

# Meghann McTague

Call 2004



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Meghann McTague is a highly experienced senior junior instructed in complex, multi-party disputes with specialist knowledge of cross-border claims.

Meghann has been listed in the main legal directories since 2015, and is presently ranked for Group Litigation, Personal Injury and Travel: International Personal Injury. Meghann was shortlisted in 2023/2024 as Personal Injury Junior of the Year by both Chambers and Partners and the Legal 500 and in 2024/2025 by the Legal 500 as Group Litigation Junior of the Year. She is also ranked for Aviation and Travel in the latest Who's Who Legal Guide.

In the most recent editions of the directories, in addition to being described as "an exceptional lawyer", it is said that "she has an almost superhuman intellect, with an ease and self-assuredness that belies a will of steel". She is also singled out for her "impressive command of detail", "excellent advocacy skills" and being able to "strike the right tone in court".

She has several ongoing instructions in large group litigation and has a wealth of experience of dealing with large-scale litigation in a range of contexts, but particularly drawing on her extensive expertise in the fields of personal injury and product liability.

Meghann is presently instructed by the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea and the KCTMO as lead junior in the civil litigation arising out of the Grenfell Tower fire involving over 1,200 litigated claims and 22 defendants. Meghann is also presently instructed in two groups of claims relating to the COVID-19 pandemic. Meghann was previously instructed on the NOx emissions litigation on behalf of a defendant manufacturer and in relation to a large group of claims arising out of alleged modern slavery facilitated by organised crime groups within large commercial organisations.

The unitary claims in which Meghann is instructed involve a range of practice areas including cross-border

claims, life sciences, product liability and catastrophic/ fatal personal injury claims, in particular involving TBI.

In the field of travel, Meghann is sought after for her expert knowledge of and experience in high-value, large-scale claims, including those under the Package Travel Regulations, and the Athens and Montreal Conventions. She is regularly instructed in complex conflicts of law and jurisdictional disputes.

Her diverse personal injury practice focuses on fatal and catastrophic injury claims. She has a wealth of experience of claims involving the MIB, including arbitration proceedings and technical issues on the agreements.

In March 2019, Meghann was appointed as a Deputy District Judge on the South Eastern Circuit.

## Expertise

### Group Litigation

Meghann has a wealth of experience and an excellent reputation for acting in group litigation. Her Chambers and Partners recommendations note her superb organisational skills and clear, strategic approach.

Meghann's current practice involves her being led by specialists in group litigation, as well as appearing as sole counsel, and also sees Meghann leading and managing other juniors within a wider counsel team. Examples of her recent work include:

#### **COVID-19 Litigation**

Meghann is instructed on behalf of several care home Defendants (by Leigh-Ann Mulcahy KC) in this large group of claims arising out of the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### ***Grenfell Tower Claims v Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea and others***

Acting for the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea and the KCTMO as lead junior in the civil litigation arising out of the Grenfell Tower fire involving over 1,200 litigated claims and 22 defendants.

*Abdel-Kader & ors v Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea & ors* [2022] EWHC 2006 (QB); *Atmani and others v Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea & ors* [2022] EWHC 2618 (KB); *Abdel-Kader & ors v Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea & ors* [2021] EWHC 2016 (QB); *De Costa & ors v The London Fire Commissioner and ors* [2020] EWHC 2718 (QB).

#### **Pan NOx Emissions Litigation**

Meghann was instructed on behalf of the Peugeot Citroën DS Defendants (led by Leigh Ann Mulcahy KC) in relation to alleged breach of NOx Emissions limits and misrepresentation in claims by large numbers of consumers. This group litigation is considered to be one of the largest group actions in Europe.

*Re NOx Emissions Group Litigation* [2024] EWHC 1222 (KB); *Lott v PSA Automobiles* [2023] EWHC 2568 (KB)

*Maltese Transport Authority* – Meghann was instructed as sole counsel in these claims arising out of a catastrophic accident in Malta involving a collision between an open-top bus in which two people died and many others were injured. Claims arising out of the accident were issued in several jurisdictions. The proceedings in England and Wales were issued by several Claimants against a large number of Defendants. Meghann liaised with the legal teams in other jurisdictions to construct an overall litigation strategy.

*Modern slavery claims* – Meghann was junior counsel in this litigation (led by Leigh-Ann Mulcahy KC) involving novel claims arising out of the UK's largest prosecution for modern slavery. Meghann represented an employment intermediary which employed the alleged claimant victims of forced labour.

*Transport Incident* – Meghann was instructed on behalf of one of several defendants in a series of claims arising out of a head on collision involving a double decker bus. There were multiple claims ranging in gravity, including catastrophic injury, which required co-ordination and strategic oversight. Meghann advised on the overall litigation strategy.

## Travel

Meghann has a well-established practice in Travel and Foreign Claims and has been recognised for her specialist knowledge of this area in the leading legal directories for many years.

She acts across the entire range of travel-related litigation, including claims to which the Montreal and Athens Conventions relate. Meghann's particular expertise is in catastrophic and fatal claims and multi-party litigation.

Meghann has appeared in some of the leading cases in this field including *Lackey v Mallorca Mega Resorts SL* [2020] 1 All ER 558.

Some examples of her recent work include a fatal accident involving a child in Greece; a fatal accident in Spain/France/England involving an alleged Legionnaire's Disease outbreak; an accident at a holiday villa in Spain involving the last reference to the CJEU ever made by the United Kingdom; norovirus outbreaks on board a cruise ship and at a large hotel in Spain; a fatal motorbike accident in Germany following a head-on collision; fatal car accidents in France and Germany; a high profile champagne spray incident at a club in Ibiza causing a serious eye injury; an accident on board a yacht in Italy involving numerous defendants from different European countries; a jet-ski accident in Barbados; several skiing accidents in France.

## Notable Travel cases

*Dawkins v Carnival PLC* [2011] EWCA Civ 1237

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Fatal accident involving child in Greece – complex issues relating to jurisdiction and parallel criminal proceedings in Greece.

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Norovirus outbreak on board cruise ship.

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Norovirus / bacterial infection at large hotel in Spain.

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Fatal accident in Spain / France / England involving an alleged Legionnaire's Disease outbreak.

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Fatal motorbike accident in Germany following a head-on collision.

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Accident on board a yacht in Italy involving numerous defendants from different Member States.

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Jet-ski accident in Barbados.

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Skiing accident in France.

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Road traffic accident in France.

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Scalding accident on board a flight from the Caribbean to the UK under the Montreal Convention.

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## Personal Injury

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Meghann's practice focuses on the most serious of injuries and fatal claims. Meghann regularly advises in traumatic brain injury, spinal injury, and amputation cases and has a wealth of experience of claims involving somatoform, pain disorders and other complex psychiatric injuries.

Meghann's instructions in this area of her practice often involve interesting issues relating to claims under the Human Rights Act 1998 against Local Authorities.

Meghann has extensive experience and detailed technical knowledge of claims under the Motor Insurers' Bureau Untraced and Uninsured Drivers' Agreements, including arbitrations under the Untraced Drivers'

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## Agreement.

Recent cases of note include a fatal claim in the Admiralty Court following a death at sea during a round the world yacht race; a claim for negligence under the Human Rights Act 1998 in relation to the death of a child by suicide; a claim relating to scope of damages under the Fatal Accidents Act 1976 where the deceased mother was carer to her disabled child; a high value occupiers' liability claim involving CRPS and complex psychiatric injury; a high value claim under the Uninsured Drivers' Agreement following catastrophic brain injury as a result of a head-on collision; an arbitration under the Untraced Drivers' Agreement involving complex issues as to medical causation; an industrial disease claim by a kitchen assistant employed by the defendant local authority; a fatal accident claim arising out of a local authority's failure under the Highways Act 1980 to prevent flooding on the highway; a skateboarding accident at a festival in Cornwall including a contribution claim against event organiser.

## Notable Personal Injury cases

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High value occupiers' liability claim involving CRPS and complex psychiatric injury.

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High value claim under the Uninsured Drivers' Agreement following major brain injury as a result of a head-on collision.

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Recovery claim against producer for injury caused by defective medical equipment.

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Arbitration under the Untraced Drivers' Agreement involving complex issues as to medical causation.

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Industrial disease claim by kitchen assistant employed by defendant local authority.

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Fatal accident claim arising out of local authority's failure under Highways Act 1980 to prevent flooding on the highway.

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Skateboarding accident at a festival in Cornwall including a contribution claim against event organiser.

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## Product Liability

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Meghann has an established product liability practice, which is supported by her well-established reputation in personal injury, travel and group litigation. She acts for claimants, manufacturers and insurers in cases concerning a wide range of products, including in the healthcare and automotive industries. In addition to her extensive practice as sole counsel, she is regularly led in high profile cases by leading Silks in the area. She is

particularly sought after in cross-border product liability cases involving issues of jurisdiction or conflict of laws.

Her experience covers a wide range of products, including clinical and pharmaceutical products, white goods and automotive products and components.

Recent and ongoing product liability case examples include:

### ***Pan NOx Emissions Litigation***

Led by Leigh Ann Mulcahy KC, for the Peugeot Citroën DS Defendants in defending litigation brought by large numbers of consumers arising out of the manufacturer of diesel engines and alleging breach of NOx Emissions limits and misrepresentation.

*Re NOx Emissions Group Litigation* [2024] EWHC 1222 (KB); *Lott v PSA Automobiles* [2023] EWHC 2568 (KB)

### ***Grenfell Tower Claims v Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea and others***

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### ***Confidential***

Acting for the defendants in relation to a fatal accident at sea case in the Admiralty Court, in which the defendants claimed against the manufacturer of the tether hook due to allegations that the hook was defective and had released the deceased into the water once overboard.

### ***Confidential***

Acting for one of several defendants relating to an explosion on a construction site as a result of the accumulation of pentane gas from Expanded Polystyrene Sheets within a lift shaft.

***Drake v MoD v (1) Kawasaki, (2) Desert Safari Dubai***

Acting for the MoD in a product liability claim for indemnity and contribution against the manufacturer of the dune buggy, which rolled over after cresting a dune during a Royal Marine training exercise, rendering the passenger paraplegic.

## Appointments

- Deputy District Judge on the South Eastern Circuit
- Attorney General's Unified list of Prosecuting Counsel – C Panel (2009)

## Education

- BVC (Very Competent), Manchester Metropolitan University
- BA (Hons) Law & Criminology, Sheffield University

## Memberships

- LawInSport
- British Association for Sport & Law
- Northern Circuit representative on Young Barristers' Committee (2005-2007)
- Criminal Bar Association
- PIBA

## Recommendations

*"Meghann is absolutely superb. She has all of the skills you look for in a junior." "Meghann is really efficient, has clear views of things and is a straightforward advocate." "Meghann is an outstanding senior junior – excellent advocacy skills and able to strike the right tone in court." "Her professional progression during the last years is not a question of luck but a recognition of her hard work, involvement and loyalty to clients."*

*"Meghann is absolutely great. She is easy to work with, puts clients at ease, and knows how to present complex issues in an easy way to get the best out of a case." "She has a great tactical mind but is very fair and proportionate."*

### **Chambers UK 2025**

*"Meghann is an exceptional lawyer. She has an almost superhuman intellect, with an ease and self-assuredness that belies a will of steel." "Thorough and with great attention to detail. Approachable and*

*excellent with clients. Pragmatic and a good negotiator."*

**Legal 500 2025**

*"Meghann has excellent technical ability and commercial awareness." "Her analytical skills, written advice and advocacy skills are very impressive." "Meghann is an excellent lawyer who is thorough in her preparation and gives solid advice." "Meghann is incredibly approachable and goes above and beyond in terms of responding to queries." "Meghann is the go-to barrister for the most complex legal issues in the field; she is an outstanding barrister with an eye for detail." "Meghann is an astonishingly good barrister, possessing the intellect to be able to handle all matters, accompanied with great commercial nous and a wonderfully personable nature."*

**Chambers UK 2024**

*"She is a phenomenal communicator with the ability to condense large quantities of complex material into a clear, digestible and persuasive narrative. I can't recommend her highly enough." "Meghann is an impressive barrister – an eloquent and calm yet forceful advocate, her attention to detail is invaluable and her commitment to her work is endless."*

**Legal 500 2024**

*"She is an excellent advocate." "Meghann's case management and approach with opponents is simply excellent." "She has an impressive command of detail." "She is very approachable, very hard-working and has a very good analytical brain." "Meghann is an exceptional lawyer." "She is a delight to work with." "She is good at arguing the technical points."*

**Chambers UK 2023**

*"Has a great intellect, an ability to see the wood for the trees and fantastic organisational skills; she is exceptional." "Great intellect, amazing ability to see the wood for the trees, organisational skills, reliability. She is simply fantastic and is a silk in waiting."*

**Legal 500 2023**

*"Very clever and approachable." "Technically and forensically excellent, very hard-working and highly regarded by her insurer clients." "She is technically fantastic, down to earth and a fighter in her cases." "She is a fierce opponent and gets to the heart of the matter very quickly. She's also very clever and approachable."*

**Chambers UK 2022**

*"Very clever, able to cut through a mass of detail to what matters, super-reliable and efficient, a pleasure to work with." "Very personable and excellent with clients."*

**Legal 500 2022**

*"She's technically excellent and is a very good advocate." "An extremely approachable barrister who is very good with clients."*

**Chambers UK 2021**

*"Consistency, clarity, excellent oral and writing skills, pragmatic. She is very capable and approachable in this area. Works tirelessly to ensure that a case is watertight."*

**Legal 500 2021**

*"She is very thorough, competent and has an excellent manner with clients." "She approaches each case with endless enthusiasm and energy which gives her the upper hand against any opponent. She has a*



pragmatic approach and strips a case down to the key issues underpinning it.”

**Chambers UK 2020**

“She is fantastic; very down-to-earth yet incredibly bright.”

**Legal 500 2020**

“She’s very friendly and approachable.” “She has superb technical skills and provides very clear and structured advice. She is always efficient, friendly and pragmatic.”

**Chambers UK 2019**

“Meghann has a great deal of experience in travel claims. She is very thorough and possesses an admirable can-do attitude.”; “She is absolutely brilliant. She is extremely incisive and willing to assist”

**Chambers UK 2018**

“She is very down to earth and fights the right points in a case”; “Clients immediately warm to her as she has the ability to assimilate facts and give straightforward advice”; “She is feisty and prepared to argue difficult cases”

**Chambers UK 2017**

“Eminently approachable and very thorough. In her written advice she explores all aspects and intricacies of the matter”; “Her work is proportionate in that she does what is required on a case-by-case basis and would recognise on a smaller claim that clients aren’t going to swallow large fees”

**Chambers UK 2016**

“Down to earth, conscientious and hard-working”; “She’s excellent as she recognizes what clients require. She is robust when required and sensitive when required”

**Chambers UK 2015**