



## Martha Gray

Called: 2012



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### Practice Profile

Martha specialises in cases concerning children and vulnerable adults in the Family Court and the Court of Protection, many with an international dimension. She regularly represents family members, public authorities and the Official Solicitor in both courts. Much of Martha's work is at the interface between family and Court of Protection work including applications under the inherent jurisdiction, medical treatment cases and deprivation of liberty authorisations.

A large part of Martha's practice incorporates cases with an international element. She is regularly instructed in international abduction, relocation and stranded spouse cases in the High Court. Martha also has experience of international public law cases involving such issues as radicalisation, sex trafficking, international adoption and the placement of children abroad. In addition, Martha has extensive experience of complex public children work including cases of non-accidental injury and human rights claims. She has particular skill in cases involving incapacitated or learning disabled parents requiring a broader knowledge of community care law.

Martha also conducts proceedings in the Court of Protection relating to health and welfare disputes concerning vulnerable and incapacitated adults. She has experience of cases involving capacity disputes, best interests decisions and DOLS authorisations. Martha has also acted in cases involving disputes about the registration and exercise of powers of attorney.

#### Notable Cases

*In The Matter Of A (A Child) (Kinship Carer Welfare Determination)* [2017] EWFC B36

*A Local Authority v CD & Ors* [2016] EWHC 1769 (Fam)

*Re Z (Application for Release of DNA Profiles)* [2014] EWHC 1999 (Fam)

#### Education

Martha read history at St Hugh's College, Oxford. Prior to coming to the Bar, Martha interned at the Center for Equal Justice in New Orleans and at the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative in New Delhi. In 2010 and 2011 she was made a Diplock Scholar of Middle Temple. She won the Rosamund Smith Mooting Competition in 2011 and was a finalist in the City University Mooting Competition in the same year.

#### Publications

Deprivation of Liberty: The Question of Consent (April [2019] Fam Law 402)

When Can Judges Change Their Minds? The Supreme Court's judgment in L and B (Children), February 2013, <http://www.familylawweek.co.uk/site.aspx?i=ed112000>

#### Appointments and Memberships



Member of the Ethics Committee of the Bar Council  
Member of the Family Law Bar Association  
Member of the Court of Protection Bar Association  
Full member of the Child Abduction Lawyers' Association