



Amy Lanham Coles

Call 2021

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Amy Lanham Coles acts for both Claimants and Defendants across all of Chambers' core practice areas. She has established a busy court and advisory practice, focusing on personal injury, public law, inquests and inquiries and extradition work. She is on the GLD's Junior Junior scheme.

Amy accepts instructions in all personal injury claims but with a particular interest in complex disputes including those involving protected parties, chronic health conditions, employers' liability and occupier's liability. Whilst supervised by Benjamin Casey, she gained exposure to high value multi track disputes, including fatal accident claims. She regularly acts in fast track trials and other County Court litigation including matters pursued under the newer procedures and protocols.

Amy has been instructed on several GLD matters as a Junior Junior, including disclosure exercises and advisory work to support policy making. During pupillage she assisted with advising on draft legislation for DEFRA and in relation to a potential judicial review challenge to a criminal sentence. She draws on experience predating her career at the Bar, having worked for several years in this area previously. Most recently, she specialised in special educational needs law and policy at an NGO, with a focus on challenges involving local authorities. She also spent one year working on a flagship project at Citizens Advice, exclusively advising the bereaved and survivors of the Grenfell Tower fire on social housing, welfare benefits and employment law.

Amy accepts instructions for inquests and inquiries. She was recently instructed as sole counsel for a healthcare organisation in a two week Article 2, jury inquest involving the death of a patient detained under the Mental Health Act. Whilst supervised by Richard Boyle, she supported the legal team of a former government minister for the Covid-19 Inquiry, as well as the legal team to the inquest in the Forbury Gardens Inquest. Whilst supervised by David White, she developed a particular interest in regulatory work, supporting the legal team for the Civil Aviation Authority in the Shoreham Airshow Inquest.

Finally, Amy accepts instructions for extradition matters. She has been instructed on an ongoing basis on a matter involving extradition to a Category 2 territory relating to an alleged conspiracy to murder with four requested persons. She draws on experience during pupillage, including advisory work in an extradition matter raising questions about discriminatory sentencing by the requesting state.

Amy also has teaching and training experience. Before starting her career at the Bar, she regularly delivered training to professionals working in the special educational needs sector and she was previously a Visting Lecturer in Constitutional Law at City University of London.



Expertise

Personal Injury

Amy is regularly instructed for both Claimants and Defendants in fast track matters, small claims, stage 3 hearings and other County Court litigation. She recently successfully resisted permission to appeal in a fast track matter in which the Claimants had been found to be fundamentally dishonest. She has a particular interest in complex disputes including those involving protected parties, chronic health conditions, employers' liability and occupier's liability. She is experienced in dealing with allegations of fundamental dishonesty and credit hire on both sides. She is able to draft advices and statements of case on the same and is a regular contributor to the Personal Injury Brief Update newsletter.

Public Law

Amy is on the GLD's Junior Junior scheme. She has recently been instructed via the scheme in both a disclosure exercise for a high profile Judicial Review and a legislative mapping exercise for a major government department to assist with policy proposals. During pupillage Amy assisted members of chambers with advising both a government department and high profile individual on potential judicial review challenges. She demonstrated proficiency in judicial review pleadings, building on her previous experience within the public law sector before coming to the Bar.

Inquests & Inquiries

Amy accepts instructions for both inquests and inquiries. She recently acted as sole counsel for a healthcare organisation in a two week Article 2, jury inquest involving the death of a patient detained under the Mental Health Act. During pupillage, Amy gained exposure to a range of inquests and inquiries including the Covid-19 Inquiry, Forbury Gardens Inquest and Shoreham Airshow Inquest.

Extradition & Interpol

Amy accepts instructions to advise and to appear at Westminster Magistrates' Court for extradition matters. She has been instructed on an ongoing basis in a matter involving extradition to a Category 2 territory relating to an alleged conspiracy to murder with four requested persons. During pupillage she observed a variety of extradition proceedings and has demonstrated proficiency in drafting in this area.

Awards

Lincoln's Inn, Major Scholarship

BPP Excellence Scholarship



Education

BPP University – Bar Professional Training Course (Very Competent)

City University of London – Graduate Diploma in Law (Distinction)

Oxford University – MSt in Global and Imperial History (Distinction)

Durham University – BA Combined Honours in Arts: History, Politics and International Relations (First Class Honours)

Memberships

- Administrative Law Bar Association (ALBA)
- Defence Extradition Lawyers Forum (DELF)
- Personal Injury Bar Association (PIBA)
- Professional Negligence Bar Association (PNBA)