



## **Matthew Bainbridge**

Call: 2011

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Matthew prosecutes and defends in the Crown Court and has experience of appearing in the High Court. He specialises in criminal law and frequently acts in a range of POCA, civil and regulatory proceedings.

Matthew is often instructed by prosecution agencies such as HMRC, the Environment Agency and local authorities and has successfully represented defendants against a wide range of criminal allegations, including attempted murder.

Before joining Red Lion Chambers in 2015, Matthew worked for a busy criminal law firm and acted for one of the defence teams in the Operation Opaque case (£150 million conspiracy to produce cannabis).

### **Crime**

#### **General Crime**

Matthew prosecutes and defends in serious criminal cases, including those involving allegations of conspiracy and violence.

Examples of Matthew's work since joining Red Lion Chambers:

- R v L & Others - Defended alone in a four-handed attempted murder. L was alleged to have been involved in a stabbing to the throat which severed an artery and caused substantial blood loss. He was acquitted following a three-week trial
- R v V & E - Represented the first defendant who was accused of wounding one man and attempting to wound another with intent to cause them GBH. He was acquitted
- R v W - Defended a man accused of wounding with intent to cause GBH. W was alleged to have stabbed another in the face as part of a revenge attack. He was acquitted
- R v A - Represented a carer accused of ill-treating a resident with advanced cerebral palsy at a care home. A was acquitted
- R v H-S & S - Defended in a two-handed armed robbery. H-S had been working as an escort and

was accused of robbing one of her clients. She was acquitted

## **Driving Offences**

Matthew has experience of defending individuals across the full range of motoring offences. His previous cases include acquittals and successful special reasons/exceptional hardship arguments arising from allegations of driving without insurance, speeding and use of a mobile phone.

## **Fraud and Financial Crime**

Matthew has advised on and appeared in numerous cases involving allegations of fraud and financial crime.

Examples of Matthew's work since joining Red Lion Chambers:

- R v Y & Others – Defended (as led junior) an individual accused of conspiracy to launder £11m through an MSB;
- R v A & Others – Defended (as led junior) an individual accused of conspiracy to defraud multiple banks and their customers of over £10m;
- R v R & Others – Defended one of three individuals accused of conspiracy to defraud Barclays Bank;
- R v B - Defended an individual accused of credit card fraud against John Lewis and various hotel chains in London.

Matthew recently assisted HMRC with a large-scale prosecution of a multi-million pound tax avoidance scheme. Prior to that he worked with the FCA's enforcement team on a cross-border investigation into alleged breaches of the Money Laundering Regulations 2007.

## **Regulatory & Professional Discipline**

### **Criminal Regulatory**

Matthew prosecutes and defends individuals and corporate bodies in criminal regulatory proceedings.

Examples of Matthew's work since joining Red Lion Chambers:

- EA v LA & Others - Disclosure counsel for the Environment Agency in a large-scale prosecution of two waste-disposal companies and their directors
- SMDC v S - Prosecuted multiple breaches of a local authority enforcement notice in a case involving complex issues of planning and bankruptcy law. S was convicted

### **Non-criminal Regulatory**

Matthew represents applicants and respondents in non-criminal regulatory proceedings.

Examples of Matthew's work since joining Red Lion Chambers:

- HMRC v RE - Represented HMRC in forfeiture proceedings concerning the prohibited use of "red diesel" in road vehicles. The case settled following negotiations between the parties
- Metropolitan Police v CN - Acted for the respondent business in contested closure order proceedings. Following legal argument on the relationship between newly-enacted legislation and Article 8 ECHR, a closure order was made for substantially less time than the applicant had requested

## **Judicial Review & Civil**

Matthew represents claimants and defendants in judicial review and other civil proceedings.

His work since joining Red Lion Chambers has included a judicial review of the court and the police for exercising their cash detention powers in breach of Article 3 ECHR. The High Court made a declaration in the applicant's favour and remitted the case to the magistrates' court. Following a further contested hearing, the court ordered a substantial release of funds to the applicant.

Matthew has assisted government departments such as the Home Office and the MOD with contested civil matters, including unlawful detention claims and a multi-million pound professional negligence dispute.

Matthew was also involved in the following cases before joining Red Lion Chambers:

- C v Metropolitan Police - Represented the claimant in a civil action against the police relating to the retention of a vehicle in criminal proceedings
- RG & AG v Metropolitan Police - Acted for the claimants in a multi-track civil action against the police and related criminal proceedings. The civil action settled following the claimants' acquittal in the criminal case

## **Education**

BPTC: BPP Law School

LLB (Hons.): University of Liverpool

## **Memberships**

Criminal Bar Association

Inner Temple

South Eastern Circuit