



4 KING'S
BENCH
WALK

THE CHAMBERS OF
TIMOTHY RAGGATT QC

Naomi Carpenter – Barrister

Called 2004

Main Practice Areas

Family Law (specialist area)

Criminal Law

Family Law Profile

Naomi is briefed in a wide range of family law appearing at all levels of the family courts including the High Court and Court of Appeal. She has appeared against a silk in the High Court, been led by silks in the High Court and been led and appeared by herself in the Court of Appeal

Testimonials

"To: The fantastic Naomi, the barrister with a ferocious bite. who was an absolute fighter for my corner and through my court cases. She is an absolute treasure. worked tirelessly for my divorce." (Lay client)

"Naomi has been nothing but truly fantastic on this matter. My client is registered as high risk due to conflicting instructions she can often give but also due to her difficulty to work with new people. I have represented her since prior to the birth of her child (who is now 4) during the pre-birth conference and in 2 sets of previous proceedings. I know how difficult she can be and not all her fault given her mental health issues. Naomi was absolutely marvellous with my client. Client was extremely grateful for Naomi's cool nature and wisdom. I was totally reassured Naomi had this matter covered as I have instructed Naomi on other matters before. The icing on the cake, however, was that at final hearing, Naomi was also able to secure contact way beyond what is usually considered in these cases as the standard, all whilst the matter was heard by a very tough judge! Not only just for my client but also for the maternal grandfather. After the last day of FH, my client had serious chest pains and breathing problems outside of court after judgement, Naomi stayed with my client calming her down and supporting her until the ambulance arrived and client was taken to hospital. Naomi went over and above for my client." (Solicitor)

Private Family Law – section 8 Applications

Naomi accepts briefs in all aspects of private family law including ones involving domestic abuse, child abuse and international elements. Due to her experience and practise in prison and criminal law she is uniquely

placed to deal with cases where one party in the proceedings has been accused or convicted of serious criminal offences or/and serving prison sentences/on licence. She is obviously well versed in the risk assessment/sentence planning course regime in prison, probation and the C.J.S. She has represented different parties in such cases including the respondent to the convicted persons' application, the convicted person and interested parties in the county but more specifically in the High Courts.

By way of some examples:

- i) Cases concerning applicants seeking contact with their children whilst in prison or on licence who were convicted of murder and sex offences in the High (R.C.J) and County Courts.
- ii) Naomi has represented the grandmother of a daughter who was allegedly killed by her husband in front of the children who applied for residence in care proceedings.
- iii) She has successfully represented a respondent objecting to an application by the father who had been found guilty of the attempted murder of the children and was approaching his release date (prison behaviour problems). No contact was ordered, parental responsibility removed and an order prohibiting future applications granted.

Public Family Law

Naomi is regularly instructed in complex care proceedings including. She represents all parties including parents, grandparents, the children and the local authority and other interested parties. She has represented parties in all levels of the family court from the magistrates' court, High Court and the Court of appeal in a wide range of cases. Again, her experience in criminal and prison law sits well with her knowledge of family law.

An interesting case in the High Court concerned a mother who had suffered post traumatic syndrome following her experience of the war in Iraq and had suffered injuries as a result of some bombs. The children were returned to the mother.

Injunctive relief

Inevitably Naomi is briefed in this area and often with last minute notice due to the nature of the applications.

Wardship cases

Naomi accepts briefs in this area of law and most recently is briefed in a case in the High Court which is ongoing.

Adoption

Naomi accepts briefs in this area of family law. One recent case concerned a father (of impeccable character) who learned very late in the day that he had a child (a result of a one night stand) and applied to oppose the adoption application at the last minute.

Financial Remedy cases

Naomi is briefed in this area of law both by private clients. She has represented clients in cases of polygamous marriages, trusts and hidden assets.

Criminal Law Profile

Prior to practising at the Bar, Naomi was a part of the defence team in the following VHCC cases: R v Barot and others ('Dirty Bomb' plot – 1st trial), R v Ul-Haq and others, (2nd trial), R v Ibrahim and others (pre-trial) and R v Sarwar and others, (Airline/liquid bomb plot – trial and retrial). She was also involved in the following extradition matters: Abu Hamza and B Ahmed.

Naomi was also involved in the following appeals in the Court of Appeal and ECtHR as part of the same defence team: R v Barot and others, R v Ul-Haq, Jalil and others, R v Sarwar and R v Ibrahim & others.

Prison Law Profile

Whilst working in the law firm Naomi developed a prison law department, dealing with categorisation, parole, allocation, adjudications, other prison issues and judicial review matters.

Naomi has advised on prison law issues including the judicial review of a negative prison categorisation decision which was based on risk factors emanating from a conviction in another jurisdiction and allegations of torture thereof.

Qualifications

Called to the Bar 2004 (Inner Temple)

BVC (Inns of Court School of Law)

PgDI/CPE

BSc (Hons) University College London (London University)

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