



Julia Kendrick



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"Has a good business like approach" and is "a fine advocate."
(Chambers & Partners 2017)



Julia Kendrick specialises in criminal regulatory law, with particular expertise in health and safety, inquests, fire safety, consumer law, environmental law, food safety and road traffic offences. She acts for companies, directors and employees and is regularly instructed in health and safety prosecutions arising from fatal and other serious accidents.

Julia has experience of cases across a wide range of settings including work at height, construction and demolition, adequacy of medical treatment, residential care, fire safety, manufacturing and technology, waste management and recycling, quarrying, work with asbestos, gas and electrical safety, schools and road traffic accidents.

Criminal Regulatory & Environmental

Health & Safety

Julia regularly defends cases brought by the Health and Safety Executive and local authorities arising from fatal and other serious workplace accidents. She appears in the Crown Court and magistrates' courts all over the country, advises in conference with clients and undertakes site visits. She has experience of cases in a wide variety of settings including work at height, construction and demolition, medical treatment, residential care, fire safety, manufacturing and technology, waste management and recycling, quarrying, work with asbestos, gas and electrical safety, schools and road traffic accidents.

Regulatory & Consumer Law

Julia has experience of a wide range of regulatory and consumer work including food safety, fire safety, consumer protection, product safety, waste disposal, product labelling, trade descriptions and advertising, trademarking and building regulations. She is also instructed in inquests in this field, for example those arising out of incidents of food poisoning and Legionnaires' disease.



Driving Offences

Julia represents defendants accused of road traffic offences including offences of causing death by driving. She appears in the Crown Court and magistrates' courts and advises at all stages of the proceedings.

Selected Cases

Health & Safety

Recent cases include the following:

- Julia was led by John Cooper QC in a case where a young electrician was electrocuted on a construction site when the electrical system he was working on was switched on without workers being informed that it was going live. The prosecution discontinued the case against the director immediately after service of a defence case statement.
- She is currently representing the site supervisor of a derelict mill which was undergoing conversion to apartments. Allegations include that an untrained low paid migrant worker fell to his death from the roof due to a complete lack of edge protection and other safety precautions. Profit before safety is alleged.

http://www.lancashiretelegraph.co.uk/news/11414863.Three_men_are_to_stand_trial_over_the_death_of_a_man_who_fell_40ft_from_a_former_Blackburn_mill/?ref=mr

- Represented the owners of a farm where a farm worker carrying out repairs fell through a fragile barn roof. Precautions to ensure his safety had not been undertaken.
- Represented a company which manufactured fuel tanks for the aviation industry. A worker suffered paralysis due to significant burns suffered when he cleaned the inside of a fuel tank with flammable cleaning fluid which ignited due to the presence of a halogen lamp.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-lancashire-24726232>

- Represented the director of a plastic recycling plant where a worker suffered serious facial injuries including numerous jaw fractures from a plastic pipe being ejected while being cut using a band saw.
- Represented a company prosecuted for exposing a worker to reactive dyes at a factory where silk was dyed and woven. The worker suffer work-induced asthma. There was a failure to provide proper ventilation facilities and conduct regular lung function tests.

<http://www.healthandsafetyatwork.com/hswnoise/gainsborough-silk-weaving-health-surveillance>

- Represented a national printing company where an employee removed a guard on a printing press

- and suffered hand injuries when the rag he was holding was drawn into the rollers.
- Represented a company prosecuted for exposing workers to excessive noise causing noise-induced hearing loss. There was a failure to undertake regular hearing function tests.
 - Represented a company which was prosecuted for failing to provide edge protection or conduct an assessment of the risks involved when lifting floor boards above a large underground void. An employee suffered spinal injuries when he fell head first into the hole.
 - Represented a large London-based engineering company prosecuted for the widespread failure to provide edge protection and other breaches on a complex construction site where scaffolding was being continuously moved throughout works.

Regulatory & Consumer Law

- Ensured the acquittal at trial of the director of a large cash and carry store charged with 37 different counts relating to offering for sale inadequately labelled tobacco products.
- Represented a company accused of numerous breaches of the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 at its dye factory.
- Represented a company which instructed a subcontractor to remove asbestos from a block of flats without ensuring the sub-contractor held the necessary licence.
- Represented the owner of a pharmacy who was prosecuted for repeatedly failing to dispose of waste in the required manner.
- Represented a pay day loan provider was charged with using aggressive sales practices, inadequate consideration of affordability of loans and intimidating techniques for ensuring repayment. Many of the victims were considered to be vulnerable.
- Represented a restaurant that failed to follow food hygiene regulations and caused a significant outbreak of food poisoning.
- Representing a company appointed to undertake cleaning and temperature checks to avoid Legionella bacteria multiplying at a spa. A lady died after developing Legionnaires' disease.

Inquests & Public Inquiries

Julia is regularly instructed to represent companies, individuals and families at inquests. She has extensive experience of inquests, including those concerning accidents at work, deaths of care home residents, fatal road traffic accidents, inadequate medical care and fire safety.

Selected Cases

- Six-week Article 2 inquest into the deaths of two fire fighters in a blaze in a high rise block of flats. The case involved a large number of witnesses and complex expert evidence standard fire-fighting procedures had not been adhered to. Led by Mark Balysz, representing Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-hampshire-22126431>

- Represented the principal contractor and CDM coordinator at a week-long inquest into the deaths of four ground workers who died when a reinforced steel structure they were erecting collapsed. The

case involved complex technical arguments pertaining to potential design flaws by the structural engineer retained for the project.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-norfolk-26188751>

- Article 2 inquest into the death of a lady attending a leisure centre who died from internal bleeding having waited almost 3 hours for an ambulance to arrive.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/health/healthnews/9883139/Massage-therapist-collapses-and-dies-after-waiting-three-hours-for-paramedics.html>

- A week-long inquest into the death of a dementia patient who repeatedly escaped from his care home. Following his final escape he drowned in a river. Inadequate steps had been taken to deprive the patient of his liberty and ensure security at the home. Represented the care home.
- Represented a fire safety advisor at an inquest into the death of a woman in a high rise block of flats where the fire alarm and other fire safety features failed to function during a fire.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/law-and-order/10796082/Architect-died-after-entering-burning-building-to-save-fiance.html>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-south-east-wales-29213648>

- Death of a dementia patient who fell next to a radiator and sustained fatal burns from the hot pipes which had not been covered. Failure to administer insulin to patient may have contributed to fall. Represented the care home.
- Death of a worker who was lifted in the bucket of an excavator in order to undertake electrical work at height. The hydraulics failed causing the bucket to tip and two men fell 30 feet onto concrete, one suffering fatal injuries. A cherry picker should have been provided for the works. Representing a director of the company.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-19097906>

- Inquest into the death of a 17 year-old employee who was electrocuted when his head touched overhead power lines while using a cherry picker he had not been trained to use. Represented the employer.

http://www.oxfordmail.co.uk/news/11529319.Teen_electrocuted_by_power_line_working_at_boss__s_home/

- Death by self-immolation of a schizophrenic patient living in sheltered accommodation. Represented the provider of sheltered accommodation. The deceased had been known to be using illegal drugs and to be concerned about drug debts in the weeks prior to his death. Cannabis use had been identified as a potential trigger for deterioration of his condition.

- Represented a leading cardiologist who was alleged to have caused the death of a patient undergoing an angiogram by causing dissection of her artery with a catheter. After complex medical evidence from numerous specialists the coroner was persuaded that the dissection was spontaneous rather than iatrogenic.
- Inquest into the death of a man who aquaplaned and lost control of his car due to the presence of significant volumes of water on a dual carriageway. Other aquaplaning incidents had occurred at the same location both before and after this fatality. Represented the contractor responsible for ensuring the highway complied with safety standards.
- Death of a newborn baby due to rhesus disease resulting from a failure by a GP surgery to undertake appropriate maternal blood tests during pregnancy. Had blood tests been undertaken the mother would have been given medication which would have prevented the death. Representing GP surgery.
- Inquest into the death of a 13 year old girl hit by a car which was being pursued by the police. The case will involve detailed consideration of the police Tactical Pursuit and Containment protocols.

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk/2013/jan/08/court-police-chase-crash-death>

- Representing a national company appointed by a spa to undertake precautions against legionella. A customer died and her husband suffered serious health issues after contracting Legionnaires' disease at the spa. Inquest due to take place December 2014.
- Week long inquest into the death of an experienced scaffolder who fell from scaffolding that had not been erected in compliance with guidelines. The family of the deceased alleged sabotage by the owner of the property. Represented the owner of the property.
- An inquest into the death of a mother during childbirth due to vaginal tears causing excessive blood loss. An in depth investigation with many expert witnesses. Alleged failure of medical staff to recognise that the amount of blood lost by the mother should have been considered significant due to the small size of the mother. Acted for the husband.
- Acted for a mother whose baby was still-born due to a failure by health workers to recognise the baby's distress in utero. The mother had presented complaining of lack of foetal movement but only limited CTG scans were taken and not referred to a consultant. Emergency steps should have been taken to deliver the baby which would have survived had it been delivered two days earlier.
- Numerous inquests into deaths caused by falls at care homes. Issues explored at these inquests include: the adequacy of risk assessments, staff to patient ratios, training, use of pressure mats, administration of medication and the 1:1 supervision of high risk patients.
- Death of a 17 year-old cyclist hit by a lorry on a cycle path which crossed an access route into York Race Course. Inadequate signage and safety barriers played a role. Represented the local council.

http://www.yorkpress.co.uk/news/11495540.Questions_remain_over_death_of_Ruby_17_in_York/

- Represented a company which failed to undertake regular lung function tests and ensure ventilation equipment was working properly in a paint making factory. A worker died from lung fibrosis caused by long-term exposure to paint powder.
- Mesothelioma death of administrative worker who may have been exposed to asbestos in the course of her work for a local council. The council had removed significant amounts of asbestos from the buildings in which she worked. Her family allege she had access to areas containing old asbestos lagging around heating pipes before it was removed. Inquest due January 2015.
- Inquest into a death caused by carbon monoxide poisoning at residential premises where workmen had been carrying out works affecting the flue to the boiler. Inquest due February 2015.



Qualifications

- Harmsworth Entrance Exhibitioner, Middle Temple
- Queen Mother Scholar, Middle Temple
- CPE (City)
- BA (Oxon)

Memberships

- Health and Safety Lawyers Association (HSLA)

Recommendations

"Brilliant on her feet, really capable and fantastic in the courtroom; she gets a really good handle on cases and knows how to pitch them."

Chambers & Partners, 2020

"Excellent with clients, has a good manner in court and is on top of all the instructions."

Chambers & Partners, 2018