

Nicholas Walker

Call 1998



Clerks' Details

 Nick Buckley
 0161 817 2757

 Ian Spencer
 0113 203 1971

Appointments

Assistant Coroner for Stoke on Trent and Staffordshire North and Staffordshire South

Legally Qualified Chair of Police Misconduct Hearings

Memberships

- Lincoln's Inn
- Criminal Bar Association
- Vice President and Executive Member of the National Association Of Legally Qualified Chairs

Practice Overview

With well over 20 years' experience, Nicholas specialises in professional discipline where he is in demand across the country for his hard-working and common-sense approach and persuasive advocacy.

In recent years he has defended police officers in some of the longest-running and most complex cases in police misconduct, including death in custody and police-related inquest cases. He defends other professionals, often in healthcare settings. For many years Nicholas has presented technically complex cases on behalf of the General Medical Council.

Nicholas is particularly adept in cases where there are sensitive issues or vulnerable witnesses and was accredited by the Inns of Court College of Advocacy as a Lead Facilitator for Vulnerable Witness Training.

Cases

Mr O. Health Care and Professions Council

Mr O was alleged to have touched a client and acted in an inappropriate and sexual way during the course of his treatment of her. At the conclusion of the hearing the Panel dismissed all of the allegations made against Mr O.

Recommendations

“Nick is a standout junior when it comes to representing police officers. His grasp of the issues in a case is masterful. He is also a joy to work with, having a calming influence which permeates any hearing he’s involved in.”

Chambers and Partners 2023

‘Nicholas is well-prepared and takes a sensible approach to his cases. He does not argue every single point regardless of the merits, but instead focuses on the key and important ones, arguing them well. He is easy to work with, even as an opponent in a tricky case.’

The Legal 500 2023

“Nicholas is measured, fair and very pleasant to deal with. He is the best type of opponent to have in a difficult case: he puts his case effectively and does an excellent job for his client.”

The Legal 500 2022

“Nick has an excellent client manner and is meticulous in his preparation and presentation of cases. He maintains good communication from initial instruction to the final hearing and gains the trust and respect of clients and solicitors instantly with his calm and controlled manner.”

The Legal 500 2021

“The case in which Nick represented our member was gargantuan. One of the longest, if not the longest, misconduct hearing in North Wales Police history. The sheer volume of documentation and CCTV footage to work through was immense yet Nick was able to grasp the complexities of the case from the start and sort the wheat from the chaff.

“In the lead up and preparation for the hearing, Nick was able to work in a way which instilled the full confidence of our member in him, knowing that all aspects had been considered and a clear plan in place to put forward our members case.

“During the hearing, Nick adopted a style of presenting calmness and collectiveness; taking the panel, figuratively, in to the shoes of our member to give them the opportunity to understand the full circumstances of the working environment of a custody Sergeant.

“In Nick’s closing submissions, the finest I have ever heard, I was incredibly impressed at his ability to pull together the many strands and dimensions to this case, in a way which made a compelling argument in our members favour. Clearly, this was successful as testament to the outcome of the hearing.

“I have no hesitation, whatsoever, in recommending Nick as a highly skilled, talented and able counsel who I would gladly work with again knowing he puts our members best interests at the forefront of his work.”

Mark Jones - North Wales Police Federation Secretary and Treasurer

“Nick Walker is a capable and confident advocate who combines intelligence and insight with approachability. He works extremely hard and is always available to discuss cases and offer advice. Nick’s advocacy is engaging to both Judge and jury; a closing speech of his was one of the best I’ve heard. I have worked with Nick on a number of occasions and it has always been a pleasure.”

“I have now instructed Nick Walker in a number of police cases involving criminal prosecutions and misconduct proceedings. These have been challenging and complex cases. Mr Walker impresses with his attention to detail, good judgment and advocacy skills. The clients warm to him and are he is able to earn and command their trust and respect. They know they are in safe hands. He is always contactable and responds quickly to enquiries and is therefore a pleasure to work with professionally.”

Nick Holroyd - Slater & Gordon

“That brings me onto your choice in barrister, Nick Walker. A person who again I think was the perfect person to represent me.

I genuinely felt that Nick had my best interests at heart. He presented himself very calm and collected, much like how I was in my career as an officer. You don’t need to scream and shout to be heard.

I was beyond impressed in my appeal hearing, I was in tears for most of it. I couldn’t help but admire how passionate he came across talking about my life and my case, he toed a brilliant line between respecting the courts, not belittling the original sentencing judge but really emphasising points which he felt were ‘misunderstood’ at the time and really got the judges to understand where I was mentally.

Nick made me feel that if my appeal failed I knew there was nothing more he could have done for me which I think says a lot.”

Former Police Officer