



## Susan Jones

**Year of Call:** 2011

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### Public and Regulatory

Susan has experience of appearing before a variety of public law and regulatory forums.

#### Licensing

In 2016 Susan appeared for a Local Authority in a long running case involving an appeal against refusal to renew a license under the Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963. The licence being necessary for carrying on a business of providing accommodation at premises, including a dwelling, for other peoples cats and dogs.

Susan is regularly instructed to appear in taxi licensing appeals and will consider acting on a direct access basis.

In 2016 Susan appeared for a local authority in a number of appeals against revocation of Hackney Carriage Licences with immediate effect under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, when drivers breached a Traffic Regulation Order by a pedestrianised areas.

In 2017 Susan represented a Licensing Authority in a taxi licensing appeal in which the license holder was accused and acquitted of rape. Upon learning of the allegation the Licensing Authority revoked the driver's license with immediate effect in the interests of public safety. During the course of the licensing appeal, Susan highlighted the burden of proof depends on the nature of proceedings and the purpose of criminal and licensing proceedings are very different. Susan relied on a transcript of the complainant's ABE interview, the driver's PACE police interview and Crown Court Transcript when questioning the officer in the case and the driver. The driver's appeal was refused.

Susan has appeared before a taxi and private hire licensing sub-committee on behalf of a taxi conglomerate for consideration of fitness of two directors to continue holding Private Hire Operator Licences. This involved issues of natural justice and responding to a report from the Head of Transportation Services.

Before the Traffic Commission, Susan represented four Lorry companies in a multi day, multi issue inquiry arising from five reports concerning professional competence, good repute, satisfaction of fundamental licensing requirements and financial standing. The case involved a history of receipt of a large number of PG9's including some serious roadworthiness prohibitions. Concerns were raised relating to third party trailers, inadequately of checks, driver failings and issues surrounding nominated Transport Managers. The licences of each company had previously been suspended due to failure to provide evidence of appropriate financial standing. Susan ensured the financial suspension was lifted on the first day of the inquiry. Following the evidence and submissions, all parties received Formal Warnings.

Susan has represented Duty Premises Supervisors before licensing sub-committees and appeared in review hearings and applications for extension of opening hours. She has also represented publicans in criminal sentencing hearings involving consideration of suspension of their personal licence under the Licensing Act 2003.

## Recommendations

*"May I personally record my admiration of Susan Jones performance before Mrs Justice Lambert. I sat behind her as a solicitor with 25 years post qualification experience and witnessed a rising star. She stood her ground against Mrs Justice Lambert's initially strident view that the judge below had reached a wrong decision on the facts and gently set out in a highly effective, forensic way how the judge's opinion below should not be interfered with.....High Court Judges don't mess around, neither did Susan"* (Instructing solicitor in Susan Jones successfully opposition of High Court Appeal challenging both Procedural Matters and Findings of Fact)

*"Speed and uptake was impressive to say the least, as was her energy and the commitment she made. Since this first encounter, we have sought to use her whenever possible. Having sat next to her I can say that she is an accomplished advocate with a compelling style of advocacy"* (Partner, instructing and attending a 3 day hearing)

*"Our client is very happy with the outcome and I would certainly not hesitate to use Miss Susan Jones in the future or recommend her to my colleagues".* (Solicitor)

*"Thank you for your advice which is both thorough and lucid of its analysis of the case"* (Associate Solicitor)

*"Miss Jones was extremely helpful and professional. I do not see how we could have done any more to better present my case"* (Lay Client)

## Academic qualifications

- Queen's University Belfast (LLB: First, Top in Year)
- City University Law School (Bar Professional Training Course: Outstanding)

## Scholarships

- BPTC scholarship
- Sweet and Maxwell Prize - most distinguished student in LLB final examinations
- Queen's University Belfast awards for:
  - Jurisprudence and political economics
  - Contract law
  - Trademarks and unfair competition

## Professional qualifications & appointments

- Western Circuit Area Bar Junior (Winchester)
- Direct/Public access qualified

## Professional bodies

- Personal Injury Bar Association
- Association of Regulatory & Disciplinary Lawyers
- British Association for Sport and Law (BASL)

- Bar Pro Bono Unit

## **Direct Access**

Susan Jones is qualified to accept instructions directly from members of the public and professional clients under the Direct Public Access scheme.