Withersworldwide

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Alexandra is a senior associate in the Trust, Estate and inheritance disputes team.

Alexandra acts for individuals, charities and trustees in relation to a wide range of domestic and cross-border trust and succession matters. She advises on all types of trust and probate disputes ranging from issues relating to the validity of wills and trusts, the construction and rectification of wills and deeds, removal of executors and trustees, constructive trust and proprietary estoppel claims and claims under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependants) Act 1975.

She also advises on Court of Protection matters, including statutory wills and powers of attorney.

She is a member of the firm's Charity Legacy Team and Elder Law Team.

Track record

Withers Trust Corporation v Estate of Goodman

Alexandra and Paul Hewitt acted for Withers Trust Corporation in the estate of Adrian Berry, securing full relief from the forfeiture rule. Mr Berry had assisted in the death of his terminally ill wife, before tragically taking his own life. As a result of the relief granted, Mr Berry's estate receives the benefit of his wife's estate, such that all their assets pass to their intended charity, free of inheritance tax. Click here to read the judgment and here to read our briefing note

Klein v Adler and Klein

In *Klein* v *Adler and Klein* [2021] EWHC 2503 (Ch) Alexandra and <u>Paul Hewitt</u> acted for the successful claimant, Mrs Klein, in an action to replace the executors with an independent administrator, the Deputy Master holding that there had been a '*real failure to progress the administration*'.

Claim for financial provision

Alexandra, along with <u>Paul Hewitt</u> acted for Mrs Bhusate in her claim for financial provision from her late husband's estate more than 25 years after her husband passed away. Despite the lengthy delay (the previous record of just under six years was set in 1993) Chief Master Marsh ordered that Mrs Bhusate's claim should be allowed to proceed. Click <u>here</u> to see his judgment. In January 2020 the High Court upheld Chief Master Marsh's decision (the appeal judgment is <u>here</u>) meaning Mrs Bhusate's claim could proceed. Shortly after the defendant stepchildren conceded the claim. Click <u>here</u> to read our briefing note.

Wells v Chorus Law and Others

In Wells v Chorus Law and Others [2018], Alexandra and <u>Paul Hewitt</u> acted for the successful defendant in the first 'child of a single parent family' 1975 Act claim, ensuring that the Judge was not persuaded the claimants was ever part of a family and therefore was not able to bring a claim. <u>Click</u> to read our briefing note on the case.

Succession dispute

Alexandra, along with <u>Stephen Richards</u>, acted for the successful claimants in *Tish v Olley* & *Others* [2018], where the judge agreed with their interpretation of the will. <u>Click here</u> to read our briefing note on the case and <u>here</u> for the judgment.

Talks

 'Charities - how they should respond to 1975 Act Claims; & Defining persons treated as a child of family: lessons from the Family Division and their application to the single parent family in Wells v Chorus Law', ACTAPS Annual Seminar - April 2019

Admissions

England and Wales, 2017

Oxford University, B.A. History

Languages

English

Memberships

Associate Member of Association of Contentious Trust and Probate Specialists (ACTAPS)

Key dates

Year joined: 2015

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