



Onyoja Momoh



Year of call: 2010

Areas of Practice

Family, Direct Public Access Barristers, Child Abduction

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

PhD in Law (expected) 'Domestic and family violence in the context of the 1980 Hague Convention on the civil aspects of international child abduction', supervised by Dr Katarina Trimmings and Professor Paul Beaumont, University of Aberdeen - Elphinstone Scholarship

LL.M, City, University of London, thesis on International Child Abduction - distinction

BVC, City, University of London - Gray's Inn Junior Award

BA (Hons) Economics & Law, University of Leicester - 36 Bedford Row Prize

LEGAL 500 (2017)



Onyoja is ranked as a Leading Junior for Children Law in the 2017 edition of The Legal 500 who say "*Very dogged and knowledgeable, yet very down to earth*".

Practice Profile

Onyoja specialises in family law and is developing a practice in international child abduction cases. She appears in proceedings concerning cross-border disputes and has represented parents in the UK and abroad in Hague Convention cases, Brussels II Revised and internal abductions.

Onyoja accepts instructions on a wide range of cases involving children in both private and public law proceedings at High Court and County Court level. She frequently appears in highly sensitive cases concerning domestic violence and child abuse, representing parents, local authorities and children,

through their Children's Guardian. She also receives instructions in matrimonial finance disputes and injunction hearings under the Family Law Act 1996.

Onyoja has regularly given talks at seminars and in conferences on the 1980 Hague Convention with particular focus on the Article 13 (1)b defence and the best interests of the child. She has been selected to speak at the 2017 Journal of Private International Law Conference, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, with publication of her paper in the journal to follow. In academia, Onyoja has also delivered tutorials to undergraduates at the School of Law, University of Aberdeen.

MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

Child Abduction Lawyers Association, Committee member

Centre for Private International Law, University of Aberdeen

Family Law Bar Association

Gray's Inn

Bar Pro Bono Unit

Human Rights Lawyers Association

NOTABLE CASES

B v P (2016) – High Court: representing a parent abroad - child abduction, securing rights of access and jurisdictional dispute on the applicability of Brussels II Revised between the UK and Gibraltar

Re S and S (2015) – acting for the Local Authority in a 9-day fact-finding within care proceedings regarding two children and allegations of physical and emotional harm

M v M (2015) – represented father in a fact finding within wardship proceedings, involving allegations of child abduction to a non-Hague Convention country, stranding and domestic abuse

A v B (2014) – High Court: final hearing on children act proceedings with an international element (risk of child abduction – non-Hague Contracting State)

H v F (2016)- High Court; temporary leave to remove from the jurisdiction of England and Wales to a non Hague Convention Country

A v P (2016)- High Court: acting for the respondent mother in 1980 Hague Convention return proceedings defended on the grounds of consent, acquiescence and habitual residence

W v S (2016) - findings of fact hearing of allegations of sexual abuse of a child within private law children proceedings

WHAT PEOPLE SAY

“I also had the experience of observing Onyoja at Court on this matter and was impressed by her courteous but no-nonsense approach to advocacy” – Instructing Solicitor

“I wanted you to know that Miss Momoh was excellent in every respect in the most trying circumstances” – opponent

Representing a vulnerable parent in an adoption case “[she] has had the great advantage of legal

submissions and if the submissions before me are anything to go by, she would have had a very fair hearing..." – Judge

"She is a person of great integrity, extremely dedicated to her work..." – Instructing Solicitor

"Onyoja is very competent and communicates well with her instructing solicitors. She is thorough and clearly takes time to prepare her cases" Andrew Symeou - Partner at Faradays Solicitors

LINKS

Research: <http://www.abdn.ac.uk/law/research/people-72.php>

LinkedIn: <https://uk.linkedin.com/in/onyoja-momoh-99526064>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/onyoja>

DIRECT ACCESS

Onyoja is qualified to accept instructions under the Direct Public Access to barrister's scheme.



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