# Albert Gibbon

Call: 2021

*"Albert really is a stellar young barrister. He is knowledgeable beyond his years and his preparation is second to none. Clients are very impressed by his bedside manner and dedication."*

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS UK BAR 2027

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Albert Gibbon is a specialist family practitioner, accepting instructions across the spectrum of private family proceedings.

In the 2027 edition of Chambers and Partners UK Bar, Albert is ranked as the only Up and Coming practitioner in Family: Matrimonial Finance on the South Eastern Circuit. He is described therein as “really talented and bright”, a “stellar young barrister”, and “knowledgeable beyond his years”. Albert has also retained his ranking in the 2027 Legal 500 as a Rising Star in Family: Children and Domestic Abuse on the South Eastern Circuit, where he is described as “always tremendously prepared” and as consistently securing excellent outcomes.

Albert has a broad practice in proceedings for financial remedies and claims under Schedule 1 of the Children Act 1989. He acts in cases ranging from those with modest assets but is increasingly instructed in those with larger, more complex assets. He is comfortable dealing with arguments relating to short marriages, non-matrimonial property, or business assets. Albert has also successfully appeared in rarer applications, in proceedings brought under s37 MCA 1973 to set aside a disposition, in complicated enforcement proceedings which have involved invoking the *Thwaite* jurisdiction, and in notice to show cause applications. Albert is also increasingly accepting instructions in claims under the Trusts of Land and Appointment of Trustees Act 1996.

Albert has extensive experience in private children work, and in associated proceedings in which applications have been made for injunctions under the Family Law Act 1996. He frequently acts in cases involving serious allegations of domestic abuse, parental alienation, or where significant drug and alcohol abuse problems are present.

Alongside his practice, Albert is a member of the Kent & SE London YRES committee. He is responsible for arranging seminars, training and social events for barristers, solicitors, members of the judiciary, and other family law professionals in the region. He has also been invited to give a range of talks, seminars, and legal updates to organisations, including but not limited to Hampshire Resolution, Kent Resolution, and Legal 500 Leading Firms. Albert also writes case summaries for the Financial Remedies Journal.

Albert has now been appointed as a National Disciplinary Panel Member of Bowls England, a sports governing body, in which he sits and delivers appeal decisions under Regulation 9.

# Expertise

## Family Finance

Albert has a busy matrimonial finance practice, consistently attending directions appointments, FDRs and final hearings. He also has experience of preliminary hearings involving the intervention of third parties, the hearing of applications under s37(2)(b) MCA 1973 to set aside dispositions, notice to show cause applications, and applications under the *Thwaite* jurisdiction. Albert has also appeared in proceedings brought pursuant to Sch1 to the Children Act 1989.

Albert is well versed in dealing with arguments relating to short marriages, non-matrimonial property, inherited assets, non-disclosure of assets, complex pension assets, and pre-nuptial agreements. Albert also has experience in contested divorce proceedings and proceedings for a nullity.

### Cases

S v S

Albert successfully opposed an application under s37(2)(b) MCA 1973 to set aside his client's disposition of almost all of his shares in a business to his father. He was also able to secure an order for costs against the Applicant, the court finding that they had unreasonably pursued the application following the filing of evidence.

F v F

Albert appeared for the respondent in proceedings in which the applicant made serious allegations of fraudulent non-disclosure, including non-disclosure of business assets in a foreign jurisdiction. Having heard evidence, the court concluded that there was no non-disclosure as alleged. Albert secured a costs order in his client's favour.

H v H

At a final hearing, Albert was successful (i) in pursuing an add back following the husband's unilateral dissipation of matrimonial funds; (ii) in proving that the husband was in a long standing cohabiting relationship with someone upon whom he could financially rely; and (iii) in ensuring that his client's costs were met in full by the award.

B v B

Albert represented the applicant in proceedings in which the parties had signed a consent order, following which the respondent had reneged from that agreement. Following a contested hearing, the court concluded that there was no reason to go behind the agreement. The court also awarded Albert's client their costs from the date the parties signed the agreement.

F v F

Albert was instructed in enforcement proceedings; the original order being made over 15 years before enforcement proceedings were initiated. The Respondent resided outside of the jurisdiction, requiring consideration as to how to serve the Respondent. Albert, on behalf of the Applicant, secured an order pursuant to s39(1) of the SCA 1981 to allow for the sale of the FMH, as well as for costs.



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H v W

Albert appeared in proceedings in which there was a dispute over the husband's share in a business allegedly worth as much as £4.125m.

G v G

Albert represented a party whose ex-spouse had passed away before the implementation of a pension sharing order in the deceased party's favour. Albert was successful in ensuring the court set aside the pension sharing order in full under the Thwaite jurisdiction.

R v R

Albert was instructed to pursue a notice to show cause application in proceedings where a consent order had been agreed but latterly varied on two occasions. Albert's client's application was successful and they were also awarded their costs.

## Children Law (Private)

Albert represents parties at all stages of private law disputes. This includes conducting fact-finding hearings where serious allegations of domestic abuse, including sexual violence and coercive and controlling behaviour, are tried.

Albert has appeared in numerous cases where there are allegations of parental alienation and is increasingly involved in cases where there are allegations or there is a risk of wrongful removal. He has often dealt with cases where the children with whom the court is concerned have particularly high levels of need, with life-limiting diagnoses. He frequently acts in cases with Guardian appointments, including having appeared for Guardians, as well as for grandparents.

Albert regularly receives instructions, and takes a keen interest, in proceedings where applications have been made for permanent or temporary relocation, including to non-Hague Convention countries.

Albert often accepts instructions to seek or resist injunctions under the Family Law Act 1996, often in proceedings consolidated with Children Act proceedings.

### Cases

C v J

At a multi-day fact-finding hearing, Albert successfully secured findings on behalf of his client that her ex-partner behaved in a controlling and coercive manner by way of monitoring her movements, reading her private messages, and also by sexually assaulting her.

F v M

At a multi-day final hearing, Albert's client's proposals were effectively approved in full after the respondent was found, after cross-examination, to have persistently lied in connected criminal proceedings (in which they were convicted for serious offences) as well as in the Children Act proceedings.

C v C

Albert successfully appeared on behalf of the Applicant at an urgent hearing ensuring the immediate return, on the same day of the



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hearing, of two of the subject children who had not been returned to the Applicant's care following a contact session in a different part of the country.

H v T

A case in which the Applicant continued making unsubstantiated claims concerning the Respondent's ability to care for the child. Following Albert's cross-examination of the Cafcass Family Court Adviser, the Applicant elected not to give evidence, accepted that the Respondent could care for the child, and agreed to the Respondent's proposals for final arrangements.

F v F

Albert was instructed to appear in proceedings whereby an application had been made to prohibit the Respondent from relocating to a non-Hague Convention country that they had previously temporarily relocated to.

B v V

Albert was instructed in proceedings in which the Respondent has made a cross-application to prohibit the Applicant from travelling to a non-Hague Convention country.

W v J

Albert was instructed in proceedings in which allegations were made of sexual abuse against the Applicant and inappropriate behaviour with the children. Ancillary immigration issues also required a Disclosure Request of the Home Office to be made.

W v S

Albert represented the Respondent throughout proceedings, including at a final hearing, at which the court determined that the Applicant lacked insight into the child's welfare, had acted unreasonably both before and during the litigation, and had an inability to support the Respondent's relationship with the child. The court made a s91(14) order for a period of three years, and unusually awarded the Respondent ~80% of their costs.

P v P

Albert represented the Respondent in a case where the Applicant's addiction to alcohol was in question. The court ordered numerous hair strand tests and Albert was able to successfully cross-examine the Applicant to persuade the court that despite the Applicant's most recent 'negative' test, the Applicant continued to have a problem with alcohol consumption, lacked insight into the same, and thus contact could never progress to overnights. The Applicant had also breached a non-molestation, was prosecuted in the criminal courts, and made subject to a restraining order.

T v T

Albert was instructed to urgently advise in proceedings where significant capacity issues presented themselves. Albert's client's urgent application was approved.

B v B

Albert represented the Respondent at separate final hearings in applications for a non-molestation order and an occupation order between the same parties, just four months apart. Across the two final hearings, no allegations made by the Applicant were found proven and neither a non-molestation order nor an occupation order were made.



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## Cohabitation

Albert's practice in cohabitee disputes continues to grow. He accepts instructions in TLATA claims, commonly in domestic settings and frequently accompanied by Schedule 1 applications. Albert is frequently instructed at an early stage, engaging in pre-issue ADR to his client's benefit where appropriate.

# Awards

# Qualifications

- BPP University – Barrister Training Course (Outstanding)
- BPP University – Graduate Diploma in Law (Distinction)
- The University of Bristol – BSc Politics with Quantitative Research Methods (2:1)

Awards and prizes

- Certificate of Honour (Middle Temple) (2021)
- Jules Thorn Scholarship for BTC year (Middle Temple) (2020)
- Jules Thorn Scholarship for GDL year (Middle Temple) (2019)
- Merit of Excellence (Examinations Board, University of Bristol) (2018)
- Dean's Commendation (Dean of Faculty of Social Sciences and Law, University of Bristol) (2017)

# Professional Associations

- The Honourable Society of the Middle Temple
- Resolution



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- Advocate – Bar Pro Bono Unit

## Professional Activities

- National Disciplinary Panel Member at Bowls England
- Kent & SE London YRES Committee Member

## Outside Interests

Away from the law, Albert can be found hacking his way around a golf course or playing/watching cricket.

## Testimonials

- “Clients find Albert Gibbon immensely reassuring in terms of his tailored approach, knowledge and understanding of clients’ circumstances and the advice given.” – Chambers and Partners UK Bar 2027
- “Albert is a master at preparing precise, informative and accurate position statements. He is due diligent and excellent with vulnerable and nervous clients, he prepares cases inside out and shows outstanding skills in advocacy.” – Legal 500 2026
- “I want to thank you for referring me to Albert. He has done a fantastic job…I am very grateful for the empathy he has given me in this case and for all the hard work he has put in.” – Client
- “I would also like to thank you for all your hard work on this matter and getting this over the line for the client – you have been brilliant!… I have recommended you to my colleagues and look forward to working with you again on other matters.” – Solicitor
- “Albert was prompt, professional and technically assertive, encompassing all the skills and attributes a litigant could want from their representative in court proceedings.” – Client
- “Albert was extremely well prepared and he provided calm, clear and expert advice on my situation and on my options. He listened to me carefully, advised on what he thought would be in my best interests and I felt totally supported by his presence…I recommend instructing Albert. A first class, knowledgeable and confident barrister.” – Client



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