



Ministry of Justice

Case studies of successful honorary QC nominations

Marcia Willis Stewart

She is a well-known civil liberties solicitor who has been at the forefront of public and administrative law for over a decade. She has acted in a number of challenging and important cases including representing the family in the Duggan inquest and leading a team of over 30 lawyers representing 77 of the Hillsborough families. Demonstrating enormous skill and commitment, Marcia has provided exceptional dedication and understated, effective leadership to both her clients and colleagues.

During the Hillsborough Inquests she gave of her time to support and mentor pupils from the local community school, encouraging them to take an interest in the inquests and in the law. A keen champion of diversity, she has created working environments that enable access for lawyers from marginalised communities, who are least likely to be afforded opportunities within much of the profession.

Marcia has a long history of commitment to the voluntary sector, contributing as a trustee to various charities, including Camden Women's Aid (now Solace Women's Aid), where over a decade she held the positions of both Chair and Treasurer. Marcia was named Legal Aid Lawyer Public Law Solicitor of the year in 2015.

Anne-Marie Hutchinson OBE is a solicitor who specialises in international children's cases. She was nominated particularly because of her efforts to get countries to sign up to the Hague Convention. She was awarded the inaugural UNICEF Child Rights Lawyer award in 1999 and an OBE for her services to international child abduction and adoption in the 2002 Queen's New Year's Honours List. In 2004 she was selected as Legal Aid Lawyer of the Year for her work with the victims of forced marriage and in 2010, she received the International Bar Association's Outstanding International Woman Lawyer Award. She has been involved in many of the most important court cases in her field of expertise. She is involved (amongst many areas) in work promoting the 1980 Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction. She has recently provided advice to lawyers and government officials in Japan in advance of Japan implementing the 1980 Hague Convention. She has also been active bringing to the attention of many other governments around the world other important issues related to the field of children law. She also speaks regularly on issues concerning international family law. In the last year she has delivered talks to a number of agencies and/or conferences, including to the Prime Minister's UK Government Girl Summit, held in London.

Professor Graham Virgo

He is Professor of English Private Law at the University of Cambridge. He is a leading academic who has made a major contribution to English law in the growing area of the law of restitution. He has been foremost amongst the leading academic voices developing the subject, and has shaped the direction of the law of unjust enrichment, mistake and other related areas of restitution.

Part of his extensive contribution has been by means of books, including *Principles of the Law of Restitution*, academic articles in leading journals and in contributing chapters to books (such as editing the chapter on 'Restitution' in *Chitty on Contracts*).

He is highly regarded amongst academics, and widely recognised for his significant contribution to the teaching of law. His work is regularly cited in the English courts, including the Supreme Court, as well as other common law jurisdictions.