# 3 DJB

## **Matthew Hellens**

Called: 1992

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## **Practice Overview**

Having been called in 1992, Matthew spent six years at the Bar before re-qualifying as a solicitor. After seven years in a high street practice as an employee and then a partner, he returned to the Bar in 2006. Having experience of both limbs of the profession, he is able to see and understand the needs of his client both as a solicitor, who would see them on a day-to-day basis (particularly when his court role has ceased) and as a barrister does when focussing on the particular issues at hand.

Matthew is qualified to accept instructions under the Bar Council Public Access scheme. Matthew was also appointed as a Recorder in September 2019.

## **Reported Cases**

Re M (Removal from Jurisdiction: Adjourment) [2010] EWCA Civ 888

Father wishing to take child to non-Hague Convention Country for holiday. Court should approach matter on basis expert evidence is required: if it were not, Court should explain why normal practice not followed.

## **Degree/University**

MA Law (Clare College, Cambridge) Scholarships/awards/prizes Tancred Scholar, Lincoln's Inn

# Memberships

Family Law Bar Association

#### **Areas of Practice**

Public Children Law Cohabitants' disputes.

#### **Outside Interests**

If the Bar were not my work, technology would probably be my career rather than a hobby.