin is a highly respected and sought after Family specialist practitioner. He is regularly retained by Local Authorities, Parents and Guardians alike, in serious alleged Inflicted Injury cases because of his reputation as a tenacious advocate who will pursue his clients case leaving ‘no stone unturned’ in seeking the best outcome for them.

He has considerable experience in lengthy and medically complex cases and uses his technically astute and well prepared cross examinations and presentation to full effect.

Martin also has vast experience in cases involving autism, autistic spectrum disorder, abnormal illness behaviour, fragile x and fragile x pre-mutation and poisoning.

He has acted in lengthy cases of many weeks as well as being much sought after and continuously busy in the Family courts day to day.

He has appeared at all tiers of the Family Court system including the Court of Appeal and Supreme Court.

In recent years Martin has also been marked out as a significant presence in developing case law, championing the causes of his client to successful outcomes in the Supreme Court case of Re J (Children) [2013] UKSC and the case of Re A (A Child) [2015] EWFC11, before the President. Both theses cases have become regular reference points for practitioners in this area of law.

In addition to the above Martin has an extremely palatable client manner being often engaged for his skills with clients, to represent misunderstood or prejudged Parties struggling in difficult cases to have their voices heard and assisting clients with learning difficulties or mental health issues. He employs a regime of team work with the solicitor and client in his cases. He is regularly retained even before issue, in order to achieve the best possible outcome. He is approachable and accessible.

Martin is a member of the chartered institute of Arbitrators following training in international arbitration adding to his already extensive skill set.



Year Of Call:

1991

Practice Areas

[Alternative Dispute Resolution](#)

[Arbitration](#)

[Court of Protection and Mental Health](#)

[Family](#)

[Public and Private Law Children](#)

Continued. . .

He retains his links to the American Bar Association, is a member of the Family Law Bar Association and The Leeds and District Medico Legal Society.

Martin was born in Switzerland, and grew up in Munich, Germany. He is bilingual and has used his German in a number of cases to assist clients who have felt misunderstood or disadvantaged through language. He lived in the USA under an American Field Service scholarship after school and practised in a Chicago Law Firm under a Pegasus scholarship from the Inner Temple following his call to the Bar. He retains links to the USA and the American Bar Association.

Martin is a keen motor sports enthusiast, competing until 2007 in the then Lodge Sports 924 Porsche Challenge, but participating now only as a spectator. He is married to a local solicitor and has a young Family.

Education:

Martin was educated in Germany until age 11 years, then at Boothan School in York. Following a year living in the USA (attending Parkway West High school, Missouri, USA) he studied Law at Northumbria University before completing his legal training at the Inns Of Court School of Law in London and being called to the Bar by the Honourable Society of the Inner Temple in 1991. He has practised law following pupillage at York Chambers, since then.

Notable Cases

RE W (ADOPTION - CONTRACT) [2016] EWHC 3118 (Fam)

Re J (Children) [2013] UKSC

Re A (A Child) [2015] EWFC11

CL v East Riding of Yorkshire, MB and BL (A child) [2006] :
EWCA Civ 49

Re C (A Child) v XYZ County Council [2007] :
EWCA Civ 1206 [2008] 1 FLR 1294

De D 2008 :
Unreported Court of Appeal Case (McKenzie Friend and appeal against
Care and Placement orders)

Re L (2011 - unreported) :
contact application by father who was convicted of murdering
Mother (High Court)

Directory Recommendations:



“Highly experienced in cases
involving severe child abuse.”
THE LEGAL 500 2019

Continued. . .

Directory Recommendations

Chambers and Partners UK Bar 2019

"Incredibly experienced and knowledgeable."

The legal 500 2019

Highly experienced in cases involving severe child abuse.'

Chambers and Partners UK Bar 2018

"Tenacious and thorough." "A passionate and creative advocate." "He is courteous and an effective, polished performer."

The Legal 500 2017

"He has expertise in cases involving complex medical issues."

Martin is recommended in both Chambers and Partners and Legal 500 directories.

Chambers and Partners UK Bar 2017

"He has a good eye for detail and very calm manner, which judges like."

The Legal 500 2016

"An expert in cases involving significant child abuse."

Chambers and Partners UK Bar 2016

"He is tenacious; great at researching the law and using it to its limits"

The Legal 500 2015

"A safe pair of hands in dealing with children cases involving a wide range of complex medical issues"

Directory Recommendations:

*"Incredibly experienced
and knowledgeable."*

Chambers and Partners 2019



LEADING BARRISTER

"Tenacious and thorough."

*"A passionate and
creative advocate."*

*"He is courteous and
an effective, polished
performer."*

Chambers and Partners 2018

Memberships

Chartered Institute
of Arbitrators
