



PUMP COURT

CHAMBERS

3 Pump Court,
Temple, London, EC4Y 7AJ

T: 020 7353 0711
F: 0845 259 3241
DX: 362 London, Chancery Lane

31 Southgate Street,
Winchester, SO23 9EB

T: 01962 868161
F: 0845 259 3240
DX: 2514 Winchester

5 Temple Chambers,
Temple Street, Swindon, SN1 1SQ

T: 01793 539899
F: 0845 259 3242
DX: 38639 Swindon 2

8 Vernon Place,
Canterbury, Kent, CT1 3HG

T: 01227 764 899
DX: 35342 Canterbury 1

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SUSAN CAMPBELL KC

"Susan is a fierce advocate for her client and does not shy away from advancing a difficult case with rigour and dedication. Her humanity shines through her advocacy."

Legal 500, 2023

Call: 1986 / Silk: 2009

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

Susan Campbell KC practices in all areas of family law; both public and private proceedings. Although based in London, her practice takes her to courts throughout England and Wales. She has particular expertise in cases involving injury to children, having conducted many cases relating to brain injured babies. A large part of her practice concerns the serious fact finding hearings relating to emotional harm, sexual abuse and neglect.

She is regularly instructed on behalf of both public bodies and private individuals, and undertakes publicly funded work. Family Finance also forms an important feature of her work; for which she accepts privately paying instructions only.

Susan is regularly involved in training seminars and lecturing.

Notable recent cases involve

- Securing return of children to their parents where the local authority alleged induction or fabrication of illness in one child, requiring surgical intervention over a 12 year period (cross-examining experts about FII – previously known as “Munchausen by proxy”)
- Securing return of two children to a mother who was alleged to have allowed her child to be subject to repeated sexual abuse
- Successfully defending a step-grandparent who faced allegations of causing fractures to a baby
- Representation of parents with significant learning disability, severe psychological problems and depression
- Allegations of poisoning of child over an extended period with prescription drugs and allegations of arson
- Allegations relating to unusual inflicted injuries and sexual abuse of infants and children
- Contested rehabilitation of infant child to her parents in circumstances where an older child of the family died at the hands of a parent; human rights issues were engaged
- An infant death case which preceded criminal proceedings for murder – raising important issues about confidentiality and issues relating to access by the police to expert reports and other material generated by

the fact finding process

- Frequent cross-examination of medical experts in relation to the interpretation of brain pathology, neurology, histopathology and radiology
- Fact-finding cases where children have died as a result of inflicted injury or suffered life threatening injuries
- Issues relating to questions of publicity of information from care proceedings to the press and generally
- The use of the inherent jurisdiction to place children over 17 in secure accommodation
- Issues in the Court of Protection relating to urgent interim removal of an elderly adult from home against her will
- issues relating to osteopenia of prematurity and osteogenesis imperfecta in relation to fractures in children
- Court of Appeal decision relating to the adequacy of judgment and case management decisions – representing the Children’s Guardian

Family Law

Selected Cases

[Re A, B, C, D & E \[2015\] EWFC B186](#)

[Re J \(A Child\)\[2013\] EWCA Civ 1685](#)

Court of Appeal – adequacy of judgment and case management decisions – litigant in person.

[D McG v Neath Talbot County Borough Council \[2010\] EWCA Civ 821 \[2010\] 2 FLR 1827](#)

Court of Appeal – Adoption – Care – Specialist parenting assessment of parent with learning difficulties.

[W \(A Child\) \[2010\] EWCA Civ 321](#)

Court of Appeal – Application by mother to appeal an interim care order.

[Re B \[2009\] EWCA Civ 1243 \[2010\] 2 FLR 1445](#)

Care Order: Adjourment of Fact Finding Hearing. Court of Appeal – Sexual abuse – right to fair trial – allegations against vulnerable adult.

[Re B \[2009\] EWCA Civ 1243](#)

Care Order: Adjourment of Fact Finding Hearing.

Somerset County Council v D & Others [2007] EWCA Civ 722 [2008] 1 FLR 399

Court of Appeal.

Re L (Children) (Threshold Criteria) [2007] 1 FLR 2050 Hedley J

In relation to significant harm.

Re L [2006] EWCA Civ 1282, [2007] 1 FLR 1068

Court of Appeal.

Re G [2006] EWCA Civ 745, [2006] 2 FLR 1092

Court of Appeal.

Qualifications

- BVC, Inns of Court School of Law
- MA Hons (Cantab) Law

Professional associations

- Family Law Bar Association
- Western Circuit