GEORGIA BEDWORTH

Call: 2001

"SHE HAS A BRAIN THE SIZE OF A PLANET AND IS VERY GOOD AT PICKING UP OBSCURE POINTS THAT CAN TURN A CASE AROUND. HER MEMORY IS FANTASTIC AND SHE DISPLAYS GOOD ATTENTION TO DETAIL."

Chambers UK 2025

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Georgia Bedworth has a thriving and well-established traditional Chancery practice. She is instructed in both contentious and non-contentious trusts and estates matters which are technically complex, often involving multi-million-pound trusts and estates.

A well-respected junior, who is able to demystify complex concepts and explain them in plain English, Georgia frequently advises on the trusts of landed estates, capital tax planning issues and on Variation of Trusts Act applications. Alongside her non-contentious work, Georgia advises on a full range of contentious trusts and estate matters including probate claims and high-value claims under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependants) Act 1975. In addition, Georgia undertakes a considerable amount of property and affairs work in the Court of Protection, in which she draws on her skills and knowledge attained in the other areas of her practice.

Georgia is recognised in Chambers UK and Chambers High Net Worth. She has been listed in Band 1 for Traditional Chancery, Trusts and Court of Protection (Property and Affairs) for a number of years and was shortlisted as Chancery Junior of the Year at the Chambers Bar Awards in 2023.

EXPERTISE

COURT OF PROTECTION

Georgia's Court of Protection practice perfectly compliments her successful traditional chancery practice, drawing on her considerable expertise both in the Court of Protection and in wills, trusts, estates and capital taxes matters. Georgia covers the full range of property and affairs work, and has been Ranked in Band 1 for Court of Protection: Property and Affairs for a number of years. She is frequently instructed, by both the Official Solicitor and private parties, in relation to high value and complex statutory will and gifting applications, often with a tax planning element.

In addition, Georgia acts in and advises on applications for the removal of attorneys and deputies and appointment of deputies.

Georgia also has considerable expertise in applications concerning reporting restrictions orders and privacy in the Court of Protection having been junior counsel (led by John McKendrick KC) in Hinduja v Hinduja [2022] EWCA Civ 1492.

SIGNIFICANT CASES

- **W v P [2025] EWCOP 11 (T3)** – Georgia represented the Applicant in an application for a statutory will and to enter into lifetime dispositions for P (who used to be in the public eye and now suffers from severe dementia) concerning tax planning regarding assets worth c. £20 million. Georgia secured an order that the matter should continue to be kept private and be heard in private.
- **BH v JH [2024] EWCOP 12** – Georgia successfully represented the Official Solicitor as P's litigation friend in this significant case concerning the scope of PD 9F as to the requirement to serve those affected by a statutory will application, in this case the Attorney General representing the interests of charity.
- **BH v JH (Costs) [2024] EWCOP 9** – Georgia successfully persuaded the Court to depart from the usual rule as to costs so that the applicant was required to meet P's costs and his own costs of his opposition to serving the application on the Attorney General.
- **Porter Rees Dolan Trust Corp Ltd (as property and affairs deputy for ML) v WL and another [2023] EWCOP 19** – Represented the Polish Guardian in an application directions regarding payment of funds by the English deputy to the Polish guardian and for recognition of the Polish guardianship order, where P was resident in Poland, being instructed shortly before trial in place of previous representation.
- **Hinduja v Hinduja [2022] EWCA Civ 1492** – A decision by the Court of Appeal regarding reporting restrictions in Court of Protection Proceedings, where there were related proceedings before the Chancery Division (in which Georgia also acted).
- Representing the Official Solicitor as P's litigation friend in relation to a contested statutory will application where P was unintentionally intestate. In addition, the application raised issues concerning the changes to agricultural property relief and business property relief announced in the budget delivered on 30 October 2024.

CONTENTIOUS TRUSTS & ESTATES

Georgia frequently acts in contentious trusts and estate matters including probate disputes, claims under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependants) Act 1975 and litigation concerning the administration of trusts and estates, including applications for the removal of personal representatives and trustees and rectification. Georgia frequently advises in relation to contentious construction matters and in relation to claims brought by and against trustees, including applications for Beddoe relief.

SIGNIFICANT CASES

- **Hinduja v Hinduja [2020] EWHC 1533 (Ch)** – Act as junior counsel (led by Eason Rajah KC) for the Claimant, SP Hinduja acting by his litigation friend, in a significant decision concerning the appointment of litigation friends.
- Acted for the Claimant in a claim to propound the will of her late husband, which was challenged by the Deceased's daughter on the grounds of lack of capacity, want of knowledge and approval and undue influence.
- Acted for the trustees of a trust worth £500 million in a claim by the beneficiaries to set aside an appointment made by the trustees which created the office of a protector as a fraud on a power and for the removal of the protector (led by Simon Taube QC).
- Acted for the executors of an £80 million estate defending a 1975 Act claim brought by a lady who claimed to be the Deceased's cohabitee.
- Successfully represented the beneficiaries in a claim for the recognition of a trust declared by a matrimonial court in Oregon over a property in England.

PRIVATE CLIENT (NON-CONTENTIOUS)

Georgia frequently advises on non-contentious trusts and estates matters, including capital taxes planning, as well as undertaking related trusts and wills drafting. Georgia has considerable experience in Variation of Trusts Act applications, acting both for those proposing the

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Arrangement to give effect to the variation and representing the minor and unborn beneficiaries.

In addition, Georgia often appears in court on non-contentious matters such as approval of sale of foreign property owned by a minor, an area in which she was involved in the leading case and applications under s. 57 Trustee Act 1925.

SIGNIFICANT CASES

- **Re B (A Child) [2022] EWFC 7; [2022] 4 WLR 34** – The leading case on the procedure to be adopted for the approval of the sale of foreign property owned by a minor.
- **South Downs Trustees Ltd v GH [2018] EWHC 1064 (Ch)** – Represented the Trustees of an Employee Benefit Trust in an application under s. 57 Trustee Act 1925 for authority to sell shares in a utility company.
- **T v P [2018] Ch 565** – Georgia represented the minor beneficiaries in an application under the Variation of Trusts Act 1958 where there was an issue over whether it was the High Court or the Court of Protection who would have jurisdiction to approve the Arrangement on behalf of a minor who was likely to lack capacity within the meaning of the Mental Capacity Act 2005 when they reached 18.
- **Re Portman Estate [2015] EWHC 536 (Ch)** – Represented the Trustees of the Portman Estate in an application under s. 57 Trustee Act 1925 to secure extensive additional administrative powers.
- **Ingrey v King [2015] EWHC 2137** – Represented the Executor in an application to authorise a distribution of the residuary estate and to fix the level of retention where the Deceased had entered into a film partnership scheme which involved potentially significant contingent liabilities.

TAX

Georgia has significant experience in advising on capital taxes and capital taxes planning, particularly inheritance tax and capital gains tax. Much of her work in Variation of Trusts Act application involves a consideration and appreciation of the tax consequences of the variation.

In addition, her Court of Protection work frequently involves applications which have been motivated by a desire to save inheritance tax.

SIGNIFICANT CASES

- **Buzzoni v HMRC [2013] EWCA Civ 1684; [2014] 1 WLR 3040** – Represented the tax payer in a claim concerning whether a reversionary lease scheme entered into by the deceased was effective to avoid the reservation of benefit rules. The Court of Appeal ruled, in the taxpayer's favour, that there had been no reservation of benefit (led by Simon Taube QC).

DIRECTORIES & AWARDS

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ASSOCIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

- Chancery Bar Association
- Court of Protection Bar Association

AWARDS

- Lawyer Monthly – Estate and Trusts Barrister of the Year 2016

EDUCATION & QUALIFICATIONS

- Diplock Scholar, Middle Temple
- BCL (Distinction), St Hugh's College, Oxford
- BA Hons (First Class), St Hugh's College, Oxford

PUBLICATIONS

- Rossdale: Probate & Administration of Estates (5th Edition)
- Probate & Family Provision, Atkins Court Forms
- Tolley's Inheritance Tax Planning
- Fosters Inheritance Tax
- Atkins Court Forms: Probate and Family Provision

REGULATORY INFORMATION

Georgia Bedworth is a self-employed, independent barrister whose practice is governed by the Code of Conduct of the Bar of England and Wales. She is regulated by The Bar Standards Board [Bar Ref 42904] and is fully insured with the Bar Mutual Indemnity Fund [BMIF Ref 2360/055] to provide legal services, please refer to the BMIF website for full details of the world-wide cover provided. She is registered for VAT under the reference 799330581.

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