



## **Edmund Vickers QC**

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Ed Vickers is ranked as a Leading Silk and is described as having 'a first class legal mind allied to a very charming and persuasive style' (Legal 500 2019). As a leading criminal barrister, he is instructed in the most serious criminal cases at Crown Court, High Court and Appellate level.

Ed regularly defends in murder and organised crime cases but his skills in cross examination, dealing with experts and analysing detail has led in Silk to a growing white collar crime practice (complex fraud, money laundering and cases before the tax tribunal). Ed is regularly asked to advise companies and individuals involved in business, tax and complex fraud investigations and to advise at an early stage on strategic decisions involving matters such as voluntary disclosure, Legal Professional Privilege and confidentiality.

Ed has appeared in many high profile cases particularly at the Old Bailey (murder and organised crime) and Southwark Crown Court (London's fraud trial centre), and has enjoyed success in cases as diverse as defending protesters storming the House of Commons, prosecuting the police in the Tuition Fees riot in Parliament Sq, and successfully defending in the UK's first FGM trial. With over 25 years' experience of forensic advocacy both defending and prosecuting, Ed is instructed by a wide range of firms of City and High Street solicitors and prosecuting authorities.

Ed is a lead advocacy trainer for the Inns of Court College of Advocacy and is a member of the Scholarship panel at the Hon Soc Middle Temple. He is a Trustee of the Kalisher Trust, a charity that encourages and supports students from non-traditional backgrounds to go on to higher education and pursue a career in the Law, promoting greater diversity throughout the criminal justice system.

### **Crime**

#### **Homicide & Violent Crime**

Ed gained great experience being led as a junior in some of the most serious homicide cases (Jamaican 'yardie' executions; gang-related murders and matricide). That experience developed as a leading or sole junior in subsequent murder and other trials which included organised criminal gang

related violence, armed robberies, prison mutiny and numerous cases involving stabbing, GBH and kidnapping.

Recent cases include:

- **R v W and others (2017)** Successful defence of a gang/drugs related murder
- **R v M (2015)** Care-worker accused of mentally and psychologically abusing 90yr old patient with Alzheimer's.
- **R v L (2016)** Successful defence of a murder in HMP Coldingley.
- **R v O and others (2015)** Conspiracy by police officers to pervert the course of justice following assault on political protester in Parliament Square.
- **R v Gashi (2014)** Pimlico Gang Murder/perverting the course of justice.
- **R v Farrell (2013)** Successful defence of Islington Gang Murder/conspiracy to cause GBH by gang armed with knives.

Earlier cases include:

- **R v Captao** The Aylesbury YOI prison mutiny.
- **R v H and others** Successful prosecution gang of youths armed with various weapons and a dog, committing robberies on Wandsworth Common.
- **R v Ford and Stewart** Conspiracy to commit armed robberies.

## **Sexual Offences and Trafficking**

Ed is often instructed in the most serious sexual offence cases, including 'date rapes', paedophilia and incest. He is a specialist in cases involving vulnerable witnesses, especially those with learning or mental health difficulties and is a lead advocacy trainer for The Inns of Court College of Advocacy and the Middle Temple.

- **R v T (2016)** Prosecution of historical sex abuse by former football coach
- **R v D and H (2015)** Successfully defended in first FGM trial in the UK.
- **R v A (2015)** Successfully defended in human trafficking case in which woman accused of trying to smuggle a 10yr old girl into the country.
- **R v Broughton (2015)** Successfully prosecuted a serial sex offender for 23 offences of rape and child abuse committed against eight victims (including family members) over 30 years.
- **R v Jolly (2013)** Old Bailey Internet paedophile making arrangements for child abuse.
- **R v A Williams (2012)** Oxford CC Deputy head teacher accused of grooming underage male pupil for sex.
- **R v S (2010)** Blackfriars CC Hospital care assistant accused of raping and abusing patients with MS and muscular dystrophy. Earlier cases include
- **R v RC Lewes CC** Grandfather accused of raping granddaughter.
- **R v A Wood Green CC** Father accused of raping daughter.

- **Organised Crime**

Ed has been instructed in a series of high profile organised crime cases, including the Heathrow armed robbery.

- **R v Rees and Others (2016)** Successfully defended in 12-handed conspiracy to supply Class A drugs in the Midlands and West Yorkshire.
- **R v Walsh and others (2015)** Successfully prosecuted 5 defendants in a large scale conspiracy to supply firearms to the criminal underworld in South London.
- **R v Nesbitt and others (2013)** Series of armed robberies of bookmakers.
- **R v William and others (2012)** Successfully defended in large scale conspiracy to launder drugs money.
- **R v Sascau (2013)** Conspiracy to steal copper wiring from railways/London Underground by Eastern European gangs.
- **R v Twomey (2012)** £1.75m armed robbery of secure currency warehouse at Heathrow Airport.

## **Fraud & Corporate Crime**

Ed is regularly instructed in complex fraud cases, where focussed preparation, the martialling of material and detailed analysis of the central issues are critical.

- **R v C and Others (2017)** Successfully led for prosecution in £1.2 million EU grants fraud administered by the Home Office.
- **R v D and Others (2016)** Successfully led for prosecution in 7-handed 10 million pound money laundering case.
- **R v Steadman and Others (2015)** £500k advance fees fraud in mobile phone industry.
- **R v Ozhan (2015)** Abuse of trust fraud by carer who persuaded two clients to make her their main beneficiary in their wills, whilst systematically stealing from their accounts.
- **R v NP (2015)** sophisticated £200k art fraud in which pictures by Warhol, Kitaj and Munch were allegedly copied and sold at auction.
- **R v Fahad (2015)** Identity fraud involving the setting up of false bank accounts by bank employee.
- **R v GP (2014)** £5 million business rates fraud by council employee.
- **R v Barker (2012)** £300,000 fees fraud by insurance broker.

In 2014/15 Ed was privately instructed to prosecute numerous trademark fraud cases at the Magistrates Court.

## **Proceeds of Crime (POCA)**

Ed has vast experience in money laundering and confiscation cases and is particularly familiar with its

complexities.

- **R v D and Others (2016)** Led for the prosecution in 7-handed £10 million pound money laundering case.
- **R v William and others (2012)** Large scale conspiracy to launder millions of pounds of drugs money and mortgage fraud.
- **R v McK (2010)** Money laundering profits from internet 'escort agencies'.
- **HMRC v K & K (2010)** Money lenders and money bureau fraud - conspiracy to launder millions of pounds through MSBs.
- **R v Mazambi (2010)** £500,000 fraud against charities such as Comic Relief and Children in Need.
- **R v Salloum and Shariff** (Led by 2 QCs) High-profile London City Bond cases, involving massive scale money laundering.

## **Terrorism**

Ed has some experience in this field having appeared in cases of international arms dealing and money laundering linked to terrorism. For further information please contact Mark Bennett, Practice Manager.

## **Professional Disciplinary & Regulatory**

Ed's years' of experience in fraud cases, his track record in cross-examining experts, forensic accountants, fraud investigators and auditors and other experts, together with his ability to identify central issues and solutions allow him to bring invaluable skills to such cases.

He is available for instruction in:

- Appeals before the Tax Tribunal. He has and has taken appeals to the First Tier and Upper Tier Tribunals and the Court of Appeal.
- Regulatory/disciplinary tribunals.
- Financial Services Regulation
- Fire Safety.

Cases include:

- **Atlantic Electronics Ltd v Commissioners for HMRC (2013/14)** £1.2m VAT Appeal
- **Refill Ink Centre Ltd v Commissioners for HMRC (2013/14)** £8.9m VAT Appeal.
- **NB v General Pharmaceutical Council (2013)**

## **Inquiries & Appellate Work**

Ed has extensive experience advising in appeals to the Court of Appeal. He also advises, pro bono, in

capital and non-capital murder cases for death row prisoners seeking to appeal from the West Indies to the Privy Council. Relevant cases include:

- **R v Fellows (2013)** Appeal against conviction involving contempt of court by juror. The case involved an exhaustive enquiry by the Criminal Cases Review Commission, after a successful application to the Lord Chief Justice.
- **R v Turner** Court overturned conviction based on alleged cell confession.

Ed is available for instruction in public inquiry work and Coroners' inquests. His experience in treasure trove cases and knowledge of cross examining of experts and vulnerable witnesses, is well suited to public enquiry work. Moreover, his negotiations with government ministers and civil servants on behalf of the criminal Bar and his involvement in preparing CBA responses to government consultations has provided him with an invaluable insight into examining and challenging government decision-making.

## **Publications, Lectures and Training**

### **Lectures/Presentations**

- 2015 Presentation to DPP of Nigeria and counter-terrorism prosecutors re Rule of Law/Human Rights/Codes of Conduct
- 2015 Lead facilitator at UN conference on counter-terrorism investigations and prosecutions in Nigeria
- Trainer re handling vulnerable witnesses for Advocacy Training Council/Inns of Court College of Advocacy
- Advocacy Trainer for The Advocacy Training Council/Inns of Court College of Advocacy
- Advocacy Trainer for Middle Temple
- Scholarship Panel for Middle Temple

### **Publications**

Articles published in Counsel Magazine, Criminal Bar Quarterly and The Solicitors' Journal.

### **Memberships**

Criminal Bar Association

South Eastern Circuit

Trustee and Treasurer of The Kalisher Trust - A legal charity established to encourage students from non-traditional backgrounds to develop advocacy skills and to assist them pursue a career in criminal law.