

Rebecca Hadgett

Call: 2015



Rebecca Hadgett has a broad practice across the main areas of Chambers' areas of expertise with a focus on crime, extradition and public law.

Crime

Rebecca appears regularly in the criminal courts for both defence and prosecution.

She represents individuals in relation to a wide range of serious offences, including those involving violence, firearms, sexual offences, fraud, money laundering, public disorder and drugs. She represents clients in a range of ancillary and related matters, including pre-charge advice and confiscation proceedings.

As well as appearing regularly for the Crown Prosecution Service, Rebecca acts for other prosecution authorities and public bodies, such as Transport for London and the Information Commissioner's Office. Rebecca has recently gained additional experience acting in private prosecutions and is currently instructed as disclosure counsel in such a case at the investigation stage.

Rebecca has represented a number of vulnerable clients with learning difficulties and mental health conditions. As a result, she has gained extensive experience of instructing and examining experts on these issues and dealing with matters of fitness to plead. She has completed specialist training on dealing with vulnerable witnesses.

Rebecca also has experience of advising on appeals against sentence and conviction.

Notable Crime cases

- **R v H (2019)**
Represented a young defendant with learning difficulties in a multi-handed matter concerned with the supply of Class A drugs.
- **R v W (2019)**
Successfully defended an allegation of GBH on the basis of self-defence.
- **R v W (2019)**
Successfully defended an individual charged with possessing excess ammunition contrary to section 1 Firearms Act 1968.
- **R v R (2018)**
Represented a defendant acquitted of a sustained sexual assault on a stranger at his workplace.
- **R v M (2018)**
Represented a defendant in a cut-throat defence relating to possession with intent to supply Class A drugs and associated criminal property. Rebecca successfully sought to exclude confession evidence under s.76A PACE 1984.

Extradition and International Mutual Legal Assistance

Rebecca appears on behalf of both requested persons and judicial authorities in extradition cases, at first instance at Westminster Magistrates' Court and in the Administrative Court on appeal. Rebecca has a detailed knowledge of both Part One and Part Two of the Extradition Act 2003.

Rebecca is also able to advise on cross-border evidence gathering, mutual legal assistance and Interpol red notices.

Notable Extradition and International Mutual Legal Assistance cases

- **Poland v R (2020)**
Currently acting on behalf of the IJA. The case raises a number of issues arising from the Requested Person's status as a possible victim of human trafficking who is currently awaiting a conclusive grounds decision.
- **Belgium v H, G et al (2019)**
Successfully represented two individuals sought, alongside others, by Belgium for alleged human trafficking offences. The case largely concerns whether the current prison conditions in Belgium are Article 3 compliant and whether a decision has been made to charge/try the RPs.

- **Pillar-Neumann v Austria (2017) EWHC 3371 (Admin)**

Junior counsel led by Abbas Lakha QC for the Requested Person, in a successful appeal to the Divisional Court. The RP was wanted in Austria in relation to alleged fraud and embezzlement dating back two decades. The case concerned the application of the term 'fugitive' and whether extradition would be oppressive under s.14 of the Extradition Act 2003.

Public Law

Rebecca is developing an extensive practice in public and administrative law.

She has had significant involvement in a number of public inquiries, having been instructed as junior counsel for the Metropolitan Police Service on the Public Inquiry into Undercover Policing and on an ad-hoc basis by the Archdiocese of Birmingham in connection with the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse.

Rebecca has also assisted in a number of judicial review proceedings, with a focus on matters relating to the investigation and prosecution of criminal cases. She accepts instructions in such matters on behalf of both public bodies and individuals.

In the context of public law proceedings, Rebecca also has experience advising on applications to withhold disclosure of material on the basis of public interest immunity.

Notable Public Law cases

- **Public Inquiry into Undercover Policing (2017-)**

Instructed by the Metropolitan Police Service.

Inquests & Inquiries

Rebecca acts for interested persons in inquests and is experienced in inquests which engage the state's Article 2 obligations under the European Convention on Human Rights. She advises on potential liability arising from coronial proceedings, and on both public and civil law remedies available following inquests.

Notable Inquests & Inquiries cases

- **Inquest into the Deaths of R & M (2019)**

Acted on behalf of a police officer in an Article 2 inquest into the tragic deaths of a young boy and his aunt.

- **Inquest into the death of RA (2020)**

Currently instructed on behalf of the Metropolitan Police Service in an Article 2 inquest. The proceedings will explore issues in relation to the provision of assessments under the Mental Health Act.

Civil Law

Rebecca acts and advises in civil matters, often arising from criminal or coronial proceedings.

Rebecca also appears in applications for civil preventative orders, including Closure Orders, Sexual Risk Orders and Sexual Harm Prevention Orders, both in the Magistrates' Court and on appeal to the Crown Court.

Notable Civil Law cases

- **Duggan et al v Commissioner of the Police of the Metropolis (2019)**

Acting as junior counsel for the Metropolitan Police Service in a civil claim for damages arising out of the death of Mark Duggan in August 2011.

Confiscation and Civil Recovery

Rebecca acts for both the prosecution and defence in confiscation, cash forfeiture and civil recovery proceedings.

Since 2018, Rebecca has assisted the legal team acting on behalf of Mrs Hajiyeva in relation to the first 'Unexplained Wealth Order' for the wife of the former Chairman of the International Bank of Azerbaijan.

Notable Confiscation and Civil Recovery cases

- **NCA v Mrs Hajiyeva (2018-)**

The first 'Unexplained Wealth Order' made against the wife of the former Chairman of the International Bank of Azerbaijan

Notable Cases

Crime

R v H

2019, Bournemouth Crown Court

Represented a young defendant with learning difficulties in a multi-handed matter concerned with the supply of Class A drugs.

R v W

2019, Harrow Crown Court

Successfully defended an allegation of GBH on the basis of self-defence.

R v W

2019, Guildford Crown Court

Successfully defended an individual charged with possessing excess ammunition contrary to section 1 Firearms Act 1968.

R v R

2018, Harrow Crown Court

Represented a defendant acquitted of a sustained sexual assault on a stranger at his workplace.

R v M

2018, Portsmouth Crown Court

Represented a defendant in a cut-throat defence relating to possession with intent to supply Class A drugs and associated criminal property. Rebecca successfully sought to exclude confession evidence under s.76A PACE 1984.

Extradition

Poland v R

2020, Currently acting on behalf of the IJA. The case raises a number of issues arising from the Requested Person's status as a possible victim of human trafficking who is currently awaiting a conclusive grounds decision.

Belgium v H, G et al

2019, Successfully represented two individuals sought, alongside others, by Belgium for alleged human trafficking offences. The case largely concerns whether the current prison conditions in Belgium are Article 3 compliant and whether a decision has been made to charge/try the RPs.

Pillar-Neumann v Austria

2017, EWHC 3371 (Admin)

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Public law

Public Inquiry into Undercover Policing

2017 – Present, Instructed by the Metropolitan Police Service.

Inquests

Inquest into the Deaths of R and M

2019, Acted on behalf of a police officer in an Article 2 inquest into the tragic deaths of a young boy and his aunt.

Confiscation and Civil Recovery

NCA v Mrs Hajiyeva (2018-)

The first 'Unexplained Wealth Order' made against the wife of the former Chairman of the International Bank of Azerbaijan

Civil

Duggan et al v Commissioner of the Police of the Metropolis

2019, Acting as junior counsel for the Metropolitan Police Service in a civil claim for damages arising out of the death of Mark Duggan in August 2011

Professional Memberships

- Criminal Bar Association
- Young Fraud Lawyers Association (Committee Member)
- Defence Extradition Lawyers Forum (Committee Member)
- Private Prosecutors' Association
- Women in Criminal Law

Education and Professional Qualifications

- Bar Professional Training Course (Outstanding)
- LLM (Harvard)
- MA (Hons) (Cantab)
- Shelford Scholarship (Lincoln's Inn, 2015)
- British Academic of Forensic Sciences Prize (City Law School, 2015)
- Buchanan Prize (Lincoln's Inn, 2015)
- Whittaker Scholarship (Trinity College, University of Cambridge, 2014)
- Lord Denning Scholarship (Lincoln's Inn, 2013)
- Hardwicke Entrance Award (Lincoln's Inn, 2013)
- Hollond Fund Travelling Studentship (Trinity College, University of Cambridge, 2013)

- Lizette Bentwich Prize for Law (Trinity College, University of Cambridge, 2012)
- Senior Scholarship (Trinity College, University of Cambridge, 2012)

Professional Appointments

- CPS Panel (General Crime) Level 2
- CPS Panel (Extradition) Level 2
- Security cleared to SC level

Other Information

Prior to joining Chambers, while undertaking her LL.M., Rebecca worked as a Clinical Student Attorney for the Harvard International Human Rights Clinic, where she contributed to projects on international criminal law, transitional justice and military reform in Myanmar. Rebecca also volunteered as a Student Attorney for Harvard Defenders, where she represented low-income defendants at the earliest stages of the criminal proceedings against them, and for the Prison Legal Assistance Project, where she provided assistance to inmates with a variety of legal matters. In one case, Rebecca represented an inmate in his disciplinary hearing for attempting to smuggle drugs into prison.

In 2012, Rebecca also worked as an intern at the Texas Defender Service in Austin, providing assistance to capital defence attorneys.