

Jennifer Kotilaine

Year of Call: 2011

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Court of Protection

Jennifer practices in the Court of Protection on Healthcare and Welfare matters up to the High Court. She represents local authorities and P, through their litigation friend, and other family members.

Her cases have related to capacity, deprivation of liberty, and welfare (including residence and contact). Given her background in public law children, she has a particular expertise on transitional arrangements for 16-18 year olds, many of whom have been subject to care proceedings and are accommodated in local authority care.

She was recently involved in an end of life treatment case in the context of care proceedings: *GOSH v A Local Authority & Ors* [2022] EWHC 2596

Jennifer also advises local authorities on the question of ordinary residence for the purpose of assigning responsibility for the care of vulnerable adults and has published on this topic.

She was a member of the Court of Protection ad hoc rules committee and provided training on changes to the rules to local authorities and other solicitors.

Recommendations

'Jennifer is diligent and thorough in the cases she deals with. She approaches each matter with sensitivity and will put forward her client's case fearlessly and to the best of her ability, even against the odds.'

'Jennifer is someone I turn to in particular to assist with cases in which we represent older children. She manages them beautifully and sensitively, cares about the outcome of their cases and invests herself fully in their representation.'

'I have been particularly impressed by Jennifer's ability to deal with care cases with a foreign element. She understands the many problems of assessing family abroad and navigates the issues with great skill.'

'Jennifer has a kind and empathetic manner and will make any client feel well supported and that she cares about getting the best outcome for them.'

'Jennifer's positive, calm and helpful approach and expertise in this very complex matter were invaluable to this case and it was a great pleasure working with her. She came highly recommended and I will certainly look forward to instructing her in the future and recommending her to colleagues.'

'Jennifer was extremely helpful to the social work team and identified solutions in a very enabling and supportive manner. The social workers really felt that they were all part of one team.'

'Her very clear, concise and frank advice on the legality of our policy [in relation to Special Guardian allowances] has been

escalated to the highest level. We will now be redrafting our policy accordingly.’

‘Your piece [on local authority duties to unaccompanied migrant children] was immensely informative and easy to follow and beautifully written. Thank you-- though I am very perturbed about that massive glistening iceberg that is in our path that you have just illuminated.’

Academic qualifications

- BA/BMus (High Honors), Oberlin College & Conservatory, USA
- PhD in Music, Harvard University USA
- MA (Jurisprudence), University of Oxford
- BVC (Very Competent), City Law School

Scholarships

- Major Exhibition, Inner Temple
- Duke of Edinburgh Entrance Award, Inner Temple

Professional qualifications & appointments

- Associate Lecturer in Law at Oxford Brookes University
- Family Mediator (Resolution)

Professional bodies

- Chair of Oxfordshire Family Justice Board
- FLBA
- ALC
- Court of Protection Bar Association
- Resolution (Associate Member)
- Inner Temple