



JESSICA JONES

MAIN AREAS OF PRACTICE:

Crime and regulatory
Election law
Extradition and mutual assistance
Fraud, Financial and Business
Crime
Human rights law
International law
Public law

Called to the Bar 2013

CONTACT:

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Paul Venables, Senior Practice
Manager
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Jessica practises in public law, crime, extradition and international law. Many of her cases involve issues at the overlap of those areas of law.

PUBLIC LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Jessica frequently acts for individuals and NGOs in judicial review claims and other public law cases. She is most frequently instructed in cases relating to equality and discrimination issues, human rights, the criminal justice system and national security. She is co-author of a book on Criminal Records, Privacy and The Criminal Justice System (Bloomsbury, 2019). Recent instructions include:

- Acting for women detained by non-state forces in Syria in appeals against the deprivation of their citizenship
- Challenging the Government's policy on visiting care homes during the Covid-19 pandemic
- Conducting an independent review of the governance of biometric data in England and Wales ("the Ryder Review")
- Judicial reviews of the discriminatory impact of the Universal Credit system, in particular in relation to discrimination of severely disabled people and women
- Challenging the Home Secretary's failure to safeguard access to justice for immigration detainees, and acting in cases relating to the unlawful detention of detainees
- Ongoing claims relating to the Ministry of Defence's failure to investigate civilian deaths in Afghanistan
- A Supreme Court appeal on the lawfulness of the use of closed material in the authorisation of search warrants
- Judicial reviews of police cautions, decisions not to prosecute, and CCRC decisions
- Human Rights Act challenges to the segregation of prisoners and failure to support people leaving prison.

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DIRECTORIES' RECOMMENDATIONS

HERE'S WHAT THEY SAY:

“She is intelligent, industrious, and tactically very good. She handles cases way above her call with ease. A future star of the extradition Bar.” (Legal 500 2020, International Crime and Extradition)

“Highly intelligent, with excellent analytical ability, she writes extremely well, and works very well as part of a team.” (Legal 500 2020, Public International Law)

“The quality of her written work is unparalleled for any junior of her level. Jessica is efficient, diligent and has excellent attention to detail. Apart from being wise far beyond her years, she is also an absolute pleasure to work with.” (Legal 500 2020, Administrative and Public Law)

CRIME AND EXTRADITION

Jessica defends individuals in magistrates' and Crown court trials. She is often instructed in trials in which there is a human rights element (for example, where there are protest or education issues at stake), or where there are complex or novel legal issues. Jessica advises on corporate liability, fraud, bribery and corporate investigations. Alongside trial and advisory work, Jessica has experience of bringing criminal appeals in the High Court, Court of Appeal, and Privy Council. Examples of her cases include:

- Acquittals on legal submissions of three protestors tried in relation to an anti-Trident protest
- Acquittals on legal submissions of two parents charged with failing to educate their children
- Defending the first ever prosecution under the Education and Skills Act 2008 for a charge (against two individuals and a corporate defendant) of running an unregistered independent school
- Acquittal (with Ken McDonald QC and Julian Knowles QC) of a defendant charged with multi-million pound insider dealing
- Acting for a death-row defendant in an appeal to the Privy Council from Trinidad (led by Tim Owen QC) and in an access to justice case for a life-sentenced prisoner from St Kitts (led by Paul Taylor QC)
- Led by Julian Knowles QC in Ruddock (joined to Jogee) in the joint Privy Council/Supreme Court case on the law of joint enterprise

Jessica frequently acts for individuals and requesting authorities in extradition proceedings from Part 1 and Part 2 countries. Alongside the full range of EAW states, she has acted in cases originating from Thailand, the USA, and Russia, and in an advisory capacity in cases relating to the UAE and Northern Cyprus.

INTERNATIONAL LAW

Jessica regularly advises states, individuals, companies, and NGOs on international human rights law, international humanitarian law, and international criminal law. She has worked on a variety of cases in the European Court of Human Rights, International Court of Justice, International Criminal Court and International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda. Examples of her experience include:

- Representing The Gambia in its claim against Myanmar under the Genocide Convention
- Acting for Cyprus in proceedings before the Grand Chamber of the ECHR in *Guzelyurtlu v Cyprus and Turkey*, on the obligations arising under Article 2 (the right to life) in murder investigations where a state is under belligerent occupation (led by Clare Montgomery QC)
- Representing Catalan politicians detained by Spain in an application to the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (led by Ben Emmerson QC)
- Acting for a state at the preliminary investigation stage at the ICC, relating to crimes associated with occupation

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Before becoming a lawyer, Jessica was a community organiser, working to increase the power of marginalised communities to make change. She is a Governor of her local primary school and a mentor with the Longford Trust. In 2015-2016, she was judicial assistant to Lord Kerr of Tonaghmore JSC.

SELECTED CASES

R (Shamima Begum) v SSHD [2020] EWCA Civ 918
R (TP, AR, SXC) v SSWP [2020] EWCA Civ 37
Guzelyurtlu v Cyprus and Turkey (2019) 69 EHRR 12
R (TP & Ors) v Secretary of State for Work and Pensions [2019] EWHC 1116 (QB)
R (Haralambous) v Crown Court at St Albans & Anor [2018] UKSC 1
Chandler v The State (Trinidad and Tobago) [2018] UKPC 5
Secretary of State for the Home Department v LG [2017] EWHC 1529 (Admin)
Phillip v The Director of Public Prosecutions (St Christopher and Nevis) [2017] UKPC 14
Ruddock v the Queen [2016] 2 WLR 681
Horada v Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government [2015] EWHC 2512 (Admin)
R (National Association of Probation Officers) v Secretary of State for Justice [2014] EWHC 4349 (Admin)

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS AND PRIZES

BA (Hons) Philosophy, Politics and Economics, First Class, Magdalen College Oxford
Graduate Diploma in Law, Distinction, City University
Bar Professional Training Course, Outstanding, BPP Law School

Lord Mansfield Scholarship, Lincoln's Inn
Megarry Scholarship, Lincoln's Inn
Buchanan Prize, Lincoln's Inn
Hardwicke Award, Lincoln's Inn
Phoenicia Scholarship, Bar European Group
Tutorial Prize, Magdalen College

Jessica is regulated by the Bar Standards Board and accepts instruction under Standard Contractual Terms. To find out more information on this and the way we work at Matrix, including our fee transparency statement, please see our [service standards](#).