

CLARA HAMER

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Registered name on the Bar Standards Board Register: Clara Hamer

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Call: 2013

SPECIALISATION

- Defamation
- Privacy and Confidence
- Data Protection and Freedom of Information
- Harassment
- Malicious Falsehood
- Contempt of Court
- Media Injunctions
- Access to court documents
- Reporting Restrictions and Open Justice
- Protection of Sources
- Contempt of Court
- Media-related human rights law
- Pre-publication advice

Clara specialises in all aspects of media and information law and acts for both claimants and defendants. She has advised and represented a variety of clients, including national media organisations, private individuals, multinational corporations, charities, regulatory bodies, and public authorities. Clara regularly provides pre-publication advice to national newspapers such as The Times, The Sunday Times, and The Sun, as well as to book publishers and think tanks.

In 2015 Clara was awarded a Pegasus Scholarship by Inner Temple to spend two months in the United States gaining experience of American media and First Amendment law. In 2016 Clara acted as legal advisor during the filming of "Denial", a forthcoming feature film based on the libel case of *Irving v Lipstadt and Penguin Books Ltd* in which Richard Rampton QC and Heather Rogers QC represented the successful Defendants.

Prior to coming to the Bar, Clara worked as an editorial intern at a leading publisher of political and current affairs books, and as a freelance copy-editor and proofreader.

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

- M.A. (Cantab) Social and Political Sciences, University of Cambridge (Fitzwilliam College) (2007-2010)
- Reddaway Scholarship (2009)
- Burton Prize (2009)
- Fitzwilliam Foundation Essay Prize (2009)
- Graduate Diploma in Law, City University (Commendation) (2011-2012)
- Inner Temple Major Scholarship (2012)
- BPTC, City University (Outstanding) (2012-2013)
- Winner, Inner Temple Lawson Moot 2013
- Pupillage, One Brick Court (2013-2014)
- Pegasus Scholarship (2015)

REPRESENTATIVE CASES OF INTEREST

- *Rowland v Mitchell* – second junior counsel (led by Catrin Evans QC and Desmond Browne QC) in the lead-up to trial for the police officer who successfully sued Andrew Mitchell MP for libel over the "Plebgate" affair. Clara appeared alone as junior counsel at a disclosure hearing.

17/08/2016

- *Times Newspapers Ltd v Newman* – counsel for The Sunday Times (Ireland edition) on a successful application to inspect the court file for the respondent’s bankruptcy proceedings.
- *Samuel v The Lime Academy Trust* – counsel for the Defendant, a multi-academy trust, successfully disposing of libel proceedings brought against an academy school.
- *Ryanair v Channel 4* – assisted the Defendant with disclosure exercise and journalistic source protection in libel proceedings issued in the Republic of Ireland.
- *Wild v Valentine* – successful application for an interim harassment injunction arising out of Internet postings.
- *Ibru v Times Newspapers Ltd* – counsel for the Defendant, successfully disposing of libel proceedings brought against The Times.
- *Siddiqui v BBC* – assisted the Defendant and counsel Catrin Evans QC with libel action arising out of a radio broadcast.
- *Williamson v PEP Publishing Ltd* – counsel for the Defendant, the publishers of Love It! Magazine, on a successful application to strike out a libel claim.
- 3-month secondment to the BBC Litigation Department, where Clara worked in-house on a variety of defamation, privacy, data protection and other media law matters. She also handled requests by the police under PACE 1984 for journalistic material, and worked on a broad range of litigation, including contractual, employment, copyright, and Equality Act 2010 cases.

PUBLICATIONS AND SEMINARS

- Contributor to *Arlidge, Eady and Smith on Contempt*, 4th Edition Second Supplement (2015) and 5th Edition (forthcoming).
- Clara has given a number of seminars on media law to solicitors and media organisations such as the Bureau of Investigative Journalism.

OTHER INFORMATION

- Artistic Intern, Wexford Festival Opera (2010)
- Editorial Intern, Biteback Publishing (2011)
- Legal Caseworker, Zacchaeus 2000 Trust (2011-2012)
- Coxswain for Cambridge University Women’s Boat Club and Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge

Clara is a member of the Human Rights Lawyers Association, the Free Representation Unit, and the Bar Pro Bono Unit.