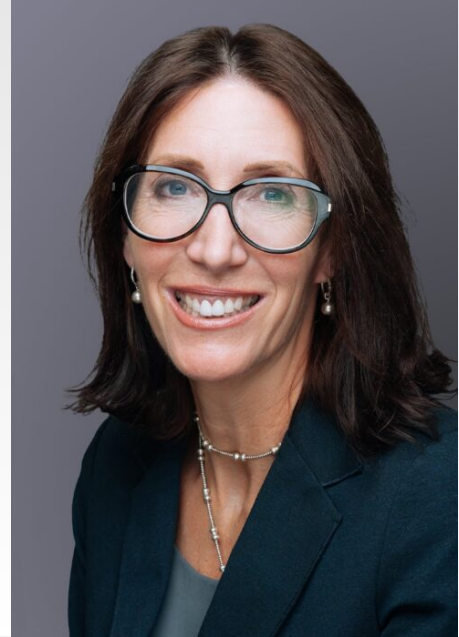


Nikki Saxton KC

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Nicola Saxton KC works exclusively in the field of **Family Law** on the North Eastern Circuit, Northern Circuit and London. She has become known as one of the leading counsel in the field of **financial remedy**.

Clients warm to her “understanding and approachable manner” and report that “she is always impeccably well-prepared... a great listener and someone you feel is never less than 100% on your side.”

A First Class graduate in Law from the University of Cambridge, Nicola first set her sights on becoming a barrister at the age of 14. She says that she has a particular affinity for family law because: “It’s an area where I feel I can make a real difference to people’s lives.”

Nicola lectures on Circuit to both the FLBA and Resolution and has been a participant in exhibition debates on circuit.

Expertise

Financial Remedy

Nicola undertakes financial remedy work for high net worth individuals and is regularly involved in high court cases where the assets exceed £10m and has acted as junior in cases of substantial value and complexity. Nicola has been involved in a number of high net worth high court matters, typically listed from 3 – 9 days and involving assets of £5m – £25m. Her cases involve family businesses and privately owned companies. She has experience of both foreign and domestic trusts.

Notable Financial Remedy cases

Representation of wife on 9 day high court preliminary application to set aside disposition of assets into Hong Kong trust.

Junior in 5 day case in the high court involving complex business and personal assets value circa £30m and thereafter successfully represented the husband on appeal on a “Barder” point.

Representation of wife in 3 day high court matter involving assets circa £7.5m including complex family trust and business assets.

Farming/inherited wealth ancillary relief – assets circa £25m.

Successfully represented a wife on a need based claim involving partially non matrimonial assets £4.5m and pension assets £4.1m. The wife received capital and pension assets of just under £3m following a modest length childless marriage; £1.5m more than the husband offered.

Successfully resisted wife's claims for equal pension sharing order upon variation of maintenance claim. Wife seeking pension share 44% of husband's pension post retirement. Received 11.1%.

Successfully represented a husband against his wife's claims for over £5m and a joint lives maintenance order on the basis of a company valuation of £6-10m. After a 2 week High Court hearing the judge awarded the wife just 43% of the assets and limited term maintenance based upon a company valuation of £1.2m. The departure from equality reflected both costs in view of the wife's litigation conduct and 50% of the reduction in the value of the company since the husband's open offer.

In a case with assets of between £22-£27m (depending upon the valuation of the company) and trust assets of £5m, on behalf of the husband at a private FDR Nicola negotiated a settlement of £7m by instalments in favour of the wife based upon needs rather than sharing to reflect the provenance of the assets.

At a 12 day preliminary hearing representing the wife, Nicola successfully resisted claims by the wider family to assets of c. £800,000 based upon trust, estoppel and gift and succeeded in recession claims and set aside to a value of over £750,000. Overall assets were restored to be divided between the parties of over £1.5m.

A case involving assets of over £25m following a 5 day high Court hearing on behalf of the husband, Nicola successfully established the ring-fencing of £3m of the assets based upon the provenance of the assets, notwithstanding that entire sum had been vested in the family home throughout the 15 year marriage and was properly classified as matrimonial property.

On behalf of a wife involving limited capital but a high income of over £750,000 gross p/a, Nicola successfully negotiated a settlement based upon a sharing of future income on a stockpiling basis.

MF v SF (Financial Remedy: Financial Conduct) [2016] 2 FLR 622

FS v PS [2015] EWHc 2797

AR v AR [2011] EWHC 2717 (Fam)

Richardson v Richardson [2011] EWCA Civ 79

Trusts

In addition to financial remedy cases work Nicola regularly undertakes schedule 1 claims and Trusts of Land and Appointment of Trustees Act 1996TOLATA applications.

Notable Trusts cases

Representation of wife on 9 day preliminary application to set aside disposition of assets into Hong Kong trust. High Court.

Junior in 5 day case in High court involving complex business and personal assets value circa £30m. Presently on appeal on "Barder" point.

Representation of wife in 3 day high court matter involving assets circa £7.5m including complex family trust and business assets.

Farming / inherited wealth ancillary relief – assets circa £25m.

Successfully represented a wife on a needs based claim involving partially non matrimonial assets £4.5m and pension assets £4.1m. The wife received capital and pension assets of just under £3m following a modest length childless marriage; £1.5m more than the husband offered.

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On behalf of a wife involving limited capital but a high income of over £750,000 gross p/a, successfully negotiated a settlement based upon a sharing of future income on a stockpiling basis.

Alternative Dispute Resolution

Nicola is a qualified arbitrator and is a member of CI Arb and of a Yorkshire based arbitration group, Family Financial Arbitration.

Nicola has a holistic and commercial approach to litigation and, in addition to her advocacy in court she has concluded negotiated settlements with assets up to £450m and regularly represents clients at joint settlement meetings, private Financial Dispute Resolution hearings and Arbitrations.

Memberships

- CIArb
- Family Financial Arbitration