



SARAH LOOSEMORE



Year of Call

2022

Devil Masters

Lesley Irvine

Lili Prais KC

Wendy Hay

Kate Bennett

[LinkedIn Profile](#)

Practice Profile

Sarah called to the Scottish bar in 2022, having called to the bar in Ontario, Canada in 2003. Her principal areas of experience and interest are criminal law, public law, and personal injury, particularly clinical negligence and historic child abuse. Since calling to the Scottish bar, Sarah has appeared regularly in the High Court and the Court of Session, as well as the Sheriff Court and Sheriff Appeal Court on a wide variety of civil and criminal matters.

In her civil practice Sarah has been instructed in a variety of personal injury claims for both pursuers and defenders. She has also gained experience in judicial reviews in the areas of education law and prison law. She is currently instructed as junior counsel to the Sheku Bayoh Inquiry.

On the criminal side, Sarah has developed a particularly strong practice in criminal appeals and extradition matters. She has been involved in many of the most significant criminal appeals in Scotland in recent years. She was instructed as junior counsel to the Respondent in Lord Advocate's Reference No. 1 of 2023 and Lord Advocate's Reference No. 3 of 2023. She was also instructed as junior counsel in the Supreme Court appeal in *ADK v HMA* regarding the application of rape shield protections in criminal trials. She has numerous reported decisions in the High Court of Appeal in extradition matters, as well as having been instructed in many first instance extradition hearings. She has been frequently instructed in criminal trials and sentence and conviction appeals. She has also appeared as an ad hoc AD in trials and appeals against sentence.

Sarah spent 15 years practicing as a barrister and solicitor in Ontario, Canada in criminal, regulatory, and public law. She has a wealth of experience in written and oral advocacy and appeared for many years as both junior and sole counsel in the superior and appellate courts in Ontario. To qualify in Scotland Sarah completed the Faculty's examinations in Scots law. She brings together her many years of experience and perspective from Canada with her more recent study and practice experience in Scotland.

Education & Professional Career to Date

Paralegal, Clyde & Co (Healthcare Team), 2019, 2021
Assistant Crown Attorney, Guns & Gangs Initiative, Toronto, 2016-2017
Assistant Crown Attorney, North York Crown's Office, 2012-2016
Crown Counsel, Ontario Ministry of Labour, 2008-2012
Criminal defence solicitor and barrister, Toronto, 2003-2008

Juris Doctor, Faculty of Law, University of Toronto 2002
Bachelor of Education, Queen's University, Canada 1999
Bachelor of Science, Mathematics, First Class Honours, Queen's University, Canada 1998

Appointments

- Advocate General for Scotland's Panel of Special Advocates (2025–present)

Selected Cases

- **Adam Osipczuk v Lord Advocate (on behalf of the Republic of Poland) [2022] HCJAC 37**
Extradition appeal relating to passage of time bar
- **AH v Lord Advocate (for the Government of the Republic of Poland) [2023] HCJAC 36**
Extradition appeal relating to forum bar, passage of time bar and Article 8 of the ECHR
- **Beggs, Petitioner 2024 SLT 267**
- **Giblin v PF, Glasgow 2024 SCCR 261**
- **HMA v PG and JM, 2024 HCJAC 43 (Lord Advocates References number 2 & 3 of 2023)**
- **Peter McGuinness v HMA [2025] HCJAC 13**
Successful conviction appeal. Evidence of distress observed nine years after an indecent assault was not corroborative.
- **PK v Lord Advocate (Representing the Republic of Poland) 2024 HCJAC 25**
- **Reference by His Majesty's Advocate against CLB [2023] HCJAC 40**
Instructed as junior counsel to the Respondent in 7-bench Lord Advocate's reference relating to the use of distress as corroboration
- **RF v Lord Advocate (Representing the Kingdom of Norway) 2024 HCJAC 46**
- **R. v. Klymchuk, 2006 CanLII 34719 (Ontario Superior Court)**
Application for disclosure of informant's identity under the "innocence at stake" exception to informer privilege
- **R. v. E. J., 2005 CanLII 19662 (Ontario Court of Appeal)**
Appeal from sexual assault conviction based on assessment of the complainer's credibility
- **R. v. Ontario (Review Board), 2009 ONCA 16 (Ontario Court of Appeal)**
Availability of costs against a tribunal in a judicial review procedure
- **Ontario (Ministry of Labour) v. Sheehan's Truck Centre Inc., 2011 ONCA 645 (Ontario Court of Appeal)**

Statutory interpretation of health and safety legislation in a conviction appeal

- **O'Reilly v PF, Dumbarton 2024 SCCR 215**

Areas of Practice

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

Publications & Seminars

"The Use of Prior Statements", Advocacy Focused Seminars - Advanced Level for the Law Society of Scotland, 1 June 2023

Expert Evidence: the judicial role post - Kennedy v Cordia, Better the Devil You Know CPD Seminar, 15 June 2022