

Julie Forsyth

Call 1983



Clerks' Details

• Mark Shannon
• 0151 305 3365

• Kate Batty
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• Wendy Shannon
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Membership

- Member of Gray's Inn
- Member of the Family Bar Association

Education

- LLB Liverpool University 1982
- Inns of Court School of Law 1983

Beyond the Bar

In her spare time Julie likes to try to keep fit with Pilates and HIIT, and is learning to play golf. She also enjoys cooking for family and friends.

Family CV

Overview

An experienced advocate with a career spanning over 35 years, Julie is recognised as a true specialist in the family law sphere. Her practice covers all aspects of children law, including both public law and private law proceedings.

Up until 2009, Julie also maintained a criminal practice alongside her family work. She is a Category 4 Prosecutor and has defended and prosecuted (in equal measure) serious cases of murder, attempted murder, serious physical assaults, rape, kidnapping and physical and sexual abuse of children. Her experience at the criminal bar complements her established family practice.

Julie is regularly instructed to represent parents, adopters, relatives and children in cases involving:

- Care Proceedings
- Private Law Proceedings
- PII Cases
- Adoption
- Special Guardianship work
- Deprivation of Liberty
- Relocation and abduction of children (both domestic and internationally)

Her cases often involve the most serious allegations of infant death, sexual abuse, factitious induced illness (FII), domestic violence and physical abuse of children. Many of these cases involve complex medical evidence and require difficult cross examination of a wide array of medical professionals, including paediatric neurologists, neurosurgeons, paediatric radiologists, ophthalmologists, paediatricians, haematologists, geneticists, pathologists, psychiatrists and psychologists.

Julie finds her work both rewarding and challenging. She is regarded as a

tenacious cross examiner of all witness, whether lay or professional. Approachable and supportive, she is a popular choice with lay-clients due to her ‘down-to-earth’ nature. Many of these individuals have mental health difficulties and/or learning issues. Julie will always ensure that her clients are able to engage in and understand these highly traumatic and complicated matters.

Recommendations

“Julie is a fantastic advocate and is very approachable. She will always go the extra mile for clients.”

“Julie is an excellent barrister.”

“Julie is good with cases that have sensitive and complex elements.”

Chambers and Partners 2024

“Julie is a fierce advocate with a pragmatic approach to public law cases. She is not afraid to give clients a realistic assessment of their case while always maintaining an excellent level of client care, and she is an excellent source of advice and knowledge on the most complex of cases.”

The Legal 500 2024

“Julie Forsyth is extremely competent. She’s unique because she does crime alongside family. Julie definitely knows her stuff.”

“Julie Forsyth is wicked in cross-examination. She’s dedicated and runs complex points.”

“Julie is extremely pragmatic. She gives realistic advice whilst at the same time pursuing her client’s case fearlessly. Julie’s got a lovely way with clients as well.”

Chambers and Partners 2023

‘Julie is committed, professional, straight talking and tenacious. She will always go the extra mile and she has real empathy and understanding with her clients. The feedback from clients is always positive and she will not shy away from a fight. However, it is her kindness to clients and her ability to get to the nub of matters and help, even when the outcome is not going to be favourable, that sets her apart from other barristers. She has a big heart and a way of dealing with people that makes her very special.’

The Legal 500 2023