

Meghan Curran

Call: 2022

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Specialist in:

- Criminal Law
- Prison Law
- Civil Law
- Inquests & Public Inquiries Team
- Civil Actions Against Public Authorities

Experience

Meghan accepts instructions in crime, inquests and actions against the police and public authorities.

Crime

Meghan has a busy criminal practice spanning the Crown, Magistrates' and Youth Courts. She has experience in the full breadth of general crime work, including representing those charged with serious violence, sexual offences and drug-related crime.

She has extensive experience in specialist protest cases in both the Magistrates' and Crown Courts, and has represented protestors and activists involved in protests on the climate crisis, pro-Palestine protests, the arms trade, animal rights and those protesting against deportations.

She also has experience representing vulnerable young people charged with serious offences in the Youth Court, including those accused of serious violence.

Inquests

Meghan regularly represents bereaved families in Article 2 and non-Article 2 inquests.

Meghan has experience in inquests following deaths in care settings, custody, in the community and following contact with police. As Meghan is also a criminal practitioner, she is particularly comfortable appearing in jury inquests.

She has additional experience in high-profile inquests involving high degrees of press interest following secondment to a leading civil law firm.

Actions against the police and public authorities

Meghan also has experience in civil claims against the police and public authorities. This includes claims arising following the conclusion of inquest proceedings.

Previous Experience

Meghan joined Chambers as a tenant in October 2023.

Prior to the Bar, Meghan worked as a Civil Litigation paralegal at Hickman & Rose. She assisted on the Grenfell Tower Inquiry and civil claims and worked closely with families of the bereaved and survivors. She also assisted in high-profile inquest cases, including the inquest into the death of Emiliano Sala.

Meghan has previously interned at the Metro Capital Defenders Office in Atlanta, working on death penalty appeals. In particular, she assisted attorneys in fact-finding and research to challenge established Prosecution narratives.

During the GDL and BPTC, she volunteered at the Centre for Women's Justice assisting in research into how police conducted investigations of sexual offences. She was also a legal assistant at the Slough Immigration Aid Unit, a local immigration charity where she provided support to domestic abuse survivors with precarious immigration status.

Meghan was formerly a legal observer with Black Protest Legal Support and previously served on the executive of Legal Sector Workers United.

Education

BTC, BPP Law School

GDL, BPP Law School

BA History, First Class, Trinity Hall, University of Cambridge



Memberships

Haldane Society of Socialist Lawyers

WICL

CBA

Awards

BPP Law School GDL and BPTC Scholarships

Middle Temple Astbury Scholarships and exhibition awards for the GDL and BPTC

Eden Scholarship for performance in final year exams

Cases

Protestors acquitted of criminal damage at defence industry manufacturer

Meghan Curran represented the first defendant in proceedings concerning allegations of criminal damage at a defence industry manufacturer in Buckinghamshire.

Two Palestine Action protestors were acquitted of criminal damage charges, with Meghan's client telling the jury that her actions had been justified in order to prevent genocide and war crimes in Gaza.

Meghan Curran acted alongside Tom Wainwright of Garden Court Chambers, who represented the second defendant.

They were instructed by Peter Baker of ITN Solicitors.

Meghan Curran represented the family of SP at the inquest into his death

Meghan Curran represented the family of SP at the inquest into his death. SP, who was in his 70s, died at HMP Hewell following a short period of food refusal. He had been charged with the murder of his wife.

The jury concluded that sufficient steps had not been taken in SP's psychiatric care, reflecting the fact that SP had not undergone a psychiatric assessment whilst at HMP Hewell, and in particular once food refusal had commenced. They also concluded that there had been a



failure to assess his capacity, finding that this should have taken place urgently once food refusal had commenced.

The Coroner issued a PFD addressing a range of matters arising from the inquest. This included the lack of awareness amongst healthcare staff of the food refusal policy that resulted in a failure to consider hospital transfers for prisoners severely weakened by weight loss; failure to expedite a full medical assessment, including psychiatric assessment; and a failure to recognise that a mental capacity assessment was required as soon as food refusal began.

Coverage of the inquest can be found at the BBC: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cy8lzxqnlqjo>

Meghan was instructed by Tessa Hutchinson of Duncan Lewis Solicitors Ltd.

Meghan Curran secures not guilty verdict for client charged with 2 counts of sexual assault

Meghan Curran represented a man charged with 2 counts of sexual assault, arising from incidents in 2024. The Defendant has a complex form of epilepsy. The defence raised non-insane automatism, lack of intent and, in the alternative, insanity by reason of the seizures he was experiencing at the time of the alleged offences. Expert medical evidence obtained by the defence supported this position.

Following receipt of additional expert evidence consistent with the position of the first expert, the Crown offered no evidence and the Defendant was found Not Guilty.

Meghan was instructed by Zachary Whyte of Sperrin Law.

Convictions overturned for student pro-Palestine protestors

Sarah-Jane Ewart, Margo Munro Kerr and Megan Curran successfully overturn convictions of student pro-Palestine protestors who protested at the University of Leicester.

10 pro-Palestine protestors were convicted of aggravated trespass in the Magistrates' Court. The defendants argued that they had rights of access, as protestors and/or as students at their own university, and that they were permitted to occupy a building on 14 November 2024. The District Judge found he could not be sure they were not trespassers. One co-defendant was acquitted.



The 10 convicted protestors appealed their convictions to the Crown Court. Following joint legal submissions by their legal team, the Crown conceded the appeal.

It was noted in Court that an important point of consideration was the disproportionate impact of the prosecution on the students, who were young people of good character.

The case raised important issues around students' freedom of expression.

Coverage of the case can be found via Dazed and Liberty.

SJ, Margo and Meghan were all instructed by Sophia Dutton of Kellys Solicitors. Co-defendants were represented by Nicola Hall at Robert Lizars.

For more information, or to instruct Margo, SJ or Meghan, please contact our clerks at clerks@onepumpcourt.co.uk.

Not guilty verdicts secured in Palestine Action case

On what would have been day 1 of trial, the Prosecution offered no evidence at Southwark Crown Court.

Maria Liddiard, Sarah-Jane Ewart and Meghan Curran were instructed for trial on behalf of the defendants who were accused of committing criminal damage and locking on as part of a protest with Palestine Action, prior to the group's proscription in June 2025.

After service of skeleton arguments, two of the Crown's witnesses withdrew their support for the prosecution. In the circumstances, and citing the defendants' reliance on defences under section 5 Criminal Damage act 1971, the Crown considered there was no longer a realistic prospect of conviction.

Not Guilty verdicts were entered in respect of the Criminal Damage counts, and associated Locking On charges were discontinued.

Maria was instructed by Simon Natas at ITN Solicitors.

SJ was instructed by Isabelle Standen at Kelly's Solicitors.

Meghan was instructed by Peter Baker, also at ITN Solicitors.

For more information, or to instruct Maria, SJ or Meghan, please contact our clerks at clerks@onepumpcourt.co.uk.

Inquest touching on the death of Mohamud Hassan

Mohamud Hassan, a 24-year old British-Somali man, died at home, following recent contact with South Wales Police, in Cardiff on 9 January 2021.

Following a three-week inquest, a jury at Cardiff Coroner's Court decided that the cause of Mohamud's death was 'unascertained' and recorded an 'open conclusion' as to how he came about his death, at the direction of HM Senior Coroner for South Wales Central, Graeme Hughes.

<https://www.inquest.org.uk/mohamud-hassan-inquest>

<https://www.walesonline.co.uk/news/wales-news/our-hearts-remain-broken-family-29098562>

FAMILY STATEMENT – pdf version for BBC & Wales OnLine ON CONCLUSION
TODAY – INQUEST

R v TS, KC & BAJ [2024] Crown Court at Southwark

Margo Munro Kerr, Dharsha Jegatheeswaran and Meghan Curran successfully overturn convictions of Palestine Action protestors for aggravated trespass on appeal to the Crown Court at Southwark

The three appellants were charged with aggravated trespass. They admitted having trespassed on to the premises of Lockheed Martin, an arms factory, shortly after which security guards found them carrying rucksacks with items typically used in protests.

At the Magistrates' Court in April this year, the three defendants were represented by Margo Munro Kerr, Dharsha Jegatheeswaran and Hannah Webb. The District Judge found that the defendants were hiding when they were found by security and convicted them on the basis that 'hiding' was an act distinct from trespass, sufficient to aggravate the trespass.

The three appealed their convictions to the Crown Court, where they were represented by Margo Munro Kerr, Dharsha Jegatheeswaran and Meghan Curran (Hannah Webb assisting in written submissions).



Counsel for the appellants argued that 'hiding' in this context could not be considered an act intended to intimidate, disrupt or obstruct, sufficient to aggravate the trespass and in the alternative, that the activities of security guards on a non-working day could not be part of the 'lawful activities' particularised in the charge. Counsel also resisted an attempt by the Crown to significantly alter the basis on which it put its case to include other acts, arguing in alternative that those acts were in any event insufficient to aggravate the trespass.

The Crown Court did not agree that the security guards' activities could not be considered to fall within the lawful activities particularised in the charge, but allowed the appeal on the basis that it was right that the act of 'hiding' on these facts did not amount to a distinct act designed to intimidate, obstruct or disrupt lawful activities, sufficient to aggravate the trespass. The Court did not determine whether the Crown should have been allowed to alter the basis on which its case was put, finding instead that none of the other acts were sufficient to aggravate the trespass.

Margo, Dharsha, Meghan and Hannah, were instructed by Rosa Potter of Kellys Solicitors.

