

Tom Tyler

Year of Call: 1996
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Overview

Tom Tyler has a background in all areas of family law. He specialises in giving advice and representing parties in all kinds of family finance disputes. He is usually involved in matters of greater complexity but he is always pleased to be briefed in more straightforward cases involving divorce, ancillary relief, trusts of land and property.

Tom is frequently instructed in divorce/financial proceedings where a party faces restraint and confiscation proceedings in the Crown Court having been convicted or accused of a serious criminal offence such as fraud, money laundering, drug/people trafficking. This is a factor that complicates the financial aspects of the divorce and Tom has a great deal of expertise in this area.

Tom is instructed by the Serious Fraud Office as well as the Organised Crime Division of the Crown Prosecution Service as intervener in ancillary relief cases as well as by the parties themselves and affected third parties. Tom is currently representing the Crown Prosecution Service in the Gohil litigation that has recently been before the Supreme Court and is now ongoing once more in the High Court. Tom enjoys giving seminars and lectures on this shady corner of the law.

Legal experience is undoubtedly very valuable, however one of Tom's outstanding qualities is his recognition of the uniquely difficult nature of family litigation involving children and money. He has been through the divorce and financial dispute process himself and therefore offers his clients a true understanding born of personal experience. He is a genuine source of wise and sympathetic advice at a difficult and painful time for either husbands or wives. If a dispute is capable of compromise then Tom will almost invariably sort it out and save the cost of further litigation. However, there may be factors that prevent agreement being reached and in such circumstances Tom can be relied upon to fight his client's corner.

Tom is direct access trained and is always pleased to accept instructions from members of the public who choose not to instruct a solicitor.

Areas of Practice:

- Divorce
- All aspects of matrimonial finance
- Trusts of Land and Property
- Inheritance Act disputes
- Asset Forfeiture and Confiscation

Recommendations

Direct Access Client Testimonials

June 2025, from Mrs RP

Tom was recommended to me via a group providing support for individuals self-representing in divorce proceedings.

The recommendation was well deserved. I had just recently ended an instruction with a solicitor who was not helping my situation and seemed incapable of doing so. With a court hearing imminent I was in a desperate situation and needed to find a good barrister.

I found Tom to have that unusual combination of being down to earth professional and possessing a quirky sense of humour, needed in times of stress. His response times for answering queries and performing tasks was on point. He was always available to respond to important questions and unforeseen situations and is totally dedicated to the cause. I felt I could completely rely on his advice which was always measured and fair – to both sides something which can be hard to when you are faced with an unpleasant solicitor on the otherwise, as I was. He explained things clearly and always in a calm manner making sure that I understood matters.

I felt that the service I received from Tom was beyond what I had expected, and I can truly say that without Tom's expertise I would not have been able to achieve such a prompt resolution to the court proceedings which concluded much sooner than I had anticipated, due to Tom's competent handling of my case. He is kind, thoughtful and a very skilled professional. Thank you, Tom.

March 2025, from Richard Quick **''**To Whom is may concern;

Tom was recommended to me by a friend of a friend.

I was immediately impressed by his calm, unemotional yet empathetic approach.

My divorce was one of the darkest times of my life and I am a highly emotional individual yet Tom was able to steer me and manage me in order to get the most out of him, something that I found solicitors incapable of doing.

He is not a magician and there were moments that things went against us, but Tom remained consistent and unaverred and just focussed on the end result.

In my experience his professionalism is second to none but every now and again he surprised me with a very funny story or a well timed quip that kept me sane in what is such a horrible process.

I will miss my dealings with Tom on a personal level but am glad and relieved this process is over.

For the record, my financial situation is complex involving many assets and businesses and the final judgment was quite unbelievable.

The Court awarded the other side 5 times less than my pre Court offer and what I was expecting to hand over!

Maybe he is a magician after all!! ''

June 2024, from Mr TD:

"I am writing to extend my gratitude and give a review of Tom as a Barrister for the hearing that he took in April. Tom represented my twin sister at a preliminary hearing at Croydon County Court. I am the Respondent whilst my sister was an Intervenor. I was very impressed by Tom's attention to the fine details of the case and most of all his compassionate approach to the case.

For the first time although I was a LIP; I felt at ease and knew that my sister was in very safe hands professionally. I would most gladly recommend Tom to anyone I know who wants the services of a very competent and kind Barrister.

I want to say thanks to Tom again."

January 2018, from Mrs W in Hampshire: "Dear Mr. Tyler,

I would like to whole heartedly thank you for all your support-along with your re-assuring manner & diplomacy, you were worth every penny.

Once again thank you."

September 2017, From Mr B in London: "Mr Tyler is a warm friendly person, he is highly knowledgeable and dealt with my situation thoroughly.

"I was extremely pleased how Mr Tyler dealt with my case, I was not expecting the outcome I received.

"Highly recommended and I would definitely work with again.

"Thank you again Mr Tyler."

August 2017, From Mrs A in Surrey: "Thank you so much for your direction yesterday. You were absolutely amazing and I am so glad you acted for me.

"I just wish I had you at my previous hearings as I have been led up the garden path.

"You are so professional, firm and of course your years of experience gave me the best result. There was as you say significant risk of losing my home if I were to have had a different barrister who knows I could have been led up garden path again?

"Thank God I had you. You're a great man and warm hearted!"

August 2017, From Mr P in Bristol: "Tom Tyler was unflappable. He very quickly gained a good grasp of the situation and laid things out clearly for me so that I could understand what my options were.

"I was particularly impressed with the way Tom dissected my extremely complex financial position and laid it out clearly in such a way that it was impossible for the opposition to dispute it. Had I not had the benefit of an expert Counsel in Tom who was well versed in financial matters and who knew how to display and tabulate them in an easy to understand way things may not have gone as well and I could have easily lost the case. Thank you."

August 2017, From Ms B in West Sussex: "Thank you for coming to my aid so generously. I feel very blessed to have been represented by you and am deeply grateful for your help."

Legal Directories rankings and quotes

Tom is noted for his 'expertise in matrimonial finance work' by the **Legal 500 Bar Directory 2018 – Tier 1.**

Tom is recommended by the Legal 500 Bar Directory 2016 for his expertise in the Regional Bar - South Eastern Circuit.
Family and children law – Leading juniors
Tom Tyler - A finance specialist.

Legal 500 Bar Directory 2015.
Family and children law – Leading juniors
Tom Tyler - Undertakes financial remedy cases where parties have been convicted of serious criminal offences

Legal 500 UK Directory 2013/14/Family: "3PB's Tom Tyler is 'very meticulous, sharp and to the point'."

Legal 500 Bar Directory 2014: "Tom Tyler - 3PB 'Skilled in all areas of his multi-faceted family practice, particularly in financial remedy cases.' "

Legal 500 Bar Directory 2014: 'He is experienced in financial remedy, where there is an element of criminal conduct or confiscation orders are involved.'

Professional bodies

- Family Law Bar Association
- Proceeds of Crime Lawyers' Association

Direct Access

You will be fully supported and remain in control of your case, every step of the way.

Tom is a family law barrister who is authorised to practice by the Bar Council and is regulated by the Bar Standards Board. He has a right of audience in every court in England and Wales. Tom undertakes public access work and appears on the Bar Council Public Access Register and accepts instructions from solicitors in the traditional way.

When couples separate, financial and child care disputes often result and for many individuals the legal system is daunting, confusing and expensive. Tom is an expert who steps in and helps his clients take back control of their lives and move swiftly towards a more positive, settled future.

Why use a public access barrister?

Tom's clients undertake the straightforward work themselves leaving the difficult parts to him. In this way, they save money on legal fees and remain fully informed at every stage of the case.

Pay as you go – The fee for each stage of the case is agreed in advance and in writing.

Flexible appointment times - Tom works around his client's work and child care commitments.

Examples of family law work that barristers may do:-

- providing expert legal advice at face to face meetings, in writing and by Skype;
- representation at court;
- drafting documents e.g. letters, offers, position statements & skeleton arguments;
- persuasively and effectively negotiating on your behalf;
- providing advice and direction at the next stage of your case;
- preparing you for and/or assisting you at Mediation;
- representation at round-table meetings;
- reviewing and advising upon your case papers at various stages;
- negotiation and representation at court;
- preparing appeal documents.

Tom's approach

Tom is a good listener, treating his clients with respect and dignity when they are speaking about very personal, often upsetting family matters. From the outset he is keen to identify and focus on the real issues in the case.

He brings a mix of common sense, objectivity and reality to the legal issues which may appear overwhelming to his clients.

Thorough preparation in advance of client meetings ensures that all meetings are well structured and highly effective with no time wasted. Tom provides sound and realistic legal advice ensuring that his clients feel well supported and clear about the way forward.

Tom has a wealth of court experience and the determination to robustly assert her client's case. He is persuasive and has a strong reputation. Acknowledged by his colleagues as 'a safe pair of hands' he is committed to ensuring that family law issues are resolved fairly with the minimum possible delay, stress and cost for his clients.

Expertise

Family

Tom is experienced in all aspects of family law matrimonial finance litigation and Children Act disputes including:

- Co-habitation litigation under the Trusts of Land and Appointment of Trustees Act 1996
- Safeguarding of assets via freezing orders
- Maintenance pending suit
- Proceedings involving Interveners and other third parties
- Ancillary relief in England & Wales after a foreign decree
- Enforcement and appeals
- Setting aside of orders due to non-disclosure

Tom is always pleased to receive instructions from clients on a direct access basis. If you are considering instructing Tom, then he would welcome the opportunity of speaking to you on the telephone or Skype prior to being sent your papers. Subject to the complexity of the issues on the case, there is usually no fee for a preliminary consultation of this nature.

Recent reported case:

***Gohil v Gohil (with CPS intervening)* [2023] EWFC 1567**
This decision of Mosyn J concerned the inexplicable differences that accompany a draft judgment handed down respectively in the King's Bench Division, the Family Division, and the Crown Court.

***RH v SV (Pension Apportionment: Reasons)* [2020] EWFC B23**
Circuit Judge level decision of HHJ Robinson cited in part 4 of the 2nd report of the Pensions Advisory Group. This decision is of interest when considering the issues that that arise when one party seeks a pension sharing order based on a contribution/apportionment argument.

***Re TW v TM (Minors)* [2015] EWHC 3054 (Fam)**
Interest not payable under Judgments Act 1838 on arrears accrued under top-up order. Starting point for court ordered child maintenance calculations was the statutory formula.

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