



Max Hill QC

Silk: 2008 Call: 1987



Max Hill QC, Head of Red Lion Chambers is a "Top-league criminal silk". He is the current leader of the South Eastern Circuit and was chair of the Criminal Bar Association in 2011-12. His case portfolio and his high level appointments evidence his high standing within the Bar.

Max is an effective multitalented barrister who maintains a heavy-weight crime practice, defending and prosecuting in a number of complex cases of homicide, violent crime, terrorism and high value fraud and corporate crime. He also has extensive advisory experience both nationally and internationally.

Max has built his reputation prosecuting in many of the most significant terrorism trials of the past decade. To name just a few he was instructed in the last IRA case in the UK, a series of Al Qaeda and then ISIS terrorist trials from 2004 to date and all three trials resulting from the '21/7' plot. His homicide, fraud and corporate crime cases are equally impressive. He successfully represented one of the core traders of the Forex market, successfully defended Norton Healthcare Limited ('Operation Holbein') who were investigated for seven years by the Serious Fraud Office (SFO) and successfully prosecuted for the killing of Damilola Taylor.

Max Hill is a very methodical, precise and thorough advocate, who is very persuasive and therefore able to provide a complete package to all clients. He is both approachable and forward-thinking and respected for being a "compelling, extraordinarily logical and appealing advocate".

Crime

Fraud & Proceeds of Crime (POCA)
R v Webb and Simpson (2000)

Defending with Anthony Arlidge QC. An extraction fraud which went to the Court of Appeal when the Attorney General argued that non-custodial sentences were unduly lenient notwithstanding that the trial judge gave an indication during the trial. In addition to being

Anthony Arlidge QC's junior in this case, he acted alone in representing the third defendant who was acquitted following a submission of no case after three months of trial.

Homicide

Max has appeared in a number of significant homicide trials (Murder and Manslaughter), for the defence and prosecution in equal measure.

His past cases at the Central Criminal Court include the successful second prosecution for the killing of Damilola Taylor, R v Preddie and Preddie, in which he was first junior prosecution counsel.

R v Long (2015) - Prosecuting a former Metropolitan Police Firearms officer for Murder in relation to the fatal shooting of Azelle Rodney.

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/jun/10/azelle-rodney-met-police-officer-fired-eight-shots-at-close-range-court-told>

R v Jones and others (2015) - Defending one of seven young men charged with Double Murder in a drugs-related homicide in East London.

R v B**** (2012) - Defending the lead defendant in a 4-handed murder trial. The four were doormen accused of manslaughter following an altercation with a customer at a nightclub in Southend. The deceased had died while being restrained. Evidence was heard from numerous eye-witnesses, club staff and management, CCTV footage, pathologists, neuro-pathologists, security experts, restraint experts and police officers. All four were acquitted.

R v (Dagauzu) Ali (2012) - Prosecuting for the murder of a young man on the Old Kent Road motivated by minor rivalry relating to the ownership and sale of cars. The leading defendant and person in direct dispute with the victim was convicted and sentenced to life with a minimum tariff of 25 years.

Terrorism

Max has built a reputation as a true leader in his field, appearing in a number of high profile terrorism cases.

Max was instructed in the last IRA prosecution in this country, R v Hulme and others. The Real IRA mainland campaign of 2001 included bomb detonations at the BBC premises in White City, together with a very large bomb at Ealing Broadway and a third detonation at Birmingham Smallbrook. The trial took place over several months in 2003, and culminated in the conviction of all five members of the terrorist cell.

Thereafter, he was continuously instructed for the prosecution, first as junior counsel then, as leading junior and now as QC, in a series of Al Qaeda and then ISIS terrorist trials from 2004 to date. These include the so-called 'Ricin Conspiracy' trial R v Bourgass and others, concerning the discovery of poison recipes and ingredients in north London, terrorism trials involving Syria (R v Tabbakh, Birmingham Crown Court 2008), Baluchistan (R v Baluch and Marri, Woolwich Crown Court 2008-9), Somalia (R v Mohamed and Yusuf, Kingston Crown Court 2009) and one of the most significant terrorist publications case to date (R v Faraz, Kingston Crown Court 2011), as well as all three trials resulting from the '21/7' plot by suicide bombers to detonate bombs on London transport two weeks after the carnage of '7/7'. These trials lasted a total of 16 months during 2007-8, and resulted in the conviction of sixteen defendants. Max was appointed QC in the middle of the third trial. His second junior in the second and third trials was Emma Gargitter, also of Red Lion Chambers.

R v Abdallah and Gray (2016) - Prosecuting a Birmingham-based plot to send fighters, firearms and cash to Syria.

R v Khan and Khan (2016) - Prosecuting a Luton-based plot to behead US servicemen in East Anglia, as well as intended travel to join so-called Islamic State in Syria.

R v Alshayeb (2015) - Terrorism trial involving military files in the possession of a Bahraini activist resident in London.

R v Iqbal and others (2012-2013) - Leading counsel (Duncan Atkinson and Carys Owen) Section 5 preparation and training case, the 'Luton group'. Before Wilkie J, Guilty pleas March 2013.

R v Faraz (2011) - Leading Counsel (Duncan Atkinson, opposite Joel Bennathan QC). Section 2 TA terrorist publications. Before Calvert-Smith J, and Pitchford LJ on appeal.

R v Ahmed and Mohammed (2009) - Leading Counsel (Alison Morgan). Al Shabaab funding and support. Before Mackay J and (retrial) the Recorder of London (HHJ Beaumont QC).

R v Baluch and Marri (2008-2009) - Leading counsel (Kate Wilkinson, opposite Henry Blaxland QC and Baroness Kennedy). Baluchistan Liberation Army funding and support. Before Henriques J.

R v Tabbakh (2008) - QC alone (opposite Rajiv Menon QC). Section 5 TA bomb-maker. Before Hughes LJ on appeal.

R v Girma and others (2008) - Leading counsel (Alison Morgan and Emma Gargitter). The final 21/7 trial. Before HHJ Worsley QC at the Central Criminal Court.

R v Ali and others (2007-2008) - Leading Junior (Alison Morgan and Emma Gargitter). The 21/7 assisters. Before HHJ Worsley QC at Kingston.

R v Ibrahim and others (2007) - First Junior (Nigel Sweeney QC). The 21 July 2005 Bombers. 6 month trial before Fulford J.

R v Bourgass and others (2004-2005) - Second Junior (Nigel Sweeney QC and Mark Dennis QC). The ricin conspiracy. 9 month trial before Penry-Davey J.

R v Hulme and others (2002-2003) - Second Junior (Orlando Pownall QC and Mark Heywood). The Real IRA mainland bombing campaign 2001; White City, Ealing Broadway, Birmingham Smallbrook.

Sexual Offences

R v Bryan (2014)

Defending a step-father accused of multiple rapes against his 6-year old step-daughter. The case reached the Court of Appeal as an Attorney-General's reference.

Inquiries & Appellate Work

Max Hill QC was lead counsel for the Metropolitan Police Service throughout the Coroner's Inquests into the London Bombings of 7 July 2005, before Hallett LJ.

Max regularly appears in the Court of Appeal Criminal Division:

R v Hartwell (2016) - Representing an Applicant before Treacy LJ in relation to both conviction and sentence in a Liverpool-based international drugs conspiracy.

R v T & C (2015) Court of Appeal Civil Division - Representing the CPS in an appeal from the Central Criminal Court via the Divisional Court concerning reporting restrictions for young defendants.

Fraud and Business Crime

Fraud & Business Crime

Max has continued to act for the defence in a number of significant fraud cases, including the pharmaceutical industry cartel case R v O'Neill and others (also known as the SFO's 'Operation Holbein'), in which he defended Norton Healthcare Limited for seven years since the SFO raids in 2002.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newstopics/lawreports/joshuarozenberg/3546193/Biggest-SFO-case-finally-collapses.html>

SFO FX investigation 2015-6 - Representing one of the core traders being investigated by the SFO in relation to the FX market which trades US\$ 5trillion per day. SFO eventually announced there would be no prosecution.

<http://www.theguardian.com/law/2016/mar/15/sfo-serious-fraud-office-foreign-exchange-inquiry-forex-rigging>

R v Mohiaddin (2014-5) - Tax fraud. Defending a consultant cardiologist charged with Cheating the Revenue.

R v O'Neill and others (2002-2008) - First defence junior (Peter Carter QC), for Norton Healthcare Limited in SFO 'Operation Holbein', the pharmaceutical cartel case. Before Pitchford J.

International Representation

In addition to criminal trial work, Max has been instructed by the Treasury Solicitor on behalf of the Government in proceedings relating to the detention of British nationals in Guantánamo, including the case of *Binyam Mohamed v Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs* (3) [2008] EWHC 2519 (Admin) [2008] WLR(D) 323.

His appearances on behalf of the Home Secretary in terrorism Control Order cases in the High Court include *SSHD v BB and BC* [2009] EWHC 2927 (Admin). In 2012 he advised the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in relation to the diplomatic immunity of foreign visitors to the London 2012 Olympic Games.

Recommendations

Top-league criminal silk, who was chair of the Criminal Bar Association in 2011-12. Described as a compelling, extraordinarily logical and appealing advocate, he often acts in terrorism and homicide cases.

Chambers UK 2014

"He is a very methodical, precise and thorough advocate, who is very persuasive."

Chambers UK 2014

In The Times List of 100 Most Influential Lawyers in Britain 2012.

Publications, Lectures and Training

Publications

2015 Urgent Interviews and the Concept of Oppression in Terrorist Cases. Investigating Terrorism, edited by John Pearce, Wiley Blackwell.

2014 The Stephen Lawrence Murder Twenty-One Years on. IILP Review, pp 148-154.

2013 Cell Site and the Judiciary, DVD

2013 Removing Dishonesty from the Cartel Offence. Lexis Nexis 11/3/13

2013 Social Media and Criminal Justice, Criminal Bar Quarterly Issue 4 2013

2012 The Stephen Lawrence Murder: 18 years on. Criminal Law and Justice Weekly Vol 176

No 45 at pp633 and 651

2007 A practitioners guide to terrorist trials, contributing editor

Lectures and Training

Max Hill QC is regularly invited to lecture at international events

Oman 2014 - Delivering a training programme to Omani Prosecutors on comparative counter-terrorism law and practice.

Trier 2016 - Lecturing for the European Judicial Training Network, meeting in Germany.

New York 2016. - A US-UK seminar on counter-terrorism co-sponsored by NYU and Texas University Law Schools.

Additional Information

Education

1986 BA Jurisprudence (Oxon)

Open Scholarship, St Peter's College Oxford.

Professional Appointments

2005- Crown Court Recorder

Authorised to sit at the Central Criminal Court

2012- Bencher, Middle Temple

2012- Present - Head of Red Lion Chambers

Memberships

2011-12 Chairman, Criminal Bar Association

2014-16 Leader, South Eastern Circuit

2014- Chairman, Kalisher Trust

Fellow, Royal Society of Arts

Patron, Scene & Heard Childrens' Charity

Languages

German and French (basic)