

3PB Barrister Profile



Melanie De Freitas

Call 1995

Email: melanie.defreitas@3pb.co.uk

Academic Qualifications

BA

Melanie De Freitas specialises primarily in child care work (public and private law).

In public law cases she has been instructed by Local Authorities, Guardians and Parents

Recent cases Public law include:

- Representing mother involving allegations of rape on a 4yr old by a 12 year old (11 day hearing)
- Physical abuse, neglect and, more recently, factitious illness
- A case involving serious NAI injuries to a baby. Complex medical issues resulting in numerous medical experts giving conflicting opinions (20 day hearing)
- Case involving serious neglect and sexual abuse involving disabled parents (26 day hearing)
- Hearing involving a serious factitious illness case heard in the High Court (8 day hearing)
- Section 38(6) application representing long term drug/alcohol user (7 day hearing)
- Represent a mother whose already disabled child suffered acute subdural haemorrhages and the central issues resulting in a finding of fact hearing to decide the range of possibilities on how the injuries were caused. Complex medical evidence hearing necessary (9 day hearing)

Recent Private Law cases involve:

- Private law residence, contact and removal out of the jurisdiction
- Involved in cases with particular cultural and religious aspects. An example of such a case involving Kurdistan refugees had a final hearing (12 day hearing)
- Complex case involved a convicted murderer seeking contact with child in the High Court before Correride J
- Dealt with child aged 14 in a dispute between parents running for 10 years resulting on complex issues of education, residence and relocation before Paulfey J
- Instructed by a Pakistani mother dealing with an allegation of serious domestic violence requiring a fact find hearing and then proceeded to

deal with relocation within the UK (5 day hearing)

Lecture given on 'Removal out of Jurisdiction?' after final hearing lasting 4 days in High Court.

Member of the Trinidad and Tobago Bar.

Professional Qualifications and Appointments

- Accredited Mediation Advocate

Professional Bodies

- Member of the Trinidad and Tobago Bar