clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

Celia Rooney



"Celia is fantastic. She is diligent, hard-working, really candid and very robust."

– CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS, 2025

Year of call:	**2015**
Degree:	**LLB (Hons) First Class; BCL (Oxon); BPTC (City) Outstanding**
Languages:	**French (some knowledge)**

Celia is a leading senior junior, with a diverse and busy practice. She has an established and growing commercial practice, with particular experience in fraud related litigation and urgent injunctive work. A go to junior for many silks, Celia is also instructed in her own right to conduct hearings and trials in the High Court and appellate courts.

Celia brings her commercial experience to a broad range of practice areas. She is one of the leading juniors in both media and sports law, having won the Legal 500 Media and the Arts Junior of the Year in 2024 and been shortlisted as Sports Junior of the Year in 2023. Celia is also regularly involved in heavy public and regulatory proceedings of a commercial nature, and has an established High Court employment practice, with particular experience in team move cases and urgent injunctive work.

In 2025, Celia featured in The Lawyer's Hot 100 List, where she was described as "one of the go-to juniors in a diverse practice across the commercial bar". The Lawyer recognised her experience in "sport, fraud, finance, music and public law", noting that Celia has appeared in "some of the biggest cases of the day".

In addition to a range of confidential arbitral proceedings, current and recent highlights include:

- Public Institution for Social Security v Al Wazzan: Celia represented one of the leading defendants in these large commercial proceedings for several years. The case is one of the largest fraud disputes ever heard in the Commercial Court, and featured in The Lawyer's Top 20 Cases of 2020.
- Vneshprombank LLC v Bedzhamov: Celia was instructed by Russian oligarch, Mr Georgy Bezhamov, in a £1.2 billion fraud claim brought by the Russian bank. Celia was instructed at an early stage of the proceedings, when Mr Bezhamov faced repeated asset-freezing applications, and for a number of contested living expenses applications.
- JSC Commercial Bank PrivatBank v Kolomoisky & Ors: Celia was instructed by the Ukrainian bank, in proceedings involving a USD 4.5 billion claim against the Ukrainian oligarch. Celia (with Andrew Hunter KC) appeared in a contested application concerning the confidentiality ring orders that were then in place in the proceedings.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

- Premier League v Everton Football Club Limited: Celia (led by Laurence Rabinowitz KC and James Segan KC) represented Everton football club, in a series of heavy arbitral proceedings with the Premier League concerning the Club's compliance with the League's Profitability and Sustainability Rules.
- McLaren v Palou & Ors: Celia represents McLaren in its claims for breach of contract and unjust enrichment against the Indy 500 Driver, Alex Palou. The claims are due to be heard by the Commercial Court in a 9-day trial and was listed in the Lawyer's Top 20 cases of 2025.
- Jump Trading International v Couture and Verition: Celia represented Jump Trading International Limited, the algorithmic hedge fund company, in various civil fraud claims (including claims for inducement and conspiracy) brought against Verition, a large multi-strategy hedge fund.
- Calor Gas Limited v Walsall Gas Cylinders Limited: Celia was instructed by Calor Gas in its claim for inducement of a breach of contract, passing off and conversion against another gas company.
- IMG Data and Arena UK Limited v Stats Perform: Celia represented IMG Data, a sports data company, in its multi-million pound claim for conspiracy and inducement of a breach of contract against its competitor, Stats Perform, including in IMG's successful defence of Stats Perform's application for strike out and summary judgment.
- Eurasian Natural Resources Corporation v the Serious Fraud Office: Celia was instructed by the SFO in its defence of various claims brought by the Kazakh mining company, ENRC.
- Seiler & Whitestone v The Financial Conduct Authority: Celia represented the FCA in a six-week financial services trial, arising from prohibition orders made against a number of regulated individuals. The case arose from events between 2009 and 2012, concerning the Yukos Group of Companies and the Julius Baer Group.
- Jonathan Moss v George O'Dowd & Ors: Celia was instructed by the former drummer in Culture Club, in his claims against Boy George and others. The claims included claims for unlawful means conspiracy and other claims in civil fraud, and also raised complex partnership and jurisdictional issues.
- Albion Resources Limited v Heritage Oil Limited & Ors: Celia appeared as sole counsel for the Defendant in a 5-day trial heard in the Commercial Court. The Defendant, Heritage Oil, was, until 2014, listed on the London Stock Exchange as a FTSE 250 company following which it was beneficially owned by His Excellency Sheikh Hamad Bin Jassim Bin Jabor Al Thani, the business partners of the former Emir of Qatar.
- Philip Morris Limited v Secretary of State for Health: Celia (led by Tim Otty KC) was instructed in judicial review proceedings against the Government, in respect of the Prime Minister’s proposals to create a smoke free generation for persons born on or after 1 January 2009 so that they will never legally be sold tobacco.
- Miller v Prime Minister: Celia (led by Michael Fordham KC, as he was then) represented the Welsh Government in Gina Miller’s Supreme Court challenge to the Prime Minister’s decision to prorogue Parliament.
- Privacy International v Security Services & Ors: Celia (led by Ben Jaffey KC) represented Privacy International and other charities/NGOs in the so-called ‘Third Direction’ challenge. The case – which gave rise to the ‘Spycops Bill’– concerned the authorisation by the Security Service of agent participation in criminality, including in suspected murder and torture in Northern Ireland during the Troubles.
- The Serious Fraud Office v Barclays: Celia (led by Lord Pannick KC) advised Barclays Plc in its opposition to the Serious Fraud Office’s application for a voluntary bill of indictment in respect of alleged fraud taking place during the 2008 financial crisis.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

- R (British Telecommunications PLC) v HM Treasury: Celia (led by Dinah Rose KC) represented BT in a large commercial judicial review, concerning the Treasury's decision to implement an extension of the indexation of certain benefits in public sector pension schemes in a way which increased the company's liabilities in respect of its pension scheme by £120 million.
- Crossley & Ors v Volkswagen & Ors. Celia (led by Michael Fordham KC, as he was then) represented Volkswagen in the so-called 'emissions scandal', in which it was alleged that Volkswagen had installed so-called 'defeat devices' in their cars to cheat emissions testing.
- Declan Colgan Music v Universal Music: Celia represented Declan Colgan Music, in proceedings against Universal Music for royalties concerning Kanye West's sampling of King Crimson's song 21st Century Schizoid Man in his smash hit 'Power' .
- India Eva Rae v Academy of Film & Television Arts: Celia represented BAFTA in its successful strike out of High Court claims for discrimination.
- X-R Touring LLP v Javor & WME: Celia represents X-R Touring LLP, a successful booking agent, in its claims for commission arising from the management of various artists such as Coldplay and Eminem.
- Nadja Swarovski v Swarovski & Ors: Celia represented Swarovski in defence of various claims brought by the high profile face of the company, Nadja Swarovski.
- Previtha Kunjuraman v Zaha Hadid Ltd: Celia was instructed by Zaha Hadid Limited – the internationally renowned firm of architects - to advise on various corporate governance issues arising out of claims brought by the firm's former General Counsel.

Recent comments in the directories include:

- "Celia is fantastic. She is diligent, hard-working, really candid and very robust." - Chambers & Partners 2025
- "Celia is extremely clever and very hard working. She is one of the barristers at Blackstone who is willing to roll her sleeves and get into the trenches with you." - Legal 500, 2025
- "Celia writes beautifully: he work is well researched and makes the complex look simple" - Chambers & Partners 2024.
- "Celia performs incredibly well for difficult clients. Celia is brilliant and a force of nature in the way she works with clients" - Chambers & Partners, 2023.
- "A superb junior... with sound commercial awareness..." - Chambers & Partners 2024.
- "Celia is excellent: she is a very calm advocate who is good on her feet, plays well with panels and is clever" - Chambers & Partners 2024.
- "Celia in incredibly hard working, responsive, supportive, and approachable. She is a pleasure to work with" - Chambers & Partners 2024.
- "Celia's advocacy is calm, considered and pointed - all to excellent effect" - Legal500, 2023.
- "Celia is as sharp as a tack: clever, creative, and superb with clients. Practical and strategic, she is a number one go to junior for work across the spectrum" - Legal500, 2023.
- "She is exceptionally good, both in writing and advocacy. Her knowledge of the law is outstanding, her judgment and tactics are that of someone with many years more seniority, and her advocacy is succinct and forceful" - Legal500, 2023.

Celia is a member of the Attorney General's Panel (B Panel).

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

EXPERIENCE

Commercial

Celia is a leading junior, with a diverse and busy practice. She has an established and growing commercial practice, with particular experience in fraud related litigation and urgent injunctive work. A go to junior for many silks, Celia is increasingly instructed in her own right to conduct hearings and trials in the High Court and appellate courts. She accepts instructions in all areas of commercial litigation.

"She is exceptionally good, both in writing and advocacy. Her knowledge of the law is outstanding, her judgment and tactics are that of someone with many years more seniority, and her advocacy is succinct and foreceful."

— LEGAL 500, 2023

Cases

Vneshprombank LLC v Bedzhamov

Celia represented the Defendant, Mr Georgy Bedzhamov, in a £1.2 billion fraud claim brought by the Claimant - a Russian bank. The claim involved various allegations of fraud and complex issues of Russian law. (With Robert Anderson QC, Tom Richards and Andrew Trotter).

Public Institution for Social Security v Al Wazzan

[2023] EWHC 1065 (Comm)

Celia is instructed by the Seventh Defendant in these commercial fraud proceedings. The case is one of the largest fraud disputes ever heard in the Commercial Court, and featured in The Lawyer's Top 20 cases of 2020.

Albion Resources Limited v Heritage Oil Limited & Ors

[2022] EWHC 162 (Comm)

Celia (instructed as sole counsel) represented the Defendants in claims under a loan facility. The matter was heard at 5-day High Court trial in the Commercial Court, before Beltramic KC in 2022. The Defendant – Heritage Oil – was, until 2014, listed on the London Stock Eschange as a FTSE 250 company following which it was beneficially owned by His Excellency Sheikh Hamad Bin Jassim Bin Jabor Al Thani – the business partners of the former Emir of Qatar.

China Evergrande Group v Ding Yumei

Celia (led by Andrew Scott KC) is instructed by the liquidators of the China Evergrande Group: a Chinese property development company, which is seeking to recover approximately $6 billion in Hong Kong proceedings and ancillary English proceedings brought against various defendants, including the Group's founder and his former spouse.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

Eurasian Natural Resources Corp Ltd v The Serious Fraud Office

[2023] EWHC 248 (Comm)

Celia acts for the Serious Fraud Office in claims brought by ENRC – a Kazakhstan/Central African focused natural resources company, headquartered in London – against it. The claims include claims for unlawful means conspiracy and are presently being litigated in the Commercial Court. Celia was instructed for a number of significant case management conferences in 2023, nd the 8-week trial will take place in October 2024.

JSC Commercial Bank PrivatBank v Kolomoisky & Ors

[2021] EWHC 1810 (Ch)

Celia was instructed (alongside Andrew Hunter KC and Robert Anderson KC) by the Ukrainian bank in its USD 4.5 billion claim against the Ukranian oligarch and others, in one of the Lawyer Top 20 Cases of 2022, including for pre-trial applications regarding the confidentiality club arrangements in place for the case.

Seiler v Financial Conduct Authority

[2023] UKUT 133 (TCC)

Celia (with Andrew George KC and Ava Mayer) represented the Financial Conduct Authority in a six-week trial arising from prohibition orders made against a number of regulated individuals. The case arose from events between 2009 and 2012, which involved monies held in bank accounts of various entities in the Yukos Group of Companies at banks with Julius Baer Group being converted, at extravagantly inflated rates, and the resulting payment of unlawful commissions. The case was heard for 6-weeks in December 2022 and January 2023.

McLaren v Palou

Celia is instructed by McLaren in Commercial Court proceedings against Indy 500 driver, Alex Palou. The claims are for breach of contract and unjust enrichment, and are due to be heard at a 9-day trial in the Commercial Court.

IMG Data and Arena UK Limited v Stats Perform

[2023] EWHC 3244 (Ch)

Celia (led by Kieron Beal KC) is instructed by IMG Data, a sports data company in its multi-million pound claims for conspiracy and inducement of a breach of contract against its competitor, Stats perform. The High Court recently (19 December 2023) heard the Defendant's strike out / summary judgment application, which it dismissed. The judgment concerned the scope of the economic torts of inducement and unlawful means conspiracy. Celia is due to attend the consequentials hearing as sole counsel, and the case will continue to be litigated in the High Court this year

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

Calor Gas v Walsall Gas Cylinders Ltd

Celia is instructed as sole counsel by Calor Gas in its High Court claim for conspiracy, inducement of a brech of contract, passing off, and conversion (alternatively trespass to good) against another gas company. Celia appeared (on her own) on behalf of Calor in the High Court in 2023, in its successful defence of the strike out / summary judgment application brought by the Defendants. The trial of the matter is due to be heard in 2024.

The Serious Fraud Office v Barclays

Celia (led by Lord Pannick KC) advised Barclays Plc in its opposition to the Serious Fraud Office's application for a voluntary bill of indictment. The allegations of fraud arose from conduct during the financial crisis in 2008.

Jump Trading International Limited v Couture and Verition

[2023] EWCA Civ 670

Celia represented Jump Trading International Limited (with James Laddie KC and Judy Stone) in a high profile restrictive covenant challenge between two algorithmic hedge fund trading companies, including before the High Court and Court of Appeal (Jump Trading International Limited v Couture and Verition [2023] EWCA Civ 670). The case was one of the most hotly anticipated restrictive covenant disputes of recent years, and fought all the way to trial.

Calor Gas v Chorley Bottle Gas Limited

[2020] 4 WLR 129

Celia (led by Anthony Peto KC) was instructed in respect of a significant application for a search order. The application was granted by Fordham J, in what became one of the leading authorities on how applications for urgent relief of that kind would be dealt with during the pandemic.

Art Arbitration

Celia acted for the buyer of two Old Masters paintings in his multi-million pound claim against a major international gallery (led by Andrew Green QC). The claim was one for alleged deceit arising out of the provenance list for each painting.

Calor Gas Limited v South West Bottle Gas

Celia (led by Anthony Peto KC) was instructed by Calor Gas in a 3-week fraud trial in the High Court.

Confidential injunctive relief in aid of foreign proceedings (Saudi Arabia)

Instructed in a claim for a freezing order in aid of foreign proceedings in Saudi Arabia (led by Andrew Green QC).

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

Republic of Cyprus v John & Pascalis

Celia represented the Republic of Cyprus in an appeal concerning the cancellation of its trade mark for halloumi cheese (led by Monica Carss-Frisk QC). The High Court dismissed the decision of the Registrar of Trade Marks. The Ministry challenged that decision on appeal.

Confidential advice on injunctive relief in aid of foreign proceedings (US)

Instructed to assist in a substantial multi-jurisdictional fraud claim, in which the claimant sought a freezing order in aid of foreign proceedings (led by Anthony Peto QC and Victoria Windle). The claimant sought advice on: the merits of an application under s.25 of the Civil Jurisdiction and Judgments Act 1982, the availability of disclosure orders in aid of foreign proceedings, the significance of the availability of treble damages in the US on the relief sought, the availability of tipstaff relief and the privilege against self-incrimination.

Moss v O'Dowd

Celia was instructed by the former drummer in Culture Club, in his claims against Boy Geoge and others. Despite their 'media' nature, this litigation was fundamentally commercial in nature where it involved fraud claims for unlawful means conspiracy and other torts, as well as a significant partnership dispute. The claim was originally brought in 2019. The main liability trial (of the partnership issues) was due to be heard in December 2021, but vacated after the Defendants conceded all issues on the eve of the trial. The related fraud claims (and quantum issues) were due to be heard at a trial between 7 March 2023 – 3 April 2023, but were again settled on the eve of trial. Celia appeared at a number of the case management hearings as sole counsel.

Civil Fraud, Asset Recovery & Injunctive Relief

Celia has particular experience in large commercial disputes involving allegations of civil fraud, and applications for asset recovery and injunctive relief. Known for her unflappable temperament in and out of Court, her calm and measured advocacy, and her ferocious appetite for work, Celia accepts instructions in all areas of civil fraud.

> *"She is exceptionally good, both in writing and advocacy. Her knowledge of the law is outstanding, her judgment and tactics are that of someone with many years more seniority, and her advocacy is succinct and forceful."*
>
> — LEGAL 500, 2023

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

Cases

Eurasian Natural Resources Corp Ltd v The Serious Fraud Office

[2023] EWHC 248 (Comm)

Celia acts for the Serious Fraud Office in claims brought by ENRC – a Kazakhstan/Central African focused natural resources company, headquartered in London – against it. The claims include claims for unlawful means conspiracy and are presently being litigated in the Commercial Court. Celia was instructed for a number of significant case management conferences in 2023, nd the 8-week trial will take place in October 2024.

China Evergrande Group v Ding Yumei

Celia (led by Andrew Scott KC) is instructed by the liquidators of the China Evergrande Group: a Chinese property development company, which is seeking to recover approximately $6 billion in Hong Kong proceedings and ancillary English proceedings brought against various defendants, including the Group's founder and his former spouse.

Vneshprombank LLC v Bedzhamov

Celia represented the Defendant, Mr Georgy Bedzhamov, in a £1.2 billion fraud claim brought by the Claimant - a Russian bank. The claim involved various allegations of fraud and complex issues of Russian law. (With Robert Anderson QC, Tom Richards and Andrew Trotter).

Albion Resources Limited v Heritage Oil Limited & Ors

[2022] EWHC 162 (Comm)

Celia (instructed as sole counsel) represented the Defendants in claims under a loan facility. The matter was heard at 5-day High Court trial in the Commercial Court, before Beltramic KC in 2022. The Defendant – Heritage Oil – was, until 2014, listed on the London Stock Eschange as a FTSE 250 company following which it was beneficially owned by His Excellency Sheikh Hamad Bin Jassim Bin Jabor Al Thani – the business partners of the former Emir of Qatar.

JSC Commercial Bank PrivatBank v Kolomoisky & Ors

[2021] EWHC 1810 (Ch)

Celia was instructed (alongside Andrew Hunter KC and Robert Anderson KC) by the Ukrainian bank in its USD 4.5 billion claim against the Ukranian oligarch and others, in one of the Lawyer Top 20 Cases of 2022, including for pre-trial applications regarding the confidentiality club arrangements in place for the case.

Public Institution for Social Security v Al Wazzan

[2023] EWHC 1065 (Comm)

Celia is instructed by the Seventh Defendant in these commercial fraud proceedings. The case is one of the largest fraud disputes ever heard in the Commercial Court, and featured in The Lawyer's Top 20 cases of 2020.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

Calor Gas v Walsall Gas Cylinders Ltd

Celia is instructed as sole counsel by Calor Gas in its High Court claim for conspiracy, inducement of a brech of contract, passing off, and conversion (alternatively trespass to good) against another gas company. Celia appeared (on her own) on behalf of Calor in the High Court in 2023, in its successful defence of the strike out / summary judgment application brought by the Defendants. The trial of the matter is due to be heard in 2024.

Seiler v Financial Conduct Authority

[2023] UKUT 133 (TCC)

Celia (with Andrew George KC and Ava Mayer) represented the Financial Conduct Authority in a six-week trial arising from prohibition orders made against a number of regulated individuals. The case arose from events between 2009 and 2012, which involved monies held in bank accounts of various entities in the Yukos Group of Companies at banks with Julius Baer Group being converted, at extravagantly inflated rates, and the resulting payment of unlawful commissions. The case was heard for 6-weeks in December 2022 and January 2023.

IMG Data and Arena UK Limited v Stats Perform

[2023] EWHC 3244 (Ch)

Celia (led by Kieron Beal KC) is instructed by IMG Data, a sports data company in its multi-million pound claims for conspiracy and inducement of a breach of contract against its competitor, Stats perform. The High Court recently (19 December 2023) heard the Defendant's strike out / summary judgment application, which it dismissed. The judgment concerned the scope of the economic torts of inducement and unlawful means conspiracy. Celia is due to attend the consequentials hearing as sole counsel, and the case will continue to be litigated in the High Court this year

Calor Gas v Chorley Bottle Gas Limited

Celia (led by Anthony Peto QC) successfully represented Calor Gas in its application for a search order against Chorley Bottle Gas, in which it was alleged that Chorley was unlawfully refilling Calor's liquefied petroleum gas cylinders.

Confidential injunctive relief in aid of foreign proceedings (Saudi Arabia)

Instructed in a claim for a freezing order in aid of foreign proceedings in Saudi Arabia (led by Andrew Green QC).

Moss v O'Dowd

Celia was instructed by the former drummer in Culture Club, in his claims against Boy Geoge and others. Despite their 'media' nature, this litigation was fundamentally commercial in nature where it involved fraud claims for unlawful means conspiracy and other torts, as well as a significant partnership dispute. The claim was originally brought in 2019. The main liability trial (of the partnership issues) was due to be heard in December 2021, but vacated after the Defendants conceded all issues on the eve of the trial. The related fraud claims (and quantum issues) were due to be heard at a trial between 7 March 2023 – 3 April 2023, but were again settled on the eve of trial. Celia appeared at a number of the case management hearings as sole counsel.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

Calor Gas Limited v South West Bottle Gas Centre Limited & Andrew Daniell

Represented Calor Gas in a lengthy fraud trial in the High Court, in which the company brought claims for unlawful means conspiracy, bribery, inducement of a breach of contract, dishonest assistance, knowing receipt and unjustified enrichment (led by Anthony Peto QC).

Confidential advice on injunctive relief in aid of foreign proceedings (US)

Instructed to assist in a substantial multi-jurisdictional fraud claim, in which the claimant sought a freezing order in aid of foreign proceedings (led by Anthony Peto QC and Victoria Windle). The claimant sought advice on: the merits of an application under s.25 of the Civil Jurisdiction and Judgments Act 1982, the availability of disclosure orders in aid of foreign proceedings, the significance of the availability of treble damages in the US on the relief sought, the availability of tipstaff relief and the privilege against self-incrimination.

Barclays v Serious Fraud Office

Celia advised Barclays in its opposition to the SFO's application for a voluntary bill of indictment (led by Lord Pannick QC). The SFO sought that relief after Mr Justice Jay dismissed all criminal charges against the bank arising out its 2008 capital raising exercise. The case concerned complex issues of corporate criminal attribution.

Financial Services & Banking

Celia has a well-established practice in financial services. She acts for both regulators, and individuals - as well as some of the largest banking and financial institutions. Celia draws on her extensive commercial and public law practice, to ensure the best service to clients in this complex area of work.

"Celia is sharp as a tack; clever, creative and superb with clients. Practical and strategic, she is a number one go to junior for work across the spectrum."

— LEGAL 500, 2023

Cases

Seiler v Financial Conduct Authority

[2023] UKUT 133 (TCC)

Celia (with Andrew George KC and Ava Mayer) represented the Financial Conduct Authority in a six-week trial arising from prohibition orders made against a number of regulated individuals. The case arose from events between 2009 and 2012, which involved monies held in bank accounts of various entities in the Yukos Group of Companies at banks with Julius Baer Group being converted, at extravagantly inflated rates, and the resulting payment of unlawful commissions. The case was heard for 6-weeks in December 2022 and January 2023.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

Lopez, Urra and Sheth v The Financial Conduct Authority

Celia is instructed in an ongoing dispute before the Upper Tribunal concerning the FCA's decision to ban three bond traders for alleged market manipulation (led by Ben Jaffey KC).

A Bank v the Gibraltar Financial Services Commission

Celia was instructed by a private bank in a successful judicial review of the GFSC (led by Michael Fordham QC). The regulator's decision to appoint inspectors under money laundering legislation was found to be unlawful and to amount to an unlawful interference with the bank's constitutional rights.

Barclays v Serious Fraud Office

Celia advised Barclays in its opposition to the SFO's application for a voluntary bill of indictment (led by Lord Pannick QC). The SFO sought that relief after Mr Justice Jay dismissed all criminal charges against the bank arising out its 2008 capital raising exercise. The case concerned complex issues of corporate criminal attribution.

Payment Systems Regulator super-complaint

Celia acted as sole legal counsel advising the Payment Systems Regulator on its response to a 'super-complaint' by the consumer group, Which?, concerning authorised push payment fraud.

Advising on proposed regulation of cross-border interchange fees

Celia (led by Andrew Green KC) was instructed to advise a large payment network provider on the proposed introduction by the Payment Systems Regulator of price regulation for cross-border interchange fees.

Advising the Bank of England

Celia was instructed to advise the Bank of England in its 3-year decision as to whether to grant a banking licence to Revolut (led by Javan Herberg KC).

Advising the London Stock Exchange

Celia (with Andrew Green KC, Javan Herberg KC and Simon Pritchard) was instructed to advise the London Stock Exchange on issues arising from the proposed introduction of the intermittent trading venue: a new private company market platform.

Edmar Financial Company v Currenex

Celia (led by Andrew Green KC) was instructed to advise on issues of English law in this multi-billion dollar financial services dispute, which is before the US Courts.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

Sport

Celia is one of the leading sports law juniors in the country. Nominated for sports junior barrister of the year in 2023, she has been involved in some of the leading sports law cases of the day, including most recently as counsel for Everton Football Club. She is almost unique in the diversity of her client list, which includes both sports governing bodies and clubs and athletes alike. In addition to Everton, for example, her recent and former clients include: The FA, the Premier League, the EFL, British Ice Skating, the Lawn Tennis Association, World Sailing, the RFU, Arsenal Football Club, Middlesbrough Football Club, Fulham Football Club, Manchester City Football Club, Barnsley FC, Racing Point (F1), Williams (F1), McLaren (F1 / IndyCar), sports betting companies, Sol Campbell, Katarina Johnson-Thompson, Colossal Sports Management Limited and Macron (the kit manufacturer).

"Celia is a go-to barrister in the field of sport."

— LEGAL 500, 2025

Cases

Premier League v Everton Football Club

Celia (led by Laurence Rabinowitz KC and James Segan KC) is and continues to be instructed by Everton Football Club in various complex arbitrations arising from the Club's breach of the Premier League's Profitability and Sustainability Rules. Celia was instructed in respect of both the FY22 and FY23 proceedings, the former of which was the first case determined under the PSRs. Celia has also appeared as sole counsel at hearings during the dispute.

McLaren v Palou

Celia is instructed by McLaren in Commercial Court proceedings against Indy 500 driver, Alex Palou. The claims are for breach of contract and unjust enrichment, and are due to be heard at a 9-day trial in the Commercial Court.

The FA v Benjamin Mendy

Celia (led by Kate Gallafent KC) acted for The FA in a disciplinary matter against Benjamin Mendy – the Manchester City football player who faced trial for seven counts of rape.

The Premier League v Crystal Palace

Celia acted as sole counsel for the Premier League in proceedings against Crystal Palace arising from the Club's repeated delays to the re-start of matches following the half time interval.

The FA v Mitrovic and Da Silva

Celia (led by Kate Gallafent KC) acted for The FA in disciplinary proceedings against Fulham's manager, Marco Da Silva, and player Alexsandar Mitrovic, following a high-profile incident of abuse of the match officials during The FA Cup match.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

IMG Data and Arena UK Limited v Stats Perform

[2023] EWHC 3244 (Ch)

Celia (led by Kieron Beal KC) is instructed by IMG Data, a sports data company in its multi-million pound claims for conspiracy and inducement of a breach of contract against its competitor, Stats perform. The High Court recently (19 December 2023) heard the Defendant's strike out / summary judgment application, which it dismissed. The judgment concerned the scope of the economic torts of inducement and unlawful means conspiracy. Celia is due to attend the consequentials hearing as sole counsel, and the case will continue to be litigated in the High Court this year

The FA v Yems

Celia (led by Kate Gallafent KC) represented The FA in proceedings brought against the manager of Crawley Town, Mr John Yems, arising from allegations of racism. On appeal, Mr Yems' ban was extended from 17 months to 3 years: the longest ever ban issued to a participant in English football for discrimination

The EFL v Sheffield United

Celia (led by Nick De Marco KC) represented Sheffield United in disciplinary proceedings concerning alleged debts owed to other clubs, which were brought by the EFL

Williams v Craft

Celia acted as sole counsel for Williams F1 team, in an arbitral dispute with its sponsor, Craft.

British Ice Skating v Hoppe

Celia acted in proceedings (as sole counsel) in a week long hearing against British Ice-Skating. The disciplinary proceedings involved allegations of bullying against two young skaters.

Luisser v Barnsley FC

Celia (acting as sole counsel) represented Barnsley FC in two-day arbitral proceedings before Sir Anthony Hooper KC (the former Lord Justice of Appeal), defending the Club against unfair dismissal proceedings brought by its former assistant coach, following the surprise departure of its head coach (Gerhard Struber) for the New York Red Bulls. The claims were dismissed in their entirety, with Barnsley therefore coming out on top at trial.

Katarina Johnson-Thompson v Tide

Celia (acting as sole counsel) represented Katarina Johnson-Thompson – the English heptathlete, who won gold at the 2019 world championships and is the British record holder – in her dispute with Tide Platform Limited. The dispute against the banking company concerned an advertising deal entered into in the lead up to the Tokyo Olympics, before those games were cancelled as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

South Shields Football Club 1888 Limited v The Football Association Limited

Acted for The FA in the South Shields case: the first legal challenge in the UK to the end of the 2019-20 football season, during the COVID-19 pandemic. A distinguished panel, chaired by Lord Dyson, found in The FA's favour, dismissing the challenge. Celia acted for The FA, led by James Segan QC.

The FA v Kieran Trippier

Celia represented The FA in proceedings against Kieran Trippier concerning various breaches of The FA's Betting Rules. The Regulatory Commission found that four of the charges against Mr Trippier were made out, suspending him for 10 weeks and fining him £70,000.

Racing Point Appeal

Celia represented Racing Point in its appeal against a Stewards' Decision, which sanctioned the team for its use of brake duct data in the design of its rear brake ducts for its 2020 car. The part in question had, for the first time, become a 'listed part'. Led by Thomas de la Mare QC.

Claims against British Gymnastics

Celia represents a number of gymnasts who allege that they have suffered from abusive practices within British Gymnastics (led by Nick De Marco QC).

The New Saints v The Football Association for Wales Limited

Acted for the Welsh FA, opposing a legal challenge the termination of the 2019/20 football season in light of the coronavirus pandemic. The High Court dismissed the club's challenge on all grounds. Celia acted for the Welsh FA, led by Kate Gallafent QC.

South Shields Football Club 1888 Limited v The Football Association Limited

Acted for The FA in the South Shields case: the first legal challenge in the UK to the end of the 2019-20 football season, during the COVID-19 pandemic. A distinguished panel, chaired by Lord Dyson, found in The FA's favour, dismissing the challenge. Celia acted for The FA, led by James Segan QC.

Cooke v Arsenal Football Club

Representing Arsenal FC in an employment dispute (led by Jane Mulcahy QC)

Middlesbrough Football & Athletic Co (1986) v Flahavan

Instructed by Middlesbrough FC in a High Court claim in which the Club sought to enforce the restrictive covenants in the employment contracts of each member of its backroom team, following the departure of its then manager, Mr Garry Monk. While the matter did not proceed to trial, the Club successfully applied to expedite the proceedings (led by Ian Mill QC).

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

A v The Lawn Tennis Association

Represented the LTA in a safeguarding case, in which the individual sought to challenge the sanction imposed upon him by the sports governing body.

Media & Entertainment

Celia is one of the leading media law juniors and is regularly instructed by some of the leading law firms, artists and celebrities. Ranked in both Chambers & Partners and Legal 500 for her media law practice, in 2024, Celia was named as Media and the Arts Junior of the Year by Legal 500.

"Celia goes above and beyond for her clients."

— CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS, 2025

Celia has particular experience of music industry disputes having acted variously for members of Culture Club, the Kooks, Rudimental, and for Moby, Portishead, Lewis Capaldi and ArrDee. She has also acted in cases involving Dua Lipa, and the music or representation of Kanye West, Coldplay, Eminem and Andrea Bocelli.

Cases

Declan Colgan v Universal Music Group

Celia represented Declan Colgan Music in its proceedings against Kanye West / Universal Music for royalties concerning the latter's sampling of King Crimson's song 21st Century Schizoid Man in his smash hit 'Power' .

Moss v O'Dowd

Celia was instructed by the former drummer in Culture Club, in his claims against Boy Geoge and others. Despite their 'media' nature, this litigation was fundamentally commercial in nature where it involved fraud claims for unlawful means conspiracy and other torts, as well as a significant partnership dispute. The claim was originally brought in 2019. The main liability trial (of the partnership issues) was due to be heard in December 2021, but vacated after the Defendants conceded all issues on the eve of the trial. The related fraud claims (and quantum issues) were due to be heard at a trial between 7 March 2023 – 3 April 2023, but were again settled on the eve of trial. Celia appeared at a number of the case management hearings as sole counsel.

India Eva Rae v BAFTA

Celia represented BAFTA in discrimination proceedings in the High Court. Celia successfully applied to have the claims struck out.

X-R Touring LLP v Josh Javor

Celia represents X-R Touring LLP – the music artist management company – in proceedings against its former agent, Josh Javor. The case concerns the interpretation of restrictive covenants, including as regards the departure of employees to Mr Javor's new employer, WME.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

Smith v Dryden

[2021] EWHC 2277 (IPEC)

Celia represented Rudimental and James Newman (Eurovision contestant) in their successful defence of copyright claims brought by a former Voice contestant.

Peter Denton v the Kooks

Instructed to represent the former bassist in the Kooks in a claim for unfair prejudice and dissolution of a partnership, following his expulsion from a chart-topping band.

Tap Management v Dua Lipa

Celia represented TAP Management in threatened proceedings against Dua Lipa and her manager.

Lewis Capaldi v Topshop and Urban Outfitters

Celia represented Lewis Capaldi in respect of various potential claims against Topshop, Urban Outfitters and other retailers for passing off and copyright infringement.

Ardee v Jack Wills and Sports Direct

Celia (acting as sole counsel) was instructed by the British rapper, Arrdee, in threatened proceedings against Sports Direct and Frasers Group for their authorised use of his image in a Christmas advert for Jack Wills.

Moby v Sony

Celia (led by Ian Mill QC) acted for Moby in respect of his royalty dispute with Sony.

Grubb v Sixteenth Limited

Celia (acting as sole legal counsel) was instructed by Sixteenth Limited – in a dispute concerning Megan Grubb, the 'influencer'.

Portishead v UMG

Celia (acting as sole counsel) was instructed by Portishead – the Mercury award winning 'trip hop' group, in its royalty dispute with its record label.

Mbassa v Omoshaybi

Celia (acting as sole legal counsel) represented Paulette Mbassa – a French scriptwriter – in her dispute with Mr Aki Omoshaybi (the Star Wars actor), regarding a film called "Real", which premiered at the BFI London Film Festival in 2019.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

Art Arbitration

Celia acted for the buyer of two Old Masters paintings in his multi-million pound claim against a major international gallery (led by Andrew Green QC). The claim was one for alleged deceit arising out of the provenance list for each painting.

Public & Regulatory

Celia is ranked in administrative and public law in both Chambers & Partners and Legal 500. She accepts instructions in all areas of public and regulatory work, and has acted for regulators, NGOs, corporate entities and individuals. She is a go-to junior for some of the leading public law silks, doing extensive work with Lord Pannick KC, Sir James Eadie KC and Ben Jaffey KC amongst others, and is increasingly instructed in her own right in particular in judicial review claims.

> ***"Celia is extremely responsive and provides excellent service to the clients."***
>
> — CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS, 2025

Cases

Miller v Prime Minister

Celia was instructed by the Welsh Government (with Michael Fordham QC and Hollie Higgins) in Gina Miller's challenge to the decision of the Prime Minister to prorogue parliament. The case was heard by the Supreme Court and is considered to be one of the most constitutionally significant public law cases in a generation.

Philip Morris v Secretary of State for Health

Celia represented Philip Morris Limited (led by Tim Otty KC) in judicial review proceedings against the Government, in respect of the Prime Minister's proposals to create a smoke free generation for persons born on or after 1 January 2009 so that they will never legally be sold tobacco.

Eurasian Natural Resources Corp Ltd v The Serious Fraud Office

[2023] EWHC 248 (Comm)

Celia acts for the Serious Fraud Office in claims brought by ENRC – a Kazakhstan/Central African focused natural resources company, headquartered in London – against it. The claims include claims for unlawful means conspiracy and are presently being litigated in the Commercial Court. Celia was instructed for a number of significant case management conferences in 2023, nd the 8-week trial will take place in October 2024.

P v The Crown Court at Woolwich, Senior Presiding Judge for England and Wales

[2021] EWHC 1276 (Admin)

Celia (led by Sir James Eadie KC) represented the Senior Presiding Judge for England and Wales and others in a challenge brought by a prisoner, who was on remand, to extend his custody time limit.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

R (British Medical Association) v Secretary of State for Defence

Celia (led by Kate Gallafent KC) represented the BMA in a judicial review to the SSD's failure o consider commencing s.192 of the Employment Rights Act 1996: a provision which extends the right to bring statutory claims, such as unfair dismissal, in the Employment Tribunal to members of HM's Armed Forces.

HM, MA and KH v Secretary of State for Home Department

[2022] 1 WLR 5030

Celia (led by Sir James Eadie KC) represented the Home Secretary in her defence of a policy pursuant to which the mobile phones of migrants arriving by small boat were seized in order to preserve evidence of the associated activities of criminal gangs

Seiler v Financial Conduct Authority

[2023] UKUT 133 (TCC)

Celia (with Andrew George KC and Ava Mayer) represented the Financial Conduct Authority in a six-week trial arising from prohibition orders made against a number of regulated individuals. The case arose from events between 2009 and 2012, which involved monies held in bank accounts of various entities in the Yukos Group of Companies at banks with Julius Baer Group being converted, at extravagantly inflated rates, and the resulting payment of unlawful commissions. The case was heard for 6-weeks in December 2022 and January 2023.

The Queen (DPP) v Crown Court at Woolwich

Celia (led by Sir James Eadie KC and Melanie Cumberland) represented the Lord Chancellor and HM Courts and Tribunals service in a case which challenged the Government's pandemic response in the context of establishing capacity for jury trials in England and Wales.

De Silva v Secretary of State for Justice

Celia (acting as sole counsel) represents the Secretary of State in a judicial review challenge, brought by a terrorist offender, challenging his placement in a separation centre in prison.

R (Fallows) v Secretary of State for Justice

Celia represented the Secretary of State for Justice, successfully defending judicial review proceedings before the High Court. The Claimant (a prisoner) had challenged the decision not to transfer him to open conditions, contrary to the recommendation of the Parole Board.

British Association for Shooting and Conservation v Secretary of State for Justice

Celia (led by Sir James Eadie KC) represented the Secretary of State in proceedings against BASC. The case arose from the decision - in light of the emerging threat of bird flu - not to extend the general licence to shoot pheasants and red-legged partridges in respect of Special Areas of Conservation and their buffer zones.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

Wild Justice v DEFRA

Celia (led by Sir James Eadie KC) acted for DEFRA in a judicial review challenge brought by Wild Justice. The case arose from the licensing process that followed the decision - in light of the emerging threat of bird flu - not to extend the general licence to shoot pheasants and red-legged partridges in respect of Special Areas of Conservation and their buffer zones.

Privacy International & Ors v Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs & Ors

Instructed by Privacy International, Reprieve, the Committee on the Administration of Justice and the Pat Finucane Centre in a challenge to the so-called 'Third Direction' from the Prime Minister to the Intelligence Services Commissioner. By that direction, the Prime Minister invited the Commissioner to oversee the application of hitherto undisclosed guidelines which purport to authorise the Intelligence Services to authorise agents to participate in criminal conduct in the UK (led by Ben Jaffey QC).

The Queen (on the application of Mohammed Zahir Khan) v Secretary of State for the Justice Department

Celia is junior counsel to the Secretary of State in a legal challenge to the Terrorist Offenders (Restriction of Early Release) Act 2020, which changed the legislative regime applicable to the early release of terrorist offenders in the wake of the terrorist attacks at Fishmongers' Hall and Streatham. Led by James Eadie QC and Jason Pobjoy.

UTAG and LTDA v TfL and Mayor of London

Celia represents both TfL and the Mayor of London in an ongoing challenge to the 'Streetspace Guidance', and associated traffic management orders. The purpose of the guidance is to ensure safe travel during the pandemic, by widening footpaths and otherwise encouraging walking and cycling. The challenge is brought by trade bodies which represent black cabs, who oppose the resulting restrictions to their access of London's bus lanes, and includes an A1P1 claim.

R (on the application of British Telecommunications PLC) v HM Tresury

Instructed by BT in a judicial review challenge of the decision of the Treasury to implement an extension of the indexation of certain benefits in public sector pension schemes in a way which increased the company's liabilities in respect of its pension scheme by £120 million. Celia was instructed both in the High Court and Court of Appeal, where she was led by Dinah Rose QC and Fraser Campbell.

Barclays v Serious Fraud Office

Celia advised Barclays in its opposition to the SFO's application for a voluntary bill of indictment (led by Lord Pannick QC). The SFO sought that relief after Mr Justice Jay dismissed all criminal charges against the bank arising out its 2008 capital raising exercise. The case concerned complex issues of corporate criminal attribution.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

A Bank v the Gibraltar Financial Services Commission

Celia was instructed by a private bank in a successful judicial review of the GFSC (led by Michael Fordham QC). The regulator's decision to appoint inspectors under money laundering legislation was found to be unlawful and to amount to an unlawful interference with the bank's constitutional rights.

NA v Secretary for State for Work and Pensions

[2019] 1 WLR 6321

Celia (acting pro bono) represents the sole-surviving spouse of a polygamous marriage, in a challenge concerning her entitlement to various 'survivor benefits'. The Upper Tribunal held in her client's favour, finding that the Secretary of State's decision refusing her such benefits was discriminatory under Article 14 of the ECHR. The trial judge recognised the case as raising an important point of public interest. The Secretary of State is appealing the decision, which is due to be heard by the Court of Appeal.

MK v Secretary of State for the Home Department

Celia represented a victim of trafficking in her successful challenge to the Home Office's decision refusing her asylum claim. The claimant was a child at the time she was trafficked from Albania to Italy and a vulnerable witness. The decision was held to be unlawful on several grounds.

Advice on the Government's 'Consolidated Guidance'

Celia was instructed, with Ben Jaffey QC, by a leading charity in potential proceedings concerning the Government's purported authorisation of conduct amounting to complicity in torture and inhuman and degrading treatment under s.7 of the Intelligence Services Act 1994.

Crossley & Others v Volkswagen & Ors

Instructed by VW in the trial of a preliminary issue in the NOx emissions group litigation: whether vehicles which react to emissions testing by reducing emissions contains a 'defeat device' within art. 3(10) of Regulation 715/2007/EC (with, inter alia, Michael Fordham QC and Warren Fitt).

Payment Systems Regulator super-complaint

Celia acted as sole legal counsel advising the Payment Systems Regulator on its response to a ‘super-complaint’ by the consumer group, Which?, concerning authorised push payment fraud.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

Civil Liberties & Human Rights

Celia is ranked in administrative and public law in both Chambers & Partners and Legal 500. She accepts instructions in all areas of public and regulatory work, and has acted for regulators, NGOs, corporate entities and individuals. She is a go-to junior for some of the leading public law silks, doing extensive work with Lord Pannick KC, Sir James Eadie KC and Ben Jaffey KC amongst others, and is increasingly instructed in her own right in particular in judicial review claims.

"She is an exceptionally high-quality junior counsel"
— THE LEGAL 500, 2021

Cases

Privacy International & Ors v Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs & Ors

Instructed by Privacy International, Reprieve, the Committee on the Administration of Justice and the Pat Finucane Centre in a challenge to the so-called 'Third Direction' from the Prime Minister to the Intelligence Services Commissioner. By that direction, the Prime Minister invited the Commissioner to oversee the application of hitherto undisclosed guidelines which purport to authorise the Intelligence Services to authorise agents to participate in criminal conduct in the UK (led by Ben Jaffey QC).

NA v Secretary for State for Work and Pensions

[2019] 1 WLR 6321

Celia (acting pro bono) represents the sole-surviving spouse of a polygamous marriage, in a challenge concerning her entitlement to various 'survivor benefits'. The Upper Tribunal held in her client's favour, finding that the Secretary of State's decision refusing her such benefits was discriminatory under Article 14 of the ECHR. The trial judge recognised the case as raising an important point of public interest. The Secretary of State is appealing the decision, which is due to be heard by the Court of Appeal.

MK v Secretary of State for the Home Department

Celia represented a victim of trafficking in her successful challenge to the Home Office's decision refusing her asylum claim. The claimant was a child at the time she was trafficked from Albania to Italy and a vulnerable witness. The decision was held to be unlawful on several grounds.

Philip Morris v Secretary of State for Health

Celia represented Philip Morris Limited (led by Tim Otty KC) in judicial review proceedings against the Government, in respect of the Prime Minister's proposals to create a smoke free generation for persons born on or after 1 January 2009 so that they will never legally be sold tobacco.

The Queen (on the application of Mohammed Zahir Khan) v Secretary of State for the Justice Department

Celia is junior counsel to the Secretary of State in a legal challenge to the Terrorist Offenders (Restriction of Early Release) Act 2020, which changed the legislative regime applicable to the early release of terrorist offenders in the wake of the terrorist attacks at Fishmongers' Hall and Streatham. Led by James Eadie QC and Jason Pobjoy.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

UTAG and LTDA v TfL and Mayor of London

Celia represents both TfL and the Mayor of London in an ongoing challenge to the 'Streetspace Guidance', and associated traffic management orders. The purpose of the guidance is to ensure safe travel during the pandemic, by widening footpaths and otherwise encouraging walking and cycling. The challenge is brought by trade bodies which represent black cabs, who oppose the resulting restrictions to their access of London's bus lanes, and includes an A1P1 claim.

Advice on the Government's 'Consolidated Guidance'

Celia was instructed, with Ben Jaffey QC, by a leading charity in potential proceedings concerning the Government's purported authorisation of conduct amounting to complicity in torture and inhuman and degrading treatment under s.7 of the Intelligence Services Act 1994.

R (on the application of British Telecommunications PLC) v HM Tresury

Instructed by BT in a judicial review challenge of the decision of the Treasury to implement an extension of the indexation of certain benefits in public sector pension schemes in a way which increased the company's liabilities in respect of its pension scheme by £120 million. Celia was instructed both in the High Court and Court of Appeal, where she was led by Dinah Rose QC and Fraser Campbell.

Barclays v Serious Fraud Office

Celia advised Barclays in its opposition to the SFO's application for a voluntary bill of indictment (led by Lord Pannick QC). The SFO sought that relief after Mr Justice Jay dismissed all criminal charges against the bank arising out its 2008 capital raising exercise. The case concerned complex issues of corporate criminal attribution.

A Bank v the Gibraltar Financial Services Commission

Celia was instructed by a private bank in a successful judicial review of the GFSC (led by Michael Fordham QC). The regulator's decision to appoint inspectors under money laundering legislation was found to be unlawful and to amount to an unlawful interference with the bank's constitutional rights.

Employment

Celia accepts instructions in all areas of employment law. She is ranked for employment law in both Chambers & Partners and Legal 500. Celia has has been instructed in a variety of employment law cases before the Employment Tribunal, the High Court and Court of Appeal, and has particular experience in High Court injunctive work - drawing on her commercial experience.

"She has guts, focus, drive and intellect."

— LEGAL 500, 2025

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

Cases

Jump Trading International Limited v Couture and Verition

[2023] EWCA Civ 670

Celia represented Jump Trading International Limited (with James Laddie KC and Judy Stone) in a high profile restrictive covenant challenge between two algorithmic hedge fund trading companies, including before the High Court and Court of Appeal (Jump Trading International Limited v Couture and Verition [2023] EWCA Civ 670). The case was one of the most hotly anticipated restrictive covenant disputes of recent years, and fought all the way to trial.

Rosati v Deutsche Bank

Celia (acting as sole counsel) represented Deutsche Bank, defending claims of alleged detriments for whistleblowing, arising from a redundancy situation.

Conrad Energy v IBNE & Ors

Celia (led by Thomas Croxford KC) represented the Claimant in claims for breach of confidence, unlawful means conspiracy and an induced breach of contract, arising from the departure of several key employees from an independent power producer to one of its main competitors.

Patel v Aecom

Case No. 1801216/2022

Celia (as sole counsel) represented Aecom, as Respondent to claims for disability discrimination, discrimination arising from disability, failure to make reasonable adjustments, harassment and victimisation. The claims for discrimination were dismissed.

X-R Touring LLP v Josh Javor

Celia represents X-R Touring LLP – the music artist management company – in proceedings against its former agent, Josh Javor. The case concerns the interpretation of restrictive covenants, including as regards the departure of employees to Mr Javor's new employer, WME.

Previtha Kunjuraman v Zaha Hadid Limited

Celia was instructed (with Paul Goulding QC) to advise in respect of complex allegations of whistleblowing and discrimination made by the former General Counsel of the internationally renowned firm of architects.

Nadja Swarovski v Swarovski

Celia (led by Paul Goulding KC) represented Swarovski – the internationally renowned crystal making business, defending various claims brought by the high profile face of the company, Nadja Swarovski. Ms Swarovski alleged that the removal of her operational responsibilities, which came about as a result of a corporate shake up, amounted to direct discrimination, and that she had been victimised and/or harassed.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

Deary v Ministry of Defence

Celia (sole counsel) represented the Ministry of Defence in a 2-day trial involving complex unfair dismissal claims.

Roubahie-Fissa v Lycée Charles De Gaulle

Celia represented the Lycée Charles de Gaulle in a 3-day trial in the employment tribunal, successfully defending the school in respect of various claims of nationality discrimination brought by a former teacher.

Noshaba Khan v Qatar Private Airways

Celia (sole counsel) represented Qatar Private Airways in claims of alleged disability discrimination in the Employment Tribunal.

Cooke v Arsenal Football Club

Representing Arsenal FC in an employment dispute (led by Jane Mulcahy QC)

Middlesbrough Football & Athletic Co (1986) v Flahavan

Instructed by Middlesbrough FC in a High Court claim in which the Club sought to enforce the restrictive covenants in the employment contracts of each member of its backroom team, following the departure of its then manager, Mr Garry Monk. While the matter did not proceed to trial, the Club successfully applied to expedite the proceedings (led by Ian Mill QC).

Massamba v IKB Travel

Celia acted pro bono for the claimant in a successful claim for race discrimination, in which the Respondent's director was found to have called the claimant a 'black monkey'.

Sudder v JCDecaux

Celia acts for the Respondent in a claim for unlawful deduction of wages and entitlement to emergency leave.

Toscano v Epiq Systems

Celia represented the Respondent in an employment tribunal claim involving various allegations of disability discrimination.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

ACHIEVEMENTS

Education

LLB (Hons) (Glasgow) First Class; BCL (Oxon); BPTC (City) Outstanding

Prizes & Scholarships

- Peter Duffy Scholar (Bar European Group, 2016)
- Megarry Scholar and Buchanan Prize (Lincoln's Inn, 2015)
- Lord Denning Scholar (Lincoln's Inn, 2014)
- Harwicke Entrance Award (Lincoln's Inn, 2013)
- Theodore David Lowe Prize for most distinguished graduate (University of Glasgow)

Memberships

- Celia is a a member of the Commercial Bar Association (ComBar) and sits on its Equality and Diversity group.
- She is also a panellist on the Sports Resolution Pro Bono Legal Advice Panel.
- Celia is also a member of the British Institute for International and Comparative Law (BIICL), the Howard League for Penal Reform, the Constitutional and Administrative Law Bar Association (ALBA), and the Employment Lawyers Association (ELA). Celia is also a panellist on the Sports Resolution Pro Bono Legal Advice Panel.

VAT registration number: 248467079

Barristers regulated by the Bar Standards Board