Jennifer Ferrario

YEAR OF CALL 2007

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AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Employment Law & Professional Misconduct (Fitness to Practise)



Regulatory and Professional Discipline Group CV

Membership:

Association of Regulatory Lawyers Women in Law Direct Access Scheme Pro Bono Champion for Chambers since 2019

Areas of Practice:

Professional Misconduct (Fitness to Practise) Special Educational Needs & Disability Tribunals

Profile:

Jennifer Ferrario qualified as a litigation solicitor in 1996 and practised in employment, crime and regulatory law. She became a higher rights advocate two years following qualification and transferred to the Bar in 2007 whilst General Counsel at The Environment Agency. From 1998 - 2006 Jennifer sat as a lay member of a Mental Health Tribunal for a Greater Manchester NHS Trust and from 2003 to 2017 worked as in house Counsel for The Environment Agency and Greater Manchester Police. During her time as in house Counsel, Jennifer Ferrario became proficient in regulatory matters and was often called upon by external agencies including the Health & Safety Executive, Trading Standards Institute, Highways agency and DEFRA to advise on a variety of matters and to conduct their jury trials.

Since 1998 Jennifer has been presenting professional misconduct proceedings and over the years has led the way with many issues including the admissibility of evidence, abuse of process, hearsay, disclosure and recusal. In March 2017 upon joining the self-employed Bar, Jennifer immediately received instructions from police services in matters of misconduct and general regulatory.

During her time in Chambers Jennifer has developed her professional misconduct practice and is regularly instructed by several professional regulators. She has earned herself a reputation with regulators, instructing Solicitors and professional clients for navigating her way through complex evidential matters in a methodical and measured manner in order to reach a fair outcome. Jennifer mentors the younger members of Chambers in all areas of professional

misconduct and as Head of our Police Misconduct team works closely with members of the team to ensure that Chambers delivers a high quality service. Jennifer sits as a Legally Qualified Chair in police misconduct cases.

Professional Misconduct

General Medical Council: Jennifer is a member of the GMC Panel of Approved Counsel and has been presenting cases for the GMC before the Medical Practitioner's Tribunal Service since July 2017 ranging from allegations of prescribing incorrect medicines to serious sexual assault. Earlier this year, Jennifer presented a case involving over 50 allegations of dishonest conduct which upon being found proven, resulted in the doctor being erased from the register.

Police Misconduct Proceedings: Since 1998 Jennifer has regularly appeared in police misconduct proceedings primarily presenting cases on behalf of the Police Service. Since joining Chambers she has been instructed to appear before Police Misconduct Tribunals in a variety of cases including assault, dishonesty, sexual assaults and unlawful disclosure of highly sensitive material.

Social Work England: Jennifer has recently spent time in a national law firm presenting complex cases before Social Work England fitness to practice panels including cases of serious professional incompetence and rape. Jennifer continues to advise on, draft allegations for and present these cases on a wide ranging spectrum of conduct including bullying, serious dishonesty and professional incompetency.

Professional Misconduct: Since joining Chambers Jennifer Ferrario has represented members of various professions in internal disciplinary investigations, meetings and hearings. When Jennifer recently represented a Head teacher before an appeals misconduct panel following a finding of gross misconduct, the finding was overturned and the client returned to work Jennifer received the following message from the client: 'Thank you so much for your support, professionalism and guidance. I will be eternally grateful to you for your hard work on my behalf.' (MF)

Inquests

Jennifer has been involved in Inquests since 1998 when she was working as a Solicitor with the Police Federation. Jennifer continued in this field when she transferred to the Bar and whilst in House Counsel for Greater Manchester Police (2012 2017) represented the police in numerous inquests. Upon joining Chambers, Jennifer has represented public and private organisations and families in inquests proceedings including article 2 and jury proceedings.

General Regulatory

Interviewing and Reporting: Since joining Chambers Jennifer has assisted organisations with interviewing and reporting on staff involved in alleged regulatory non-compliance and or criminal matters. An example is a recent instruction by The Reserve Forces & Cadets Association to interview 2 recruits regarding a physical assault allegation and to provide a report advising on potential misconduct.

SEND Tribunals: Jennifer has appeared before Tribunals in a variety of jurisdictions including 1st and 2nd Tier since 1998. Most recently since joining Chambers she has presented cases for Local Authorities in appeal hearings, working closely with Senior Educational Psychologists and Head Teachers. In a recent case the Senior Educational Psychologist (CW) had this to say 'Having worked with Jennifer in a SEND appeal I was very impressed with her thorough preparation and knowledge of the case and especially with the careful yet robust approach that she used when she questioned the appellant witnesses. She had a style that was just right for getting the answers from witnesses that were helpful to our case. I would highly recommend her.'

Data Breach

Jennifer has considerable experience in representing parties in breach of data cases, including breaches of the Data Protection Act, confidential information and the misuse of private information. Jennifer is well versed in the tests to be applied, the available defences to a breach including statutory duty and the remedies available to those affected. The



jority of Jennifer's work in this area arose during her time as In House Counsel for Greater Manchester Polegularly instructed since joining Chambers in representing local authorities in these cases.	ice and she