

## Claire Blakemore

PARTNER | LONDON

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SECRETARY MELANIE BALCAN



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Claire is a partner in the divorce and family team.

She brings commitment, energy, strong technical expertise and sound judgement to all her work, spanning the full range of family law issues. Claire goes the extra mile for her clients with whom she has solid relationships.

Whether working with domestic or international clients, she deals with complex financial claims, children issues, pre and postnuptial agreements and cohabitant disputes and has extensive experience advising on cases involving trusts.

Her clients are in commerce, finance and tech, professionals, families with inherited wealth and those in the public eye. Whilst being highly experienced in difficult litigation she also has a busy dispute-resolution practice as a collaborative lawyer and mediator.

She has acted for (and for the spouses of) trustees, doctors, lawyers, hedge fund managers, members of aristocracy and people in the public eye. With clients involved in anything from sports and retail to pharmaceuticals and technology, Claire is well versed in dealing with clients holding senior positions in many different sectors.

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## Track record

## M v M (2010)

Acted for the husband in *M v M* (2010) in which he was successful in his cross-claims after the value of the assets plummeted because of the global financial crisis. A separate judgment in the case also awarded him costs and was the first reported case since the costs rules were changed in 2006.

## BJ vMJ (2011)

Acted for the husband in *BJ v MJ* (2011) in which he was successful in securing an award in which a significant proportion of the wife's claim was retained in trust to respect the offshore trust which had been created during the marriage and the interests of their son.

## R v R (2015)

Acted for the husband in *R v R* (2015) which was an appeal which dealt with the English court's jurisdiction to deal with spousal maintenance following previous proceedings in another EU jurisdiction.

## Re S (2014)

Acted for the father in *Re S* (2014) in which the Court of Appeal dealt with the issue of the child's objections in relation to a child abduction from Russia.

## Assets across three continents

Acted for a UK businessman involved in shipping and finance married to Greek/US wife in a case with assets across three continents.

## Trusts in offshore jurisdictions

Acted for a Russian wife married to Saudi businessman with assets in China, US, Switzerland and three European countries and trusts in three offshore jurisdictions.

## Assets across three continents

Acted for an Eastern European husband married to central European wife with proceedings in three other European countries and assets held across three continents, which involved application of competing international laws and regulations.

## Trust assets

Acted for a wife in case involving Channel Island trusts, assets in Europe, Africa, Israel and US and secured an outcome in which the trust assets were included.

## Financial and children dispute

Acted for a husband in a financial and children dispute which involved a dispute about the country dealing with the proceedings and secured that the proceedings took place in the husband's choice of Dubai.

## Forum dispute

Acted for an Asian husband in forum dispute and child abduction proceedings between England, Asia, US and Canada.

## Prenuptial agreement

Advised on and implemented a prenuptial agreement spanning six countries.

## Offshore trust assets

Advised trustees on defending enforcement proceedings against offshore trust assets.

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## Talks

- Resolution 'Changing Times' conference - September 2016, chaired
- Coming to the UK: Family law issues to consider - April 2016
- *IBC: High-Net-Worth Immigration, Wealth Planning and Family* - November 2015, *Jersey Trusts and Divorce* - May 2015
- *IBC: Wealth Planning for Divorce* - February 2015
- *IBC: Protectors and power-holders in trusts* - February 2015

## External publications

'*Financial remedy cases*', 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition of Probate Disputes and Remedies, published by Jordans

## Admissions

England and Wales, 2000

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## Education

College of Law

Coventry University, LL.B. (Hons) Law

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## Languages

English

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## Memberships

Resolution

The Association of Women Solicitors

The London Collaborative Group

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## Key dates

Year joined: 2003

Year became partner: 2010

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