

Kirsten Mercer

Qualifications: LLB (Hons) University of Newcastle
BVC Nottingham Law School

Year of Call: 2006

Inn: Inner Temple

Awards: Louise Godfrey Mooting Champion 2010
Newcastle University Senior
Individual Mooting Champion 2004
Newcastle University Junior
Team Mooting Champion 2003

Main areas of practice

Crime:

Prosecuting

- Kirsten Mercer prosecutes in all areas of crime in the Magistrates', Youth and Crown Courts for the CPS and for agencies other than the CPS, including Group 4 Securicor and the Probation Service. She is a CPS Grade 1 Prosecutor.

Defending

- Kirsten defends in all areas of crime in the Magistrates', Youth and Crown Courts. She has a particular interest in cases where an unlawful arrest is alleged. She has successfully defended in a number of cases where the only evidence is the word of the defendant against public authority figures.
- Kirsten provides written advice on evidence and on appeal where required.

Civil:

Kirsten Mercer has experience of county court hearings at small and fast track levels, drafting pleadings and advices. Kirsten practised as an advocate in the County Courts prior to commencing Pupillage at Park Court Chambers. She has particular interest in the following areas:

Personal Injury

- Kirsten has experience representing and advising in personal injury work, with an emphasis on road traffic accidents, highways cases and infant settlements.

Chancery/ Commercial

- Kirsten has experience in contractual litigation.

Housing/ Landlord and Tenant

- Before commencing pupillage at Park Court Chambers Kirsten worked mainly in the housing law field and has extensive experience representing mortgage companies in possession cases.
- Kirsten has a keen interest in the whole spectrum of housing law.
- She represents both Landlords and Tenants in contested hearings. She recently successfully represented a tenant in an application to set aside judgment where the correct procedure had not been followed before a possession order was made.
- She acts for both Claimants and Defendants in possession cases.

Insolvency/ Commercial Recovery

- Kirsten represents both Petitioning Creditors and Debtors in insolvency proceedings.
- She has experience of representing Debtors in applications to annul bankruptcy.
- Experience of representing Creditors in winding up petitions and applications for injunctions to prevent the advertising of such petitions.
- Experience of acting in a range of commercial recovery hearings, including charging order applications, applications for orders for sale and hearings relating to hire purchase agreements and credit hire agreements.

Employment:

- Kirsten gained experience during pupillage in a range of areas of employment and discrimination law. She spent a significant part of her pupillage with Ceri Widdett, the head of the employment law team and was present throughout the high profile multi-day sex discrimination and harassment claim *Tansey v HBOS* (2009). The claim involved complex legal arguments concerning allegations of continuing acts by different employees over a number of years. Kirsten played an active role researching caselaw on this point.
- Kirsten is keen to expand her practice in this area.

Regulatory:

- Kirsten has a particular interest in Police Disciplinary Proceedings.

Clerks:

Wayne Stevens/Karen Guy (Crime)

Moira Paxton/Janet Jackson (Civil)