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Natasha is a partner in our trust, estate and inheritance disputes team.

She advises on a wide range of trust and succession disputes both onshore and offshore, including trustee/beneficiary disputes, replacement of fiduciaries, variations of trusts, will validity disputes and claims under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependents) Act 1975. She also advises on professional negligence in the context of estate planning and trust administration.

She advises on Court of Protection matters, including statutory wills, lifetime gifts, contested registrations and Powers of Attorney.

She works in non-contentious situations stress-testing trust structures in light of changes in law and/or changes in family situations.

Natasha has contributed to the past two editions of The Law Society's Probate Practitioner's Handbook, writing on claims under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependents) Act 1975. She also contributed to the most recent edition of Jordan's International Trust and Divorce Litigation.

Track record

UHNW Lasting Power of Attorney and welfare dispute

Withers acted for the well-known businessman Gopichand Parmanand ('GP') Hinduja and his siblings in Court of Protection proceedings concerning the health, welfare, property and affairs of his brother, Srichand Parmanand Hinduja. It is believed to have been amongst the longest-running and most complex Court of Protection disputes, spanning over twenty hearings on a wide range of issues. In August 2022, Mr Justice Hayden delivered two judgments ([here](#) and [here](#)) lifting all reporting restrictions, but at the Court of Appeal GP argued successfully that some restrictions should remain in place to preserve his brother's privacy. The Withers team was led by Stephen Richards and included Natasha Stourton, Richard Walker, Alexandra Dix and Rosalind Russell. Read the Court of Appeal's judgment [here](#).

Lasting Power of Attorney

Assisted a daughter and grand-daughter in defending accusations of wrongdoing in an application to revoke a Lasting Power of Attorney in their favour, and securing the appointment of a chosen family member alongside the Panel Deputy.

Successfully replacing executors with an independent professional

Assisted a widow in *Goodman v Goodman*, reported at [2013] 3 WLR 1551, in successfully removing the executors of her late husband's estate in favour of her chosen professional. [Click here](#) to view article.

Recovery of lifetime transfers

Assisted two siblings in *Burgess v Hawes*, reported at [2012] WTLR 423, to successfully overturn a purported will of their late mother's and secure recovery of lifetime transfers made to their sister and her immediate family. [Click here](#) view our briefing or visit the Daily Telegraph [article](#) And again assisting them to successfully defend an appeal to the Court of Appeal, reported at [2013] EWCA Civ 94. [Click here](#) to view our briefing.

Charities and English immovable property

Assisted nine UK charities in *Clark v World Wildlife Fund and others*, reported at [2011] WTLR 961, to successfully argue that English law governs the validity of a will dealing with English immovable property (thus confirming the rule in Dicey for the first time).

Talks

- '[Withers talks: cryptocurrency | Ep 8 - Trusts issues with cryptocurrency - a European perspective](#),' Withers podcast - May 6, 2021, speaker
- *Probate Update*, LexisNexis webinar - April 2016

External publications

'*Claims under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependents) Act 1975*', the Law Society's Probate Practitioners Handbook (7th Edition)

Probate Disputes and Remedies (3rd Edition), Jordan's, contributor

Strength of Will, Law Society's PS Magazine (Issue 105 May 2013), co-author

A Matter of Record, Private Client Adviser (April 2013), co-author

The Court of Protection, Charities and the Evolution of Best Interests, Elder Law Journal (Vol 2 Issue 3 2012), co-author

Admissions

England and Wales, 2009

Education

Bristol University, BSc Economics

BBP London, GDL and LPC

Languages

English

Memberships

Association of Contentious Trust and Probate Specialists

Charity Law Association

Key dates

Year joined: 2007

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