

Judicial Recusals 2025

DATE	COURT & TYPE OF ACTION	NAME OF JUDGE	CASE NAME & REF	MOTION BY	REASON
08/01/2025	Social Security Chamber	Kevin Drugan	FTS/SSC/AE/24/01827	Tribunal Member	Mr Drugan is a trustee of a Foundation that the Appellant in the case is employed by.
06/02/2025	Court of Session (Appeal)	Lord Armstrong	P814/24: Petition of Patrick Henry McAuley	Petitioner (Refused)	The petitioner moved for the recusal of Lord Armstrong following a single bill hearing in a related case (XA55/24: Patrick McAuley -v- The Scottish Legal Complaints Commission, application for leave to appeal) on the basis of "evidence of bigotry & racism". Lord Armstrong refused the motion to recuse himself; no such evidence has been placed before the court.
12/02/2025	Aberdeen Sheriff Court (Sequestrations)	Sheriff C McCrossan	Prosafe Offshore Ltd. v. Ronald/Alison Young	Ex proprio motu	The Sheriff knows both of the Sequestered parties in a non-professional context during her daily personal businesses and activities in her local area although otherwise has no
14/02/2025	Kilmarnock Sheriff Court (Family)	Sheriff George Jamieson	KIL-F399-23	Ex proprio motu	I have expressed the view this application should be dismissed but the pursuer wishes to continue with it. A different sheriff should now hear the case.
21/02/2025	Edinburgh Sheriff Court (Simple Procedure)	Sheriff Gill	EDI-SG1283-24 - John Wilson + others v Elizabeth Robertson	Claimant	On the day of the evidential hearing, the Court was advised by counsel for the claimant that Sheriff Gill previously worked with and managed the first claimant, Mr John Wilson.
01/04/2025	MHTS	Jane Patrick	MHTS/3/25/02/11082/S1012 B	Tribunal Member	Jane Patrick declined to act due to previous professional involvement with a participant.
04/04/2025	Dundee Sheriff Court (Criminal)	Sheriff Ralph	DN22001170	Ex proprio motu	The Sheriff had previously represented the accused as a defence solicitor prior to judicial appointment.
10/04/2025	Dunfermline Sheriff Court (Summary Criminal)	Sheriff Duff	PF Dunfermline v John Trainer	Peter Robertson, Solicitor for the accused (Refused)	Motion to recuse was made in the middle of a part heard trial. Sheriff refused.
28/04/2025	Inverness Sheriff Court (Summary Trial)	Sheriff Wilson	PF v Robbie Gordon Munro	Accused	The judicial office holder previously legally represented the complainer in the case when a criminal solicitor.
30/04/2025	Dundee Sheriff Court (Family)	Sheriff G Murray	DUN-F358-18	Ex proprio motu	Sheriff Murray has recused himself for any further dealings in this matter. The case has been ongoing since 2018 and the Sheriff now feels that any further order he pronounces may not be wholly impartial due to information previously disclosed in this case and his previous matters.
13/05/2025	MHTS	Dr Derek Palmer	MHTS/4/25/05/01060/S063	Tribunal Member	Previous involvement in care of patient.
12/05/2025	Dunfermline Sheriff Court (Summary Criminal)	Sheriff Duff	PF Dunfermline v Elizabeth Richardson	Miss Brown, Solicitor for the accused (Refused)	Elizabeth Richardson appeared for trial on 12 May 2025. Her solicitor, Miss Brown, invited the Sheriff to recuse herself on the basis that the Sheriff had been involved in providing a statement given to the police against Ms Richardson following an incident with another Sheriff. The statement related to that and that was the extent of Sheriff Duff's involvement. Miss Brown also argued that the Sheriff should recuse herself because she had found against Miss Richardson in a civil case. The Sheriff refused to recuse herself.
16/05/2025	Inverness Sheriff Court (Family)	Sheriff E MacDonald	INV-F241-17	Pursuer	Previous complaint made by pursuer against the presiding sheriff
09/06/2025	Court of Session (Personal Injury)	Lady Ross	COS-PD371-19	Defender	Prior to judicial appointment, Lady Ross met, in a professional capacity, a person who will be a witness at proof. Having made this information available to parties, and having considered the unopposed motion of the defender, and the written submissions for the defender, Lady Ross was satisfied that it was appropriate that she recuse herself and granted the motion.

10/06/2025	Dunoon Sheriff Court (Ordinary)	Sheriff Mundell	DNN-A27-22	Ex Proprio Motu/ Joint Motion	The pursuer in this case is a local agent who appears routinely at Dunoon Sheriff Court. The case is to be allocated to a 4 day proof and parties did not feel that it would be appropriate in these circumstances for Sheriff Mundell to preside over the case.
03/07/2025	Glasgow High court (NSCU)	Lord Matthews	IND/2024-2899	Ex proprio motu	The accused's father is known to the judge who dealt with the plea.
03/07/2025	Selkirk Sheriff Court (Ordinary)	Sheriff Paterson	SEL-A36-25 John Halley v Emma O'Meara or Clark and Graeme Johnson Clark	Ex proprio motu	Sheriff unable to deal with the case due to knowledge of the parties.
08/07/2025	Inverness Sheriff Court (FAI)	Sheriff Matheson	INV-B69-25	Ex proprio motu	Sheriff has a personal connection to a witness to the inquiry.
05/08/2025	Sheriff Appeal Court (Appeal)	Sheriff Principal Wade	DUN-A238-20	Appellant (Refused)	Recusal sought due to perceived partiality on the part of the judicial office holder. Motion was refused following an opposed motion hearing.
06/08/2025	MHTS	Agnete Wolff	MHTS/2/25/06/02893/S063	Tribunal Member	The patient appealed the previous order, and is opposing this application. He has produced a statement with attachments to support his position, including a copy of a partial email from a previous solicitor from July 2023. The solicitor is my husband who retired in September 2023 and who briefly acted for the patient. The patient could be upset to learn of this connection, and object to my involvement, thus causing further adjournment, which is not to his benefit
14/08/2026	Falkirk Sheriff Court	Sheriff Labaki	FA24003265	Ex proprio motu	Previous dealings with civil case when sitting as a Sheriff in Kirkcaldy.
16/09/2025	MHTS	Eric Baijal	04712- Adult P	Tribunal Member	Adult known to close relation of Tribunal Member
24/09/2025	Glasgow Sheriff Court (Summary Trial)	Sheriff McConnell	GLW2025004486	Joint Motion	Sheriff knows a defence witness in the trial
20/10/2025	Edinburgh Sheriff Court (Summary Trial)	Summary Sheriff Gill	ED24006061	Joint Motion	The summary sheriff previously worked with and was the manager of the complainer.
29/09/2025	Sheriff Appeal Court (Appeals)	Sheriff Principal Wade	DUN-B310-22	Appellant (Refused)	Recusal sought due to perceived judicial bias and procedural unfairness on the part of the judicial office holder. Motion was refused.
31/10/2025	Dundee Sheriff Court (Summary Criminal)	Sheriff G Way	DUN-2025-001711	Ex proprio motu	The Sheriff expressed and knowledge and opinion on the productions (weapon) named in the charge
30/10/2025	MHTS	Dr Derek E Palmer	MHTS/4/25/10/07406/S063	Tribunal Member	Prior involvement in care and treatment of patient.
07/11/2025	Wick Sheriff Court	Sheiff Wilson	WCK-A10-24	Ex proprio motu	Sheriff Wilson recused himself due to the possibility of perceived bias.
08/12/2025	MHTS	Dr Eleanor Brewster	MHTS/3/25/10/07337/S1012b	Tribunal Member	I supervise the RMO in this case in another employment.
09/12/2025	Aberdeen Sheriff Court (Summary Trial)	Sheriff Robert Vaughan	WE25000134	Defence	Sheriff recused due to their engagement in a monthly subscription to a service, which bears some relation to the aforementioned case.