

Andrew Colman

"He's a genius - he has the brain the size of a planet and is great at going into the crux of the issues. He's also very calm and measured on his feet." "Excellent paperwork and advocacy."
Chambers UK Bar 2021



Year of Call: 1980

020 7353 5324

Andrew Colman is a leading junior of great intellect and experience, held in high esteem for his particular ability to cut through complex issues of fact or law in order to get to the heart of the matter and for his fairness and integrity.

Over the past ten years he has built up an impressive reputation in the field of Professional Regulation, applying his advocacy skills, honed in the highest levels of criminal practice, to the conduct of complex and lengthy cases before disciplinary tribunals and to statutory appeals and judicial reviews in the High Court. He also represents medical professionals at inquests.

Andrew is a member of the Association of Regulatory & Disciplinary Lawyers, the Health and Safety Lawyers' Association and the Criminal Bar Association and a former director of the Bar Mutual Indemnity Fund.

Andrew is recommended in the current editions of The Legal 500 and Chambers UK.

Andrew accepts [Direct Access](#) instructions.

What others say:

"Andrew has a vast intellect, a keen eye for detail and nothing gets past him. He deploys his arguments eloquently, inevitably to devastating effect and as a solicitor, you know that if you instruct him, you can be confident of achieving the right result for your client." – Legal 500 UK 2021

"He combines a natural flair for advocacy with a fantastic ability to spot the overlooked killer detail." – Legal 500 UK 2020

Location

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“He has a brilliant mind and a calm demeanour, and secures outstanding results in the most difficult cases. The apparent simplicity with which he destroys opponents never fails to impress.” and “Able to dissect large volumes of complex papers and get to the key issues with absolute ease.” – Chambers UK 2020

“He really focuses on the issues in a case and doesn’t get bogged down with anything extraneous.” – Chambers UK 2018

“A master of detail. His submissions are works of genius.” – Chambers UK 2017

“He has a keen analytical mind: no stone is left unturned analysing the General Medical Council’s case.” – Legal 500 2017

“He’s cerebral, bright on the law and academically astute.” – Chambers UK 2017

“A go-to for really detailed, document-heavy cases; when you need someone to absorb huge quantities of information quickly, he manages it with ease.” – Chambers UK 2017

“He is an extremely thoughtful and accomplished performer. His manner with clients and professional discipline panels alike is firm but fair, and he has obtained excellent results for clients.” – Chambers UK 2017

“He’s very intellectual, so he’s the one you go to for complex cases requiring detailed analytical legal skills.” – Chambers UK 2016

“His advocacy is well-judged and precise.” – Legal 500 2015

Professional Discipline

Andrew has specialised in Professional Discipline and Regulatory Law for the past ten years. He formerly prosecuted some of the GMC’s most serious and substantial cases (for example, he was entrusted with the presentation of the GMC’s 10-week case against a previous Chairman of the BMA) but now deploys his expertise in the defence of doctors, dentists and other healthcare professionals. He is regularly instructed in lengthy and complex Fitness to Practise cases.

He also acts for and advises regulators (for example, the GOC and the teaching regulator, the NCTL) and registrants in other professions, such as solicitors. He is currently instructed as lead counsel for the NCTL in the cases arising out of the ‘Trojan Horse’ enquiry into Birmingham Schools.

Andrew appears regularly in the High Court, on statutory appeals and judicial reviews and ancillary matters. He is well equipped for such work by his previous experience of appellate advocacy, up to the highest levels (Privy Council/ House of Lords) and his past history of practice in extradition.

Andrew also lectures and publishes articles on the subject of professional discipline and has provided training in the field to FTP Panelists, expert witnesses and other advocates.

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Notable Cases:

MPTS v Karim

Andrew successfully defended top robotic assisted urological surgeon Omer Karim. Mr Karim is acknowledged as an innovative leader in his field and was voted to be one of the top ten prostate cancer surgeons in the UK. He faced allegations of intimidating and threatening behaviour, dating back over four years and originating from a dispute within his NHS Trust, after Mr Karim was a whistle-blower to Monitor. All of those contested allegations were found not proved.

GDC v Kumar

Andrew appeared on behalf of the dentist.

He represented a leading Harley Street provider of Invisalign orthodontic treatment accused of misconduct by providing substandard treatment and misleading information. The dentist was cleared of the probity allegations and no impairment was found.

GMC v Dr Pandya

Andrew appeared on behalf of the doctor.

Allegation of misconduct by performing a cosmetic labia reduction with a result equivalent to female genital mutilation (FGM). After an extended hearing, the doctor was cleared and his fitness to practice found not impaired.

GMC v B

Andrew appeared on behalf of the doctor.

Representing a leading transplant surgeon accused of marking his initials on a patient's liver, Andrew persuaded the Interim Orders Panel to make no order in the face of a submission that he should be suspended. The novel urgent High Court application to terminate an immediate order for conditional registration and subsequent successful appeal against the finding of misconduct. allegation had attracted worldwide media attention.

Bhavsar v GDC

Andrew appeared on behalf of the dentist.

Novel urgent High Court application to terminate an immediate order for conditional registration and subsequent successful appeal against the finding of misconduct.

NCTL v West

Andrew appeared on behalf of the NCTL.

Presented the case against a teacher accused of telling a class that he was 'allergic to Mohammedans' and that all Muslims worshiped the devil. The case raised sensitive issues about freedom of expression as the teacher was a parliamentary candidate for the BNP. He has now been prohibited from teaching.

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Inquests & Public Inquiries

Andrew appears for medical professionals at inquests into the death of patients. He is currently instructed in the third inquest into the death of Carmel Bloom, after the first two inquests (in which he was not involved) were quashed by the High Court.

Accreditations



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Appointments & Memberships

- Association of Regulatory & Disciplinary Lawyers
- Health & Safety Lawyers Association
- South Eastern Circuit

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