



Barrister

MIRREN GIDDA

Email: mg@onepumpcourt.co.uk

Call: 2023



Specialist in
Housing & Community Care
Prison Law
Public Law
Civil Law
Court Of Protection
Inquests & Public Inquiries Team

Experience

Mirren practises across public and human rights law, including civil actions against the State, inquests and public inquiries, prison and parole board matters and housing and community care.

Prior to coming to the Bar, Mirren was an award-nominated journalist, most recently working as an investigative journalist for the human rights organisation, Liberty. In addition to her work as a barrister, Mirren chairs a local police scrutiny group.

Public Law, Prison Law and Human Rights

Mirren is regularly instructed in judicial review matters across a broad range of areas including prison law, migrant rights, housing and homelessness and community care.

Mirren has appeared unled in the High Court and led in the Court of Appeal and has worked across all stages of judicial review proceedings. In addition to her judicial review work, Mirren represents prisoners in Parole Board hearings and has experience advocating at finding of fact and public parole hearings.

Inquests and Inquiries

Mirren represents bereaved families at inquests and has a particular interest in inquests involving failures by the police and/or prisons.

Mirren is currently instructed on an inquest concerning the seemingly natural death of a prisoner for which she has made successful submissions on Article 2 engagement and the need for a jury. She is also instructed on an inquest into the death of a person in police custody.

Mirren has recently finished a jury inquest into the death of a prisoner from psychoactive substances for which the jury found causative and non-causative failures. She also recently represented a family whose loved one died in a psychiatric hospital, for which she made successful submissions on the need for a neglect rider to be added to the conclusion.

Mirren is interested in developing an inquiries practice and is currently instructed as a junior on an ongoing inquiry.

Civil Actions Against the State

Mirren is regularly instructed in civil actions against police forces and prisons and has experience bringing cases concerning trespass to the person as well as breaches of the Equality Act 2010. Mirren's prior journalistic experience means she is particularly skilled at determining what evidence is needed to bring a successful claim and how to obtain it.

Education

Bar Training Course, High-Level Distinction (previously referred to as an Outstanding), BPP

Postgraduate Diploma in Law, Distinction, BPP
MA Terrorism, Security and Society, Distinction – first in year, King's College London
BA English Literature, 2:1, University College London
Scholarships
Roger Cox Bar Course Scholarship, Gray's Inn
Advocacy Scholarship, BPP
Enoch Dumbutshena GDL Scholarship, Gray's Inn

Memberships

Human Rights Lawyers' Association
Inquest Lawyers' Group
Association of Prison Lawyers
Co-convenor, Police Action Lawyers' Group
Chair, Tower Hamlets Community Monitoring Group

CASES

R (Neophytou) v Governor of HMP Berwyn

EWCA Civ 348

Mirren was led in the Court of Appeal in a case brought by a prisoner seeking Early Release on Compassionate Grounds ('ERCG') on the basis of health needs.

The resulting judgment ensures the correct application of the Secretary of State for Justice's policy, which requires that where an ERCG application is made for health reasons, it must be submitted to the Secretary of State's specialist central team, unless it is clear the prisoner's experience of imprisonment does not cause suffering greater than the deprivation of liberty intended by the punishment.

[Read the reported judgment here.](#)

Area of Law:

Prison Law, Judicial Review

Related Barristers:

[Mirren Gidda](#)

Inquest into the death of Amer Ali Fareed

Mirren represented the family of Amer Ali Fareed, whose inquest took place between 23 June and 27 June 2025 at Surrey Coroner's Court. The jury concluded that Amer, a prisoner detained at HMP High Down, died from drug toxicity leading to heart failure. The jury found that "there was a serious failure in the screening and the referral procedures for Amer to be provided the relevant [substance] misuse

support” and that there was “a failure to carry out the scheduled welfare and roll call check call at 8pm”.

The jury further found that there was a delay in allowing paramedics access to Amer and that “the availability of synthetic cannabinoid in HMP High Down in the summer of 2023 may have contributed to his death on 8 August 2023”.

During the inquest, the jury heard that at the time of Amer’s death, HMP High Down was dealing with a high level of drugs in the prison, particularly psychoactive substances, and that there was a lack of resources to combat this. The jury also heard that Amer, who had a known history of substance misuse, was not referred for substance misuse support as he should have been in line with prison practice.

Mirren was instructed by Aya Alshekhili at Imran Khan & Partners.

Area of Law:

Inquests & Public Inquiries Team

Related Barristers:

[Mirren Gidda](#)