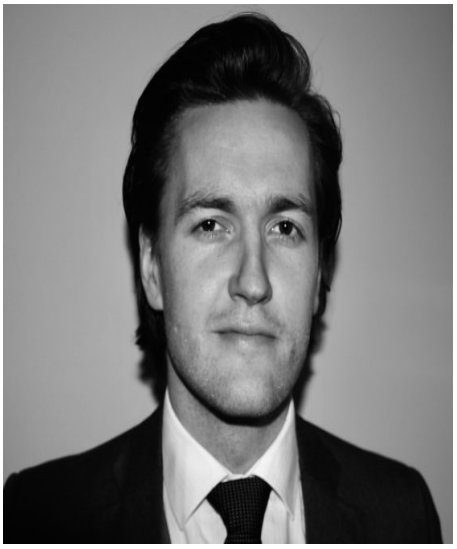


Luke Nelson

Year of Call: 2017
Email Address: luke.nelson@3pb.co.uk
Telephone: 01202 292 102

Overview

Luke is a financial remedies and TOLATA specialist, and Private FDR evaluator.

Luke specialises in complex, multi-layered and high net worth matters. He regularly advises in cases involving business assets, trust structures and third-party interests in land.

Luke is approachable, calm, confident and able to put his clients at ease: utilising the skills he acquired in his previous life in the entertainment industry. He offers a sensible, pragmatic and persuasive approach to the matters in which he is instructed.

Luke is a major proponent of non-court dispute resolution (NCDR), including private FDRs, hybrid mediation and arbitration. He understands that the key to a successfully negotiated resolution is achieving an outcome that satisfies both parties' interests. He pursues that goal with compassion, laser-focus and issue-centric advocacy.

Luke also understands that some cases cannot be settled. When that time comes, he approaches contested hearings with focussed and persuasive submissions and incisive cross-examination.

Biography

Luke has an unusual biography for a barrister, having been the drummer and manager of a heavy metal band, playing numerous concerts across the UK and recording an album during a six-year career in the music industry, all while managing a successful pool bar.

Luke also worked as a part-time lecturer in Family Law at the University of Gloucestershire.

Interests

Outside work, Luke can still be found behind his electric drum kit, when time allows. He is also a fitness enthusiast – mainly weightlifting – but begrudgingly phones in cardio from time to time.

Recommendations

He is tenacious and quick on his feet, with a good eye for detail in financial remedy cases.'

Legal 500 2026/Divorce and Financial Remedy/Leading Junior/Midlands Circuit

Luke Nelson – 3PB `Luke is a very technical barrister with an eye for detail. He is thorough in his preparation and his cross-examination skills are very effective

Legal 500 2025/Divorce and Financial Remedy/Rising Star/Midlands Circuit

'Luke is straight-talking and exactly what most clients need to keep them focused on their approach to resolving matters. He is careful with his words and always well-prepared.'

Legal 500 2024/Divorce and Financial Remedy/Rising Star/Midlands Circuit

"Luke Nelson recently represented me at my FDR. As soon as he was instructed he was supportive, even calling to calm my nerves before the Easter break.

For someone who isn't good with change or standing up for myself, Luke was simply amazing at representing me. He was confident, professional and concise when he was in the court. Outside of the court he was very easy to talk to and discuss the case. Thankfully we got a good result and the financial order agreed. I can't thank Luke enough as I know without him it wouldn't have been as easy."

Lay Client

"Just to say what an excellent job Luke Nelson did in securing an Order that allows for a property to be sold (offer in place but wife not co-operating in financial remedy matter).

He considered and added to the draft Order provision for signatures of the conveyancing documents by our partners should Wife not co-operate and secured a possession order for the day of completion of sale to avoid Husband having further costs to seek to remove her should she fail to leave.

From his note it was clear that he had read the brief and had a good grasp of the matter. We are delighted with the result."

Fiona Pawsey, Newnham Jordan Solicitors

"Luke was fantastic on our recent case together. He is very thorough, has an eye for detail and leaves no stone unturned. We achieved a brilliant result and the client was extremely happy with the outcome and his performance during cross examination."

Deanna Goldsby, Shakespeare Martineau LLP

"After one final hearing already adjourned, it was a relief to have Luke Nelson accept my case on the a direct access basis after being recommended by a friend who herself is a DDJ. Luke is thorough, professional, highly personable and most of all, knows his stuff!
"Luke came to the three-day hearing armed with evidence and knowledge of the 1600 page bundle along with a strategy on how he was going to address each point. We had three meetings prior to the final hearing to ensure we both had an opportunity to raise questions and clarify any points. Luke's pragmatic approach gave me the confidence I needed and it was clear that he was a barrister with integrity and authenticity.
With his calm demeanour, Luke was able to cross examine my ex-husband in such a way that all the lies came pouring out – exactly what I had wanted! I'm grateful for Luke's support throughout the trial and could not have done this without him."

Lay Client

"Thank you for your counsel and perseverance yesterday. It is a really good result to finally have this matter concluded for our client and having you to lead the legal team yesterday was a huge part of that!"

Legal Executive, Financial Remedies

"Luke was calm, professional and realistic in his advice. He put my case forward to the Judge in an articulate manner, demonstrating great knowledge of law. He went into sufficient detail to enable the Judge to make an indication in my favour. I simply cannot thank Luke enough and would recommend him to anyone. Plus, he were very personable throughout and put me at ease, which meant I knew I could trust him implicitly."

Lay Client

"Luke Nelson's client care skills are outstanding. Nothing ever seems too much trouble for him and he is always ready and willing to chat things through, in or out of office hours, which is incredibly refreshing. Luke has an excellent knowledge of the

law. He is straight-talking and puts his clients at ease from the first meeting. Not only that, but he approaches his work with an infectious good-nature.

He is robust and articulate in his Court presence, but also has a pragmatic approach to cases and always promotes the best interests of his clients. His drafting is meticulous and speedy. In short, Luke is an exceptional barrister, both in financial remedies and co-habitation disputes. It's a 10/10 from me."

Lindsey Arnold, Partner, Coles Miller Solicitors LLP

"Luke worked tirelessly on my case, from our first conference to making submissions to the judge via email about the final order. He went "above and beyond" what I expected. His dedication and thought-process was exemplary; he was very approachable and understanding of my situation, and his presentation to the court was convincing. If any of my friends or colleagues need a barrister in the future, I'd be more than happy to recommend him."

Lay Client

"In my time with Luke on our pre-court call and all day in court, Luke listened to me, was patient and empathetic but also challenging. On top of all that he's a nice bloke too!

The simple yet powerful narrative he pulled together for the court were, for me, quite simply perfect. It made me feel understood and content. Despite a great deal of sabre-rattling from the applicant, Luke kept his composure and calmly but firmly asserted our position. He clearly connected with the court, foresaw and addressed its concerns and was mindful of the position he would take if in his opponent's camp.

The phrase velvet glove springs to mind! I will advocate for Luke to work with you and others again."

Lay Client

"I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for recommending Luke Nelson to me. It's a scary concept to entrust somebody you've never met with a truly life-altering court case. However, Luke had clearly absorbed every tiny detail of the case and he delivered it in court with precision and persuasiveness. As a result, the judge warned the other side to drastically reconsider their position, and they did. In short, it was A MASSIVE WIN."

Lay Client, Financial Remedies

"I recently instructed Luke on an FDR with a difficult opponent and a difficult client. He performed far in excess of his Call and his charm in dealing with judges is quite exceptional."

Solicitor, Financial Remedies

"Luke is an excellent communicator and builds a great rapport with clients. He has a professional and approachable manner, which places any client at ease in often difficult circumstances. Luke has been able to drill down the issues within a case and approach those in a methodical and academic manner which has resulted in a first class service and result for the client overall. "

Eleanor Wood, Goughs Solicitors

"Luke Nelson approached our case with total dedication, incredible commitment, stunning professionalism and deep empathy for us.

He made all the difference. Not only to how we were feeling through it all, but in obtaining us the result we wanted. In court, Luke was electric, hard-hitting and exceptionally clever in his cross-examination of the claimant. I can honestly say that he is a barrister who not only represents the highest legal standards, as one would hope for, but he also superbly represents & defends his client, to a level that was without doubt simply outstanding, and quite exceptional. We will never be able to thank him enough."

Client

"Now the dust has somewhat settled, I wanted to drop you a line to thank you for everything you did for my daughter and I.

You picked up a complex case last minute, but showed incredible skill at not only cutting through to the key issues but also understanding the nuances surrounding it. You understood not only the case but also me; and went above and beyond to support me and explore all possible avenues in your endeavours to represent me to the best of your abilities. Your relaxed and confident manner, and your ever professional approach, helped steady me at a time I really needed it; and your humour kept me from crying on more than one occasion. Your willingness to listen and ability to find the relevant information within what was being said was skilful and demonstrated why you come highly recommended.

I admire your ability to remain calm under pressure, and will never forget how you never made your arguments a personal attack. Your eloquence, skill, and ability to 'get to the point' without endless streams of words were an asset in court. You never made me feel stupid, an inconvenience or like 'just another client', and I felt you truly cared about my case.

With heartfelt thanks"

Lay Client, Financial Remedies

Academic qualifications

- University of Gloucestershire (2 year fast-track LLB) - First Class

Scholarships

- Provost's Award For Excellence, University of Law, BPTC 2017
- Law Prize for Outstanding Achievement, University of Gloucestershire, 2017
- Finalist, Lincoln's Inn Inter-Provider Mooting Competition, 2017
- Undergraduate Team Award, National Client Interviewing Competition, 2016
- Sir Thomas More Bursary, Lincoln's Inn, 2016
- Neuberger Prize, Lincoln's Inn, 2015

Professional qualifications & appointments

- University of Law (BPTC), Birmingham - Very Competent

Professional bodies

- Lincoln's Inn
- FLBA
- Western Circuit

Expertise

Property and Estates

Luke has a particular interest in matters arising out of the Trusts of Land and Appointment of Trustees Act 1996 and is comfortable advising and advocating in concurrent Schedule 1 Children Act matters. Luke provides advice in conference or on paper and has a sound knowledge of the principles of equitable accounting and occupation rent.

Luke is a skilled mediation advocate. He utilises his knowledge of the law to achieve practical, client-led solutions which work (so far as possible) for both sides. Luke understands that the key to successful mediation is identifying and addressing each party's competing interests and developing a solution that satisfies both.

Luke has recent experience in the following:

- Drafting statements of case and advising on prospects and offers pre-issue
- Advising and appearing in all hearings from inception of the claim, to CCMC to final hearing
- Advising in relation to the establishment of a constructive trust based on an agreement which was never executed, where the defendant was refusing to make mortgage payments over the property and possession proceedings were impending
- Advising and representing a client in a case involving large contributions from both sides, a reconciliation and considerable sums spent on renovations
- Representing a client in a long-running case alongside Children Act sch 1 proceedings where the respondent had suppressed the profit-earning capacity of the business in order to remain in the FFH
- Advising on a matter involving an agreement to transfer the beneficial interest in a property where the buy-out sum was never paid
- Obtaining strike out and summary judgment against a company who wrongfully asserted the existence of a common intention constructive trust, proprietary estoppel and agreement to dispose of beneficial interest in domestic property

Family

Luke undertakes a primarily finance-based practice: specialising in financial remedies, co-ownership disputes and contested divorce. Luke is known for his down-to-earth, practical and pragmatic approach to financial cases as well as his deft client care skills. He approaches all matters knowing that his clients are experiencing one of the most difficult times of their lives and endeavours to ease their burden with an easy rapport and clear advice.

Luke taught private family law and financial remedies at the University of Gloucester before joining chambers and uses this experience in the matters in which he is instructed.

Finance

Luke is a specialist matrimonial finance disputes barrister. Luke is known for his down-to-earth, practical and pragmatic approach to financial cases as well as his deft client care skills. He approaches all matters knowing that his clients are experiencing one of the most difficult times of their lives and endeavours to ease their burden with an easy rapport and clear advice.

Luke taught private family law and financial remedies at the University of Gloucester before joining chambers and uses this experience in the matters in which he is instructed.

Financial Remedies

Luke has experience in a wide variety of financial remedies matters. He is able to run a case through from FDA to Final Hearing. He is also comfortable advising on enforcement actions, setting aside consent orders and intervener actions. Luke is also happy to draft all documents required in financial remedies matters, including questionnaires, schedules of deficiency, offer letters & interim applications. Luke frequently acts in cases involving foreign property, contested business valuations and intervener actions. Luke has recent experience in the following:

- Representing the company of a wealthy husband which was asserting ownership over various matrimonial properties in the High Court alongside and against leading Queen's Counsel
- Advising and representing in a matter involving an alleged fraudulent disposition of cross-border property
- Successfully establishing the validity of an ante-nuptial agreement alleged to have been entered into under duress
- Successfully arguing an add-back of c.£50k in a needs case
- Prosecuting an application for committal based on consistent failures to comply with the service of financial disclosure
- Resisting an application for a Legal Services Payment Order where both parties worked and lived in Australia and the UK
- Advising on and drafting an application to freeze assets pending the outcome of financial remedy proceedings
- Assisting Hamish Dunlop in a long-running farming case involving inherited wealth and equestrian assets; the latter issue forming the basis of concurrent intervener proceedings
- Cases involving crypto currency assets and allegations of non disclosure.

TOLATA

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- Obtaining strike out and summary judgment against a company who wrongfully asserted the existence of a common intention constructive trust, proprietary estoppel and agreement to dispose of beneficial interest in domestic property

Injunctions

Luke accepts instructions relating to injunctions and ownership of property, including non-molestation orders, occupation orders and applications for transfer of tenancy – usually linked to concurrent or impending financial remedy proceedings.

Luke is experienced in advising on applications for freezing injunctions and avoidance of disposition orders under the

Matrimonial Causes Act, Senior Courts Act and the court's inherent jurisdiction.

Recommendations

Thank you so much for what you did in court on Wednesday this week. Because of your professionalism and advocacy at the FDR, I have the best settlement I think I could have possibly got. After 15 months of negotiations prior to the court date, you managed to resolve it. Thank you!

Lay client

Property

Luke has a particular interest in matters arising out of the Trusts of Land and Appointment of Trustees Act 1996 and is comfortable advising and advocating in concurrent Schedule 1 Children Act matters. Luke provides advice in conference or on paper and has a sound knowledge of the principles of equitable accounting and occupation rent.

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Articles

Even though PAG1 and W v H [2020] EWFC B10 stress the importance of treating a case on its own facts, somehow a view developed that pensions should inevitably be divided to achieve equality of income in all 'needs' cases.

Luke Nelson reviews the PAG reports, how they help to demystify pensions issues and act as an incredibly useful reference guide for busy practitioners.

View Article

Luke Nelson writes a brief guide to "Intervener actions in financial remedies proceedings: interests in land" for Family Law

View Article

Luke Nelson surveys the 'lay of the land', three months after the FRC Efficiency Statement. At its launch, the Efficiency Statement was heralded by some as a necessary step towards collaborative working in financial remedies. Others queried whether the front-loading brought about by its proposals would detrimentally affect relations between lay clients. Luke's article considers which side of the argument is borne out now.

View Article

Financial Remedy Court Efficiency Statement

Luke Nelson looks at the guidance laid down for the preparation of FDAs, FDRs and final hearings and the newly-created FRC documents including the allocation questionnaire, case summary and schedule of assets and income based on the figures.

View Article

Luke Nelson provides an overview of the procedural elements of starting a standalone TOLATA claim together with some useful practical advice for this stage.

View Article

3PB Barrister Luke Nelson produces a practical guide to case management during remote hearings.

View Article

3PB specialist family law barrister Luke Nelson creates a remote hearings checklist.

View Article