



Sunyana Sharma

Year of Call: 2006

Email Address: sunyana.sharma@3pb.co.uk

Secure Email: sunyana.sharma@3paper.cjsm.net

Telephone: 020 7583 8055

Overview

Sunyana Sharma is an inquest and professional discipline barrister with specialist knowledge in maritime and fishing law and health and safety law. She also has experience in regulatory compliance.

Sunyana sits as an Assistant Coroner for Hampshire, Southampton and Portsmouth and as a Deputy District Judge in Civil and Family law. To read more about Sunyana's relevant expertise, please see her specialist inquests profile.

Prior to joining Chambers, Sunyana worked for the Solicitor International Human Right's Group ('SIHRG') with whom she organised the Zimbabwe Fundraising Event called 'Protecting Lawyers in Zimbabwe' in collaboration with the Bar Human Rights Committee. She also worked as part of a team in researching and drafting legal submissions on the rule of law and the importance of an impartial tribunal following the suspension of the Chief Justice of Pakistan in March 2007. In addition, she undertook an internship with the criminal justice department of 'JUSTICE', the all party law reform and human rights organisation. She assisted with the research on policy papers commissioned by JUSTICE, which included changes to the rape in the Sexual Offences Act 2003 and responses to the Home Office paper on 'New powers against organised and financial crime'.

Reported Cases

[2010] EWCA Crim 109; [2011] 1 Cr App R (S) 36: The Court considered whether exceptional circumstances exist justifying the court in not imposing the required minimum sentence for the possession of firearms.

Publications

Sunyana has written for a number of publications on topics such as inquests, public law and life at the Bar. These articles include:

- "Kids, Court and Caffeine...How to survive having a baby at the Bar" (The Barrister, 2023)
- "The influence of Coroners—what impact do prevention of future deaths reports have in practice?" (LexisNexis, 2021)
- "Fisheries Act 2020—snapshot", in collaboration with Dr Tagbo Ilozue (LexisNexis, 2021)
- "Secondments – worth a second thought" (Counsel Magazine, 2020)
- "BarNone: changing the face of justice", in collaboration with Anjali Gohil (Counsel Magazine, 2020)
- "Breaking moulds" (Counsel Magazine, 2020)

Recommendations

Sunyana Sharma is ranked in the **Legal 500 2024**/Professional Discipline and Regulatory Law/Leading Juniors/London Bar

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[Sunyana Sharma is] 'Able to assimilate large volumes of information quickly and focus on the key issues, with questioning that is succinct but focused – a highly competent barrister.'

Legal 500 2023/Inquests and Inquiries/Leading Juniors/London Bar

'Strengths include a wealth of knowledge, strategic acumen and impeccable client care. In addition to being incredibly talented, Sunyana is also efficient, approachable, and always easy to reach and happy to advise. Instructing solicitors cannot rate the service provided by Sunyana highly enough.'

Legal 500 2022/Inquests and Inquiries/Leading Juniors/London Bar

'She understands both sides of nursing and midwifery cases.'

Legal 500 2016/Professional Discipline and Regulatory Law (including police law)/Leading Juniors

"Sunyana has conducted numerous prosecutions for us as a regulator over several years. Sunyana is a diligent hard-working barrister who provides clear advice with absolute clarity on a consistent basis. A barrister who always appears to be pro-active, on the front foot and seemingly always one step ahead of the game. Sunyana serves us as a client timely and measured response in all instructions and is keen to work with us the regulator at an early stage in all matters.

In the court room is where you see the real deal with Sunyana, strong and robust advocacy, fast thinking and good on her feet, clearly respected by the bench and peers alike and consistently builds strong working relationships with all parties in every case we have worked on together.

In all Sunyana is hugely knowledgeable, highly effective whilst still being a delightful person to work with."

Head of UK Maritime Investigations Team, Maritime & Coastguard Agency

"I just wanted to say a big thank you for your hard work on our recent case. Considering you only received the papers at very late notice, your knowledge and understanding of the case was outstanding. I was so impressed by your meticulous preparation and would have no hesitation in instructing you again or recommending you to any of my colleagues. Thank you again".

Partner, Law firm

"Hardworking, intelligent, very approachable and a pleasure to work with. She is always available to speak to and bounce ideas off and is very good both at advising clients and managing their expectations".

Senior Associate, Law firm

Academic qualifications

- LLB Law (Hons), London School of Economics
- LLM Public International Law (Merit), London School of Economics
- Bar Vocational Course, BPP Law School, London (2006, very competent).
- Jessup International Mooting Competition, (UK rounds) - Finalist, 2004 and Semi-Finalist, 2006

Professional qualifications & appointments

- Assistant Coroner for Hampshire, Portsmouth and Southampton
- DDJ (Civil and Family)
- Steering Committee member of BarNone, Western Circuit

Professional bodies

- Coroners' Society of England and Wales
- ARDL (Association of Regulatory and Disciplinary Lawyers)
- HSLA (Health and Safety Lawyers Association)
- HRLA (Human Rights Lawyers Association)
- Western Circuit