

JUSTICE PRESS RELEASE

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Winners of the 2010 JUSTICE Human Rights Awards announced

An organisation dedicated to ending the government's use of immigration detention, a solicitor who waged a tireless campaign on behalf of an innocent man caught up in the War on Terror, and a junior barrister whose work on the Baha Mousa inquiry helped uncover the British army's shameful use of banned interrogation techniques in southern Iraq were the three winners of last night's JUSTICE Human Rights Awards.

The awards, held annually to recognise the outstanding contribution made by individuals and organisations to further the cause of human rights, were given out by Baroness Helena Kennedy QC, the Chair of JUSTICE's Council, in a ceremony in the London offices of Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP.

Roger Smith, the Director of JUSTICE, said:

At a time when the legal aid budget for human rights work is under greater financial pressure than ever before, it is important to realise how much our society needs tireless and dedicated advocates to defend the rights of the vulnerable. Without lawyers and campaigners such as our award winners and nominees, our society would be much the poorer.

The winners of the Human Rights Awards are as follows:

- **Human Rights Lawyer of the Year – Jules Carey of Tuckers Solicitors:**

*For unflagging energy and enthusiasm in demonstrating all the best qualities of a solicitor dedicated to innovative and difficult work in defence of civil liberties, most notably in *Lotfi Raissi v Secretary of State for Justice**

- **Human Rights Award – Bail for Immigration Detainees:**

*For its tireless work on behalf of some of the most vulnerable, marginalised and maligned sections of our community – from providing assistance to over 2,000 people held in immigration detention to the key Supreme Court cases *SK* and *WL**

- **Peter Duffy Award – Tessa Hetherington of Matrix Chambers:**

For playing an immensely important role in the hoped-for process of reforming the training and conduct of UK armed forces and interrogation personnel through her brilliant and extraordinarily hard work for the victims of the Baha Mousa Public Inquiry

The full list of nominees (winners in italics) is below:

Human Rights Lawyer of the Year

for solicitors, barristers, legal executives, trainees, pupils, legal academics and judges:

- *Jules Carey (Tuckers Solicitors)*
- Danny Friedman (Matrix Chambers)
- Philip Leach (London Metropolitan University)

Human Rights Award

for organisations and non-legal individuals:

- *Bail for Immigration Detainees*
- Reprieve
- UK Human Rights Blog

Peter Duffy Award (ages 35 and under)

for individuals (campaigners, lawyers, activists, academics etc) aged 35 or under:

- Tessa Gregory (Public Interest Lawyers)
- *Tessa Hetherington (Matrix Chambers)*
- Adam Weiss (AIRE Centre)

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Notes to editors

1. The JUSTICE Human Rights Awards are held each December to commemorate Human Rights Day. The awards aim to recognise and encourage individuals and organisations whose work is dedicated to protecting and promoting the rights of others.
2. This year's awards were judged by Stephen Grosz of Bindmans LLP, Alexandra Marks of Linklaters LLP, Jemima Stratford QC of Brick Court Chambers, and Eric Metcalfe, JUSTICE's director of human rights policy.