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## ELIZABETH SPENCE MCIARB

"Elizabeth is always well-prepared and able to get to grips with the issues quickly. Her advocacy is wonderfully clear and concise. She is unflappable, measured and incisive."

Legal 500 2024

Call: 2006

For enquiries please call +44 (0)20 7353 0711 or email

Well known for her representation of clients in financial proceedings which involve complicated business arrangements or inherited assets. She also handles complex children law matters, including cases of abuse and parental alienation.

She is known for building a good working relationship with clients and for consistently and robustly promoting her client's case throughout proceedings and at contested hearings. She provides straight-talking clear advice.

Alongside her extensive financial practice, Elizabeth has particular expertise in Children Act matters. She advises and appears in all courts including the High Court. This gives clients the benefit of having Elizabeth represent them throughout all proceedings relating to their relationship breakdown. She represents parents and children in difficult and complex proceedings involving fact findings relating to serious physical, emotional and sexual abuse, domestic violence, non accidental injury, severe head injuries in children and in cases where one parent killed another.

Elizabeth is an IFLA trained arbitrator in Financial Remedy cases.

Elizabeth is an experienced practitioner whose practice has an emphasis on Financial Remedy proceedings including matrimonial finance, disputes between cohabitants pursuant to TOLATA 1996 and financial relief under Schedule 1 of the Children Act 1989.

She regularly advises and represents clients in matters involving assets of all value, including high individual worth and high net worth cases.

Elizabeth is frequently instructed on complex cases involving companies, inheritance, pre-nuptial and post-nuptial agreements.

Elizabeth's forensic approach to cases is reflected in her strong advocacy and written work. Her comprehensive skeleton arguments, written documents and oral submissions have been noted to have been of great assistance in

the High Court in *N v B v Ors* [2013] EWHC 820 (Fam)

Elizabeth appeared in *S v S* (conduct: Pensions) [2022] EWFC 176 (11 March 2022): Financial remedies judgment, primarily concerning distribution of H's police pension, H having been convicted of the rape of W, stalking her, and perverting the course of justice. Full report: [S v S \(Conduct: Pensions\) \[2022\] EWFC 176 \(11 March 2022\) \(bailii.org\)](#)

In February 2024, Elizabeth was appointed a Deputy District Judge on the South Eastern Circuit.

*"Elizabeth is always well-prepared and able to get to grips with the issues quickly. Her advocacy is wonderfully clear and concise. She is unflappable, measured and incisive."* – **Legal 500 2024 – band 3**

*"Elizabeth is very knowledgeable and approachable. She explains the issues well and provides options to consider as opposed to being fixated on one outcome."* – **Chambers & Partners 2023**

*"Elizabeth is an experienced counsel who relates well to my clients and is trusted by them. She responds to my queries in a timely manner and is easy to talk to."* – **Chambers & Partners 2023**

*"Elizabeth is an astute and talented advocate. She has considerable knowledge, and this is apparent in how she conducts advocacy." "She is formidable, clear and concise in presenting arguments before the court."* – **Chambers & Partners 2023**

*"Elizabeth has an attention to detail. She can quickly turnaround the instructions, and confirm outcomes comprehensively. Clients are impressed with her knowledge and succinct advice."* – **Legal 500 2023 – band 3**

*"Good attention to detail and a no-nonsense approach."* – **Chambers & Partners 2022 – band 3**

*"One of the most outstanding barristers I have ever had cause to instruct and one who is an unparalleled marvel in determination and focus. A formidable, fiercely bright, astute advocate who clients adore."* – **Legal 500 2022 – ranked as leading junior**

*"Outstanding in finance work. She is my go-to discuss a finance case."* **Chambers & Partners 2020 – band 3**

*"Elizabeth Spence is a go-to barrister for high-value cases with issues of minority shareholdings and opponents deploying hostile litigation tactics."* **Legal 500 2021 – band 3**

*"She is a fantastic advocate who fights tooth and nail for her clients."* **Legal 500 2021 – ranked as a leading junior**

*"I really like her attitude in court; she doesn't buckle under pressure, she makes her points well before the judge and she gets the results we need."* **Chambers & Partners 2020 – band 3**

*"Thorough, approachable and focused on achieving the right result for clients." "She provides robust, sensible advice and has great attention to detail."* **Chambers & Partners 2019 – band 3**

## Qualifications

- MA (Hons) Edinburgh University, 2004
- Graduate Diploma in Law, BPP Professional Education (2005)
- David Karmel Scholarship, Grays Inn
- Bar Vocational Course, BPP Professional Education (2006) (Very Competent)

## Professional associations

- FLBA (Family Law Bar Association)
- CI Arb (Chartered Institute of Arbitrators)
- Member of Resolution

## Outside Interests

Outside Chambers life, Elizabeth enjoys walking her two dogs, scuba diving, swimming, tennis and travelling when she gets the chance.