



Name: Reagan Persaud

Called: 2013

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Summary:

Reagan practises exclusively in Children law. She has profound experience in all areas including, but not limited to, public children, private children, injunctions, enforcement, international and jurisdiction matters.

As a result of being so niche in her practice, Reagan has acted in cases well-beyond her call where she has represented parents, local authorities and guardians in complex fact-finding hearings, dealt with interim removal hearings in the High Court and tricky final hearings involving on-going criminal proceedings, linked directions hearings, and children witnesses. Her experience covers serious sexual abuse/rape allegations, broken bones/non-accidental injuries to children, historical and long-standing physical abuse allegations, parental alienation allegations, and cultural issues involving the making of forced marriage orders.

Reagan is a people person. She is able to empathise with parents who have their own vulnerabilities, including where the official solicitor may well need to be involved due to litigation capacity issues. Her skill lies in her ability to identify the issues in cases very clearly, cutting through any attempt that other parties' may make to 'muddy the waters'. She is considered fierce and strong-willed when it comes to putting her client's case, particularly when they have their own vulnerabilities due to mental health or other difficulties.

Reagan is also well-learned and capable of challenging experts on their conclusions and evidence. Judges have regularly found Reagans' abilities in these areas highly impressive. She always looks at matters in an appropriate holistic manner which means that clients get a second-to-none service from her representation.

As part of her professional journey, Reagan has worked previously in-house as a Local Authority counsel and so is very well versed in Local Authority processes and procedures. This makes her an ideal representative for Local Authorities in complex cases where a certain knowledge of the workings of the Local Authority can be key in presenting their position clearly to the court.

Reagan is also regularly instructed to advise guardians to deal with Children law matters where

children have particular needs that require specialist counsel. She has extensive knowledge and experience of issues relating to gender identity and the difficulties that children can face when these matters arise. Similarly, she is very knowledgeable about the difficulties with children who have attachment issues, self-harming behaviors, and have been at risk of child sexual exploitation and grooming. Reagan's ability to advise guardians in respect of these matters and to ensure that the children's interests are put first in these complex cases is a credit to her skill-set as a Children law practitioner.

Finally, Reagan's practice covers regularly exposure in the High Court in complex care proceedings. With a number of years of experience under her belt, she is confident in holding her own even in this complex forum.

Endorsements:

Legal 500 2021 Rising Star - "Reagan's mind works fast, and draws on the specificity of the case, which is incredibly useful in cases where there are related proceedings, siblings, have been long hearings and there is a lot of detail to draw on. She is confident, which puts the client at ease, especially where other representatives are partisan and can make professional clients feel intimidated or under attack."

"Reagan is incredibly meticulous, thorough and thinks about a case from every angle. She provides extremely clear yet detailed advice and guidance, explaining the possible outcomes. Reagan is an excellent advocate who is thorough and tenacious in and outside court and gets to the point. She is very approachable, excellent with clients and very good on a personal level. She is easy to work with and many clients have requested her specifically to deal with their matters. I look forward to working with Reagan in the future and find her to be very effective and reliable barrister."
Instructing Solicitor, Local Authority - 2020

"Reagan is very approachable, she goes above and beyond with her detailed advice on a case and is always thinking one step ahead. She has a brilliant rapport with the clients and many have requested her specifically to deal with their matters. She is a fierce advocate who stands her ground and the clients feel reassured and satisfied with her advocacy and advice.

Reagan has provided detailed attendance notes including advice going forward. I look forward to working with Reagan in the future and find her to be very reliable and a great go-to barrister."

Instructing Solicitor, Local Authority - 2018

Public Law Children:

Reagan is regularly instructed by both Local Authorities, on behalf of the parents and children (through their guardian) in care proceedings. She has a wealth of experience in this area.

As a result of primarily being instructed in public children law matters, Reagan has acted in cases well-beyond her call where she has represented parents, local authorities and guardians in complex fact-finding hearings, dealt with interim removal hearings in the High Court and tricky final hearings

involving on-going criminal proceedings, linked directions hearings, and children witnesses. Her experience covers serious sexual abuse/rape allegations, broken bones/non-accidental injuries to children, historical and long-standing physical abuse allegations, parental alienation allegations, and cultural issues involving the making of forced marriage orders.

Reagan is also regularly instructed to advise guardians to deal with Children law matters where children have particular needs that require specialist counsel. She has extensive knowledge and experience of issues relating to gender identity and the difficulties that children can face when these matters arise. Similarly, she is very knowledgeable about the difficulties with children who have attachment issues, self-harming behaviors, and have been at risk of child sexual exploitation and grooming. Reagan's ability to advise guardians in respect of these matters and to ensure that the children's interests are put first in these complex cases is a credit to her skill-set as a Children law practitioner.

Reagan is also experienced in complex international care cases. She has experience of all levels of care matters up to the high court. Further, she has successfully appealed District Judges and successfully responded to appeals brought against Judgments of Circuit Judges. She is not a barrister who backs down if she believes that a decision against her client is wrong.

Her extensive experience in care matters makes her second-to-none in this area of law where she is regarded as a specialist in the field. She is a regular representative for many Local Authorities across Yorkshire, and very much an essential and preferred barrister for many parents and guardians in complex care cases.

Private Law Children:

Reagan understands the high tensions in private children disputes and has experience of dealing with simple contact disputes and much more complex cases that may involve domestic violence, injunctions against parties, the involvement of children's services via S7 or S37 reports and/or the issue of care proceedings, shared-care arrangements and jurisdictional disputes. She is also able to identify parental alienation issues and champion the causes of both mothers and fathers as a result of her breadth of experience.

Reagan's background in children's services allows clients to get incisive advice into the implications of parties' actions and the proper application of the welfare checklist. She is able to find sensible middle grounds in such disputes and ensure that long-lasting agreements can be reached. She is also capable of challenging the evidence at final hearings and giving clear and relevant submissions on her clients' behalf. To date, Reagan has been very successful in her private law practice and regularly receives repeat instructions from solicitors across Yorkshire.

Injunctions:

Reagan is frequently instructed by solicitors to represent vulnerable clients who have been abused and require protection via NMOs and/or Occupation Orders. She understands the need for without-notice applications and how to gather evidence and represent these clients throughout proceedings. She is alive to the need for vulnerable clients to not be exposed to their perpetrators at

court and is aware of the methods of protecting her clients and the unexpected/interlinked issues that her clients may face around, for instance, child contact.

Reagan's thorough understanding of injunction proceedings and her ability to connect with vulnerable clients makes her somewhat of an expert in this area.

Mediation and Arbitration:

Reagan is a qualified, non-practicing mediator. She therefore fully understands the mediation process and is able to provide support and proper advice throughout this process. She can provide strategic advice throughout mediations or arbitrations which greatly assists clients in securing the fairest and most beneficial settlements. However, she also knows when to stop discussions when this may be important for her client and is not afraid to move to contested hearings where negotiations are not appropriate or have reached a point where they would not be in her client's best interests to proceed. Reagan does not approach mediations with a 'must-settle' attitude and will certainly contest matters where it is appropriate to do so.

Memberships & Appointments:

Visiting Lecturer on the Bar Professional Training Course - 2020
Examiner/Assessor for the Bar Professional Training Course - 2019
Family Law Bar Association
Chambers' Representative on the North Eastern Circuit FLBA Branch
Bar Pro Bono Unit
Lawyers for Children Committee Member
Criminal Law Bar Association
Inner Temple Society
Bar North Eastern Circuit

Education:

LLB (Law) Hons - The London School of Economics and Political Science - Upper Second Class Honours - 2008
LLM (Law) - BPP Law School - Distinction - 2015
Accredited Civil/Commerical Mediation - 2013
BPTC - BPP Law School - Very Competent - 2013

Interests:

Volunteer/Supporter/Guest Speaker for Mermaids (a charity dedicated to supporting transgender and gender non-conforming children)
Reagan is a qualified fitness instructor and teaches gym classes in her spare time. She is also an amateur chef and loves experimenting with new recipes in her free-time.
Reagan also learns Spanish part-time in the hope of one day becoming fluent in a second language.

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