

Michael Sheville

Partner



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Michael Sheville obtained his Law degree at the University of Hull, graduating in 1991, before successfully completing the Law Society Finals at the Guildford Law School in 1992.

Michael subsequently joined the firm of Cohen & Naicker in Maida Vale to complete his two year training contract, qualifying as a solicitor in 1995.

Michael then moved to Aslam Heath Solicitors until November 1998 when he joined Prestons & Kerlys, a long established Essex firm.

Michael became a Partner in October 2000, specialising in Family Law but also undertaking general litigation and remained a Partner at Prestons & Kerlys until the merger of Pinney Talfourd and Preston & Kerlys in 2011.

Michael became a Partner with Pinney Talfourd LLP in October 2011 upon the merger of Pinney Talfourd LLP and Prestons & Kerlys. Michael now undertakes family work exclusively, specialising in financial remedy on divorce, financial remedy for unmarried couples, Domestic Violence and Children Act disputes.

EXPERTISE

Michael's expertise covers:

- High Net Worth Divorce
- Domestic Abuse
- Divorce
- Cohabitation Agreements

Upminster

54 Station Road, Upminster, Essex RM14 2TU
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Brentwood

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Leigh-on-Sea

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Canary Wharf

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- Civil Partnership Dissolution
- Children Act (application for parents)
- Children Act (application for grandparents)
- Separation Agreements
- Prenuptial / Pre-Civil Agreements
- Postnuptial / Post-Civil Agreements
- Mediation
- International Divorce
- Fixed Fee Family Services
- Finances Post Divorce

BADGES & AWARDS

Michael is a member of the Law Society Family Law Panel and a Resolution Accredited Specialist in financial remedy proceedings and Children Act proceedings.

Michael has been independently assessed by Legal 500 as a 'leading individual' every year for the past 6 years), including the 2022 guide. Over this period Legal 500 have observed that Michael:

- *"continues to provide an outstanding service to his clients"*.
- *"is outstanding' and 'highly skilled at helping in complicated financial matters' and 'impresses with his case management"; &*
- knows *"every trick in the book which might be perpetrated by an opponent"*

ON A PERSONAL NOTE

In his spare time, Michael likes to watch football, listen to rock, metal and blues music, spend time with his family and friends and spoil his children. Michael also likes to travel abroad with his family.

Areas of Expertise

Family

Michael's expertise covers a whole range of legal services including:

- High Net Worth Divorce
- Domestic Abuse
- Divorce
- Cohabitation Agreements
- Civil Partnership Dissolution
- Children Act (application for parents)
- Children Act (application for grandparents)
- Separation Agreements

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- Prenuptial / Pre-Civil Agreements
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Notable Family cases

Acting for a husband with assets of over £7 million and successfully persuading the court to ringfence approximately £1 million of assets owned by the husband before his marriage of over 25 years

Acting on behalf of a wife whose husband had been convicted and was imprisoned for various sexual offences against children. Successfully arguing that conduct should be a factor in proceedings, in the court's determination of the division of assets

Acting on behalf of a husband who had one third in a multi million pound international company, successfully negotiating a settlement prior to Final Hearing.

Acting on behalf of a mother on two occasions where there was an issue as to contact with her son who teenager, who refused to see his father for more than a few hours, every other week. Despite the Cafcass Officer advising that contact should be reduced and any forced contact would be detrimental to the child, the Family Court granted the father additional contact days. The child refused to comply and father issued enforcement proceedings. These were successfully re-butted and the Final Order made in accordance with Cafcass's recommendations which had previously been rejected by the court.

Thereafter acting for the same (above) mother approximately 18 months later when the father sought to extend contact once again; negotiating an agreed settlement.

Acting for father, successfully (at trial) resisting mother's application for permission to permanently move the children to Italy

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Acting on behalf of the father of a young child whose mother brought proceedings for financial remedy pursuant to Schedule 1 of the Children Act 1989. The matter was extremely acrimonious, primarily due to the mother's hostility towards the father, due to incidents that occurred over 5 years ago. Several weeks before the final hearing a negotiated settlement was achieved.

Acting on behalf of the mother of a young child whose father had been a professional footballer. Mother brought proceedings for financial remedy pursuant to Schedule 1 of the Children Act 1989. A negotiated settlement was achieved.

Michael has applied for and obtained many injunctions for clients who have been victim of domestic violence.

Michael has also applied for and obtained many injunctions (called Prohibited Steps Orders) relating to children whose other parent have threatened to abduct them, including one case where a 'Port Alert' was issued and the father stopped boarding a plane to Japan with his son, who had been unlawfully taken from his mother.

Memberships

- Resolution
- Law Society Family Law Panel
- Brentwood Housing Trust

Awards

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LEADING PARTNER	TOP TIER FIRM
Legal500	Legal500
UNITED KINGDOM	UNITED KINGDOM
2025	2025



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