

# Patrick Goodings MCI Arb

Call 2010

'Patrick is a great advocate. He builds very good rapport with clients: they feel he is fighting their corner.'

'Patrick is a confident and committed advocate - efficient and incisive. He is empathetic and very personable, with very sound judgement.'

**Legal 500**

## EXPERTISE

### Financial Remedy & International Family Law

The main focus of Patrick's practice is complex financial proceedings arising from relationship breakdown. He advises and represents clients with assets ranging from modest to substantial, including cases involving business structures, trusts, pensions, international property portfolios and cross-border income.

Patrick spent a year practising in Bermuda, where he worked on high-value and complex matrimonial finance matters, frequently involving offshore structures, trust arrangements and cross-border enforcement. That experience continues to inform his approach to international cases and those involving sophisticated asset structures.

He is regularly instructed in matters involving jurisdictional disputes (including forum challenges), asset tracing across multiple territories, and enforcement against international and offshore structures.

Patrick is particularly well regarded for his strategic handling of cases involving hidden assets, complex disclosure disputes and third-party interests, and for his robust yet pragmatic approach to disputed issues. He is equally recognised for his exceptional client care, combining clear, practical advice with calm, decisive advocacy during what are often the most difficult periods of a client's life.

### Financial & Related Specialisms

- Applications pursuant to section 25 Matrimonial Causes Act 1973
- Trusts, corporate & international asset structures
- Pensions (including international arrangements)
- Injunctions
- Forum non conveniens
- Mediation
- Arbitration
- Private FDRs
- Hidden assets & asset-tracing
- *Imerman* & unlawfully obtained evidence

### Private Law Children



## Expertise

Family - Finance & Property

Family - Public Law & Children

International & Offshore

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)

Arbitration

Administrative & Public Law

Patrick accepts instructions in cases involving the most serious and sensitive issues, including domestic abuse (emotional, physical and sexual), coercive and controlling behaviour, parental alienation, and high-conflict relocation disputes. He regularly appears in cases involving international and internal relocation, permanent removal applications, and complex jurisdictional conflicts.

He has considerable experience in Child Protection matters and an in-depth working knowledge of Local Authority processes, providing a significant strategic advantage where private law proceedings intersect with public law issues.

Patrick is particularly known for his measured, child-focused advocacy and exceptional client handling in the most emotionally charged and factually complex cases.

### Children & Related Specialisms

- Applications for Child Arrangement Orders
- Applications pursuant to s.91(14) CA 1989
- Specific Issue & Prohibited Steps Orders
- Applications involving PD12J & PD3AA
- Serious domestic abuse, alienating behaviours, sexual abuse & non-accidental injury
- Temporary & permanent removal from the jurisdiction
- Internal relocation
- Alienating Behaviours & 'Parental Alienation'
- Fact-Finding Hearings
- Child Abduction

### International Child Abduction

The focus of Patrick's LLM was international child abduction. He has been instructed in High Court proceedings under the Hague Convention and advises in cases involving both Hague and Non-Hague Convention countries.

His international experience, including offshore practice, equips him with a practical and strategic understanding of cross-border enforcement, jurisdictional disputes and urgent interim relief.

### Specialisms

- Child Abduction (including Hague Convention applications)
- Child Abduction Act 1984
- International family arbitration

### Arbitration

Patrick is a member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CI Arb) and is qualified to undertake Arbitrations and Written Determinations under both the Financial Scheme and the Children Scheme.

During his time practising in Bermuda, Patrick served as a Member of the CI Arb Branch Committee and was tasked with the development and roll-out of the Bermuda Family Arbitration Scheme. This work placed him at the forefront of embedding arbitration into mainstream family dispute resolution within the jurisdiction and further strengthened his expertise in international and offshore family arbitration.

## APPOINTMENTS

### Clerking team



**Steven Preen**  
Lead Family Clerk  
0191 232 1927



**Ken McLafferty**  
Family & Immigration Clerk  
0191 245 9531



**Paula McLure**  
Family Clerk  
0191 245 9530



**Erin May**  
Family & Court of Protection Clerk  
0191 245 9590



**Chris Gibbin**  
Criminal & Family Clerk  
01642 247 569



**Fiona Bullock**  
Direct Access Clerk  
01642 247 569

- IFLA Financial & Children Scheme Arbitrator

## MEMBERSHIPS

- Chartered Institute of Arbitrators
- North Eastern Circuit
- Family Law Bar Association

## PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

- Public Access Qualified

## LECTURES & SEMINARS

Patrick regularly delivers seminars and professional training on complex financial remedy, international family law, child abduction, arbitration and high-conflict children cases.

## EDUCATION & AWARDS

- LLB (Hons) – University of Leeds
- LLM (Advanced Legal Practice) – Northumbria University Law School
- BVC – Northumbria University Law School
- Shelford Scholar, Lincoln’s Inn



## What Others Say

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**Legal 500 2025**

"Patrick is a confident and committed advocate - efficient and incisive. He is empathetic and very personable, with very sound judgement."

**Legal 500 2023**

"Patrick has an excellent capacity for putting parties and witnesses at ease. He always strives to ensure that fairness is achieved for vulnerable parties. He always demonstrates willingness to go the extra mile for his clients and represents them fearlessly and with endless energy."

**Legal 500 2022**

"A highly skilled, level-headed advocate, who is approachable and well-prepared"

**Legal 500 2024**

## Notable Cases

### A Child (Application of PD12J) [2021] EWFC B59

Successful appeal of an order for an interim move of the children, citing, amongst other grounds of appeal, the lack of any application of Practice Direction 12 J by the Judge at the first instance.

### Re R (A Child) [2021] EWCA Civ 1019

Successful appeal in respect of a Judge's decision to rehabilitate a child to the Mother's care. The case affirmed the decision of McFarlane LJ in Re W [2017] 2 FLR 31.