



Year of Call

2021

Devil Masters

Helen Watts
Grant Markie
Wendy Hay

Practice Profile

Cat called to the bar in 2021 as the recipient of the Lord Reid scholarship.

Prior to calling, she was a Procurator Fiscal Depute with the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service, having completed her traineeship there.

Cat has prosecuted a wide variety of criminal cases and has considerable experience in handling complex cases and in leading evidence from child and vulnerable witnesses.

Since calling, Cat has been instructed in a range of criminal appeals and Fatal Accident Inquiries. She has acted on behalf of both the Crown and defence in a number of criminal cases, and in the areas of public law, personal injury, and clinical negligence.

Cat is instructed on behalf of NHS Scotland's fourteen territorial boards and five special health boards in the Scottish and UK Covid Inquiries.

She completed an LLM in Criminal Law and Criminal Justice at the University of Edinburgh, for which she was awarded the TB Smith Prize for the most distinguished scholar.

Education & Professional Career to Date

The University of Aberdeen, Law LLB (Honours) (First class)

The University of Edinburgh, Criminal Law & Criminal Justice LLM (Distinction)

The University of Edinburgh, Diploma in Professional Legal Practice

Appointments

- Ad hoc Advocate Depute (2022–present)
- Standing "junior junior" counsel to the Office of the Advocate General for Scotland (2021–2024)
- University Tutor, LLB, Criminal Law and Evidence at The University of Edinburgh (2021–present)

Selected Cases

- **HMA v Iain Packer**
Emma Caldwell murder (January- February 2024)
- **HMA v Iain Owens + 10**
Child abuse ring (September- November 2023)
- **HMA v Kashif Anwar**
Arthur's Seat murder (March- April 2023)
- **FAI- Lauren Wade**
FAI at Glasgow Sheriff Court in to the death of two-year old due to complications of malnutrition
- **FAI- Robert Allen**
Death in custody
- **FAI- Brian Connor**
Death in custody
- **Dylan Williamson and Kiara-Lee Gallagher v HMA [2021] HCJAC 50**
- **Whitehouse v Chief Constable [2018] CSOH 93**
Whilst a trainee at Crown Office, worked on the civil actions brought by individuals who were prosecuted following the acquisition and administration of Rangers Football Club.

Areas of Practice

- Clinical and Professional Negligence
- Crime
- Personal Injury
- Public and Fatal Accident Inquiries
- Public Law

Publications & Seminars

"Special Measures for Vulnerable Witnesses", The Smeal Review, Issue 2 (2021)

"Special Measures and the Principle of Orality in the Scots Criminal Trial: Ensuring Fairness to the Accused" (2017) 3(2) Edin SLR, 3