

Chambers 100 List

10th December 2013

Congratulations to Charles Hale & Justine Johnston who have both made the Chambers 100 List.

The Chambers Bar 100 ranks the top barristers practising at the Bar of England and Wales. To be shortlisted, these barristers must be ranked in Bands One or Two or as 'Star Individuals' in a key area of law in The Chambers UK Bar Guide.

The Chambers 100: UK Bar is drawn from those barristers ranked in the top bands of *Chambers UK Bar*. Chambers & Partners then scrutinise and assess all the information they hold on this pool of barristers to produce their shortlist. Their editors and researchers then carry out further investigation into the shortlisted candidates by asking clients and instructing solicitors for their views. On the basis of this additional research They compile the final 100 ranking

The Editorial says:

Charles Hale is a family practitioner who is a master at both matrimonial finance and children related cases. He is regularly instructed by leading London and national solicitors and has handled cases of the utmost complexity and sensitivity such as *A, B and C (2012)*, a matter concerning the relationship of a gay birth father to a child of lesbian mothers. Other recent matters of note include *Re T (Children)*, which raised a very significant point in respect of costs in children proceedings involving local authorities. "A very smooth operator with clients, he shows an empathy and understanding of their emotional issues which is second to none. Clients are made to feel that he is really part of the fight."

Although highly proficient in matrimonial finance work, **Justine Johnston** is best known for her work in the children law world. She handles Schedule 1 Children Act 1989 cases and complex private law children matters concerning residence and contact. Her practice is international in scope as illustrated by a recent matter she undertook where she appeared on behalf of a mother seeking to permanently remove a then 12-month-old boy to Russia. She also recently appeared on behalf of the appellant in three separate Court of Appeal hearings concerning a complex international financial dispute for a husband disputing financial orders made in this jurisdiction after a foreign divorce. "Justine provides an exceptionally skilled all round service at the very highest level. Her exceptional practical and pragmatic approach ensures that the client is fully prepared at all times and is always strategically well positioned."