

RECRUITMENT

MEDIA LAW

APPLICATIONS FOR TENANCY FROM EXPERIENCED BARRISTERS WITH A SUBSTANTIAL MEDIA LAW PRACTICE

Doughty Street Chambers has a long-established and highly regarded expertise in media law, and we have a proud history of fighting for freedom of expression for the media at every level. Since our inception we have acted in the most high-profile reporting restriction challenges and cases concerning open justice and access to court documents, including *Re Guardian News and Media* [2010] UKSC 1 (in which Geoffrey Robertson QC's "alphabet soup" submissions caught the Supreme Court's attention, in their first ever case), *R (BSkyB) v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis* [2014] UKSC 17 (production orders and source protection) and *R (C) v Secretary of State for Justice* [2016] 1 WLR 444 (anonymity of mental health litigants). Our members have acted in the key cases concerning contempt of court in the internet age, regarding media responsibility for comment threads on social media (e.g. *R v F* [2016] 2 Cr. App. R. 13).

In the past number of months, our members have acted for parties or interveners in all three media law cases heard before the Supreme Court: *Bruno Lachaux v. Independent Print Ltd. and Evening Standard Ltd.* (heard in October 2018; judgment awaited); *Ronald Stocker v Nicola Stocker* (heard in January 2019; judgment awaited); and *Cape Intermediate Ltd. v Dring* (heard in February 2019; judgment awaited). *Lachaux* and *Stocker* will be the first defamation decisions handed down by the Supreme Court since the Defamation Act 2013 came into force.

Our international media law work is unrivalled. We act for media organisations, journalists, bloggers, human rights defenders and NGOs worldwide, including in urgent cases concerning arrest, detention and seizure of equipment, and on a wide range of issues concerning freedom of expression and newsgathering. Current cases include acting for *Reuters* and journalists *Wa Lone and Kyaw Soe Oo*, imprisoned in Myanmar; for the bereaved family of *Daphne Caruana Galizia*, the investigative journalist assassinated in a car bomb in Malta in 2017; for the *BBC Persian Service* in their challenges to Iran's harassment of their journalists and their families; and on the United Nations' expert panel considering the assassination of Saudi Arabian journalist *Jamal Khashoggi*.

A strength of our media team is that it is based in a Chambers with cross-cutting expertise. Members are regularly instructed in cases which involve an overlap with our other areas of specialism, such as criminal law and terrorism; inquests and inquiry law; public law; actions against the police and protest law; and employment and discrimination. Recent cases include advising investigative journalists and media organisations on mandatory reporting obligations under the Terrorism Acts; challenging NDAs which prevent victims and survivors of abuse from accessing counselling support or speaking out about their experiences; for *the person formerly known as Jon Venables* in a series of cases concerning lifelong anonymity; and representing the media in the *Hillsborough*, *Grenfell* and *Mark Duggan* inquests.

More detail about the work of our Media Team is available [here](#), and our International Media Defence Panel [here](#).

The continued development of our work in these areas means that we are now inviting group or individual applications for tenancy from experienced barristers with established media law practices. Applicants should have a demonstrable commitment to human rights.

Applicants should apply by sending a curriculum vitae and cover letter by email to Olivia Scott, at o.scott@doughtystreet.co.uk by no later than **9am on Friday 15 March 2019**. Applicants should indicate their earnings and aged debt levels. Applicants should also submit a completed diversity monitoring form, available to download [here](#). All applications will be treated in strictest confidence and referees will not be contacted without prior notice.

Interviews for shortlisted candidates will be conducted between 1.30 and 5pm on Friday 15 March 2019. Should this date and time cause insurmountable difficulties for any candidates, this should be clearly indicated in the cover email.