

Elizabeth Wark

Called: 2018



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Practice Overview

Elizabeth Wark -Ranked: Rising Star-FAMILY: CHILDREN AND DOMESTIC ABUSE 'Elizabeth is a real asset. She is kind, caring, and goes above and beyond for her clients. Her advocacy is extremely strong, and she is able to get to the real root of the issue.' **Legal 500 2026**

Elizabeth practises across all areas of family law:

Financial Remedies Nuptial Agreements Private Children Public Children Schedule 1 Children Act 1989 Family Law Act 1996

Elizabeth is frequently instructed to appear in contentious Fact-Finding Hearings and Final Hearings, in both private and public children proceedings, with a focus on those which involve serious allegations of domestic abuse and neglect.

In public law cases, Elizabeth acts both for parents and for Local Authorities.

Elizabeth practises in civil law and chancery:

Cohabitation / Trusts of Land & Appointment of Trustees Act 1996 Cases involving claims about Undue Influence & Duress

Seminars

2020: 'Forgery: General Principles, Practice and Procedure' **2021:** Setting Aside a Financial Remedy Order - Where Are We Now? A Look at Current Law and Practice in Light of BT v. CU (2021) EWFC 87 **2022:** Where are we now? The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 & Case Update. Delivered alongside Anushka Kangesu **2024:** Current Issues in Modest Asset Cases: Part 1. Delivered alongside Laurence Cooper. Considered two issues (i) What's in the Pot? 'matrimonialisation' after Standish v Standish [2024] EWCA 567 and (ii) The 'Chimera' Problem - Family Loans & Resources **2024:** in house seminar to a firm of solicitors on 'relocation' **2024:** Speaker - Introduction to Mooting Workshop -City Women in Law Society -City Uni **2024** -Judge -Student Mooting Competition -City Women in Law Society -City Uni

2025: in house seminar to a firm of solicitors on Nuptial Agreements. **2025** - Current Issues in Modest Asset Cases: Part 2. Delivered alongside Laurence Cooper. Consideration of (i) Conduct (ii) Costs and (iii) Non-Court Dispute Resolution. **2025:** forthcoming -in house seminar to a firm of solicitors to provide a public law update

Elizabeth is available to deliver tailored seminars to solicitors to assist with individual training needs. These may be arranged either in person or via remote (video) link. Please contact the clerks to arrange.

Articles

'Setting Aside a Financial Remedy Consent Order in Covid Pandemic Times' on the Transparency Project Blog, August 2021 - '<https://transparencyproject.org.uk/setting-aside-a-financial-remedy-consent-order-in-covid-pandemic-times-hw-ww2021-ewfc-b20/> Setting Aside a Financial Remedy Order -Where Are We Now? A Look at Current Law and Practice in Light of BT v. CU (2021) EWFC 87. This was a two-part article, published in the March and April 2022 edition of Lexis Family Law. *Final Divorce Orders -a 'Particular Category'*, Transparency Project Blog August 2024 - <https://transparencyproject.org.uk/final-divorce-orders-a-particular-category/> 'The

Latest on Nuptial Agreements: Three Recent Cases, Part 1' -December 2024 -Lexis Family Law - https://www.familylaw.co.uk/news_and_comment/the-latest-on-nuptial-agreements--three-recent-cases--part-1
'The Latest on Nuptial Agreement: Three Recent Cases -Part 2' -January 2025 -Lexis Family Law - https://www.familylaw.co.uk/news_and_comment/the-latest-on-nuptial-agreements--three-recent-cases-part-2--key-practice-points
'Final Curtains at the Intermission? Final Orders at Interim Hearings -When and Why -Part 1' -May 2025 -Lexis Family Law -You can access the full article here. Forthcoming -'Final Curtains at the Intermission? Final Orders at Interim Hearings -When and Why -Part 1' -June 2025 -Lexis Family Law

Advocacy

January 2022 -Vulnerable Witness Training -Family Law Bar Association, London March 2022 - *Advocacy Skills Workshop* -*Australian Advocacy Institute, Sydney* September 2022 - *Advanced International Advocacy Course, Keble College, Oxford* January 2024 -*Advanced Trial Advocacy, Australian Bar Association, Sydney* Forthcoming -May 2025 -*Advanced Trial Advocacy, Trial Lawyers Section of the Florida Bar, Levin College of Law, University of Florida.*

Other Roles

London Resolution Committee 3DJB Marketing Committee 3DJB Pupillage Committee 3DJB Mini-Pupillage Coordinator

Previous Professional & Advocacy Experience

Prior to coming to the Bar, Elizabeth practised as a Registered Nurse at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital in her hometown of Sydney, Australia. She completed a two-year post-graduate training programme in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU).

This experience gives Elizabeth a unique insight into complex family problems and the difficulties individuals have in navigating the system when dealing with extreme stress, trauma and mental or physical ill health. Elizabeth represented Middle Temple Inn at the European Universities Debating Championship in 2017, University College London at the World Universities Debating Championship in 2018, and was secretary of the Middle Temple mooting team at the 2017 Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot Competition. In 2015-16 whilst undertaking the BPTC Elizabeth volunteered on the Vocalise pro-bono scheme which involved teaching debating in schools and prisons.

Her broad interests are reflected by various summer internships, including at the Bar Pro Bono Unit (now 'Advocate'), M&decins Sans Frontières in Madrid and ACI (The Financial Markets Association). Elizabeth takes on pro-bono work for Advocate as and when she is able.

Qualifications

Bachelor of Nursing, University of Technology, Sydney
Graduate Diploma in Law, City University, London (Commendation)
Bar Professional Training Course, City University, London (Very Competent)
LLM (International Commercial Law), UCL (Distinction)

Memberships

Honourable Society of Middle Temple
Resolution
Family Law Bar Association
Anglo-Australasian Lawyers Society
Britain-Australia Society
Association of Lawyers for Children
Royal Over-Seas League

Areas of Practice

**Family**

Domestic Violence

Family Finance

Public Children Law

Private Children Law

Civil

Contract, Company and Commercial

Chancery

Other Interests

Outside of the law, Elizabeth enjoys travel and medium distance running. She ran in the London Landmarks Half Marathon in 2021 to raise money for Advocate.

Saiful Islam

Called: 2005



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Practice Overview

"I have had the absolute pleasure of being represented by Mr Saiful Islam. I found him to be extremely well-prepared, courteous, and extremely knowledgeable. Mr Islam presents a real calmness and is methodical in his approach in court. I could not recommend him enough for the outstanding work he done on my case despite reasonably short notice. He left no stone unturned with his prep and was confident and direct when he was presenting the facts and challenging those put on the stand. I can't thank him enough for what he has done for me and Mr Islam would be at the top of my list for anyone who requires a Barrister to help them with whatever case they may have." -LinkedIn recommendation from a client [2024]

"Saiful is a diligent, tenacious, thoughtful and competent advocate. He cares very well for his lay clients. He is pleasant to deal with and completely straightforward with his opponents, always remaining courteous and professional while putting his clients' case. He is trustworthy and a safe pair of hands; highly recommended." -LinkedIn recommendation from Anne Boustred, Senior Lawyer at Luton Borough Council [2016]

Practice Overview

Saiful specialises in all areas of family law including but not limited to:

Divorce, Nullity and Judicial Separation; Financial Remedy; Private Law Children; Public Law Children; International Child Abduction; and Forced Marriage, Domestic Abuse, and Injunctions.

Formerly a solicitor advocate, Saiful was called to the Bar in 2005 and thus his experience as a solicitor coupled with his many years of experience at the Bar means that he has a good understanding of the needs of his clients, both professional and lay. Historically for many years Saiful has had a wide-ranging mixed practice of civil and family law which coupled with his latest CIPP/E accreditation by the International Association of Privacy Professionals [IAPP] makes him a well-rounded advocate.

Saiful is a high-achiever and is always determined to be the best. He is a robust, analytical and highly tenacious advocate. He has been described by clients as 'friendly' and 'down to earth', by opponents as 'a terrier' and by judges as 'thorough' and 'extremely skilful.'

Saiful is accredited to receive instructions direct from the public.

Some Notable and/or Reported Cases

MSZ v RMA v MZ [Re MZ] [2022] EWHC

Successful representation of the Applicant father in post-Brexit international child abduction -Non-Hague - Wrongful Removal -Return Order

MZ v RZ [2021] EWHC 2940 [Fam]

Successful representation of the Applicant father in post-Brexit international child abduction -Non-Hague -



Wrongful Removal -Jurisdiction -Habitual Residence

A v SM & anor [2012] EWHC 435 [Fam]

Representation of parents in Forced Marriage case which included consideration of applications for forced marriage protection orders under Part 4A of the Family Law Act 1996

[Click Here to View Saiful Islam's Privacy Policy](#)

Degree/University

LLB Honours -University of Hertfordshire

Scholarships/Awards/Prizes

Certified by the IAPP as an Information Privacy Professional in Europe [CIPP/E]

Areas of Practice

Domestic Violence

Family Finance

Public Children Law

Private Children Law

Languages

Bengali -Sylheti dialect (fluent) and Arabic [basic]

Outside Interests

Cycling, martial arts [Wing Chun], cooking and reading.