



Year of Call

1996

Year of Silk

2010

Devil Masters

Sheriff Ruth Anderson QC

Gerald F Hanretty QC



Practice Profile

Since calling to the Bar, Shona's practice has focussed exclusively on civil work. Within that broad category, her practice has centred primarily on cases arising out of alleged professional negligence, commercial disputes and complex personal injury cases. These have ranged from cases involving wrongful birth to cases heard in the House of Lords concerning the Warsaw Convention on the carriage of passengers by air.

Shona has a considerable public law practice arising from her time as a standing junior to the Home Office, when she was also instructed to represent other UK government departments. She also holds an appointment as an ad hoc advocate depute to the Crown Office.

Shona has conducted cases in the Sheriff Court, the Outer and Inner Houses of the Court of Session and in various tribunals as well as in the House of Lords.

Education & Professional Career to Date

Solicitor, Commercial Litigation, Dundas & Wilson CS

LLB; Diploma in Legal Practice

Appointments

- Standing Junior to the Home Office (2009–2012)
- Standing Junior to the Forestry Commission (2001–2009)
- Member, Faculty of Advocates Investigating Committee

- Member, Faculty of Advocates Board of Assessors
- Ad hoc Advocate Depute (2010–2016)
- Curator of the Advocates Library

Selected Cases

- **Petition of (first) The Congregation of the Poor Sisters of Nazareth and (second) The Daughters of Charity of Saint Vincent De Paul**
For Judicial Review of a decision of the Scottish Ministers dated 28 May 2015 to appoint Ms Susan O'Brien QC as Chair to the Historical Child Abuse Inquiry in terms of section 4(1) of the Inquiries Act 2005
- **Herd v Clyde Helicopters [1997] AC 534**
- **King v Bristow Helicopters [2002] SC (HL) 59**
- **McFarlane v Tayside Health Board [1998] SC 389**
- **Scottish Ministers v Trustees of the Drummond Trust [2001] SLT 665**
- **Clydesdale Bank v Grantly Developments [2000] SLT 1369**
- **Southesk Trust Company Ltd v Angus Council & Others [2006] CSOH6; [2007] CSIH76**
- **FO v Secretary of State for the Home Department [2010] CSIH 16**
- **Peacock Group v Railston Limited & Wm Murchland & Co Plumbers [2007] CSOH 26**

Areas of Practice

- Clinical and Professional Negligence
- Commercial
- Media Law, Privacy and Defamation
- Personal Injury
- Public and Fatal Accident Inquiries
- Public Law

Publications & Seminars

Shona presents papers regularly on topical issues, particularly in the field of professional negligence

Directories

Recommended in Chambers & Partners UK Bar Guide 2020
Band 2 for Clinical Negligence

"An extremely capable senior with a pragmatic, no-nonsense approach."

"She is a formidable opponent."

Additional Information

French, German

Faculty of Advocates Instructor in Advocacy Skills Training