



MATHEW TURNER

YEAR OF CALL: 2003

EXPERTISE

Mathew undertakes criminal defence and prosecution work (Grade 3). He has been instructed in a wide range of cases, including: high value fraud and company offences; serious violence involving firearms; multi-handed conspiracy to supply Class A drugs; cash in transit robberies; kidnap, false imprisonment and threats to kill; indecent images and sexual assault; arson with intent to endanger life; and serious driving cases where death has been caused.

With a solid background in all aspects of trial advocacy, Mathew is an experienced, capable and effective advocate. He has drafted and appeared in successful appeals to both the High Court and the Court of Appeal.

Mathew has particular expertise and experience in restraint and confiscation matters and is on the CPS specialist Proceeds of Crime panel.

Mathew is committed to providing a dedicated and considered service. Whether acting in court or in an advisory capacity, he is careful to find thoughtful and pragmatic solutions and has particular concern for client care. He can be instructed on a Direct Access basis.

NOTABLE CASES

Firearms, Violence and Disorder

R v DO'B. Representing defendant acquitted after trial of possession of a firearm. Careful analysis of CCTV evidence played a critical role in the defence.

R v OO. Defending youth in custody accused of possession of a prohibited firearm, an offence subject to mandatory minimum sentence. Defendant was acquitted following legal argument.

R v RS. S18 GBH where defendant shot the victim at close range causing permanent blindness.

R v KF. Representing defendant accused of s18 and child cruelty in respect of her 8 year old son. Acquitted of s18 in absence after legal argument.

R v DS and ML. Representing defendant first on indictment charged with aggravated burglary and section 18 GBH. Both defendants acquitted after trial.

R v AM. Representing defendant in absence, charged with section 18 GBH. Defendant found not guilty after trial following detailed cross-examination of the OIC.

R v GS & Ors. Portsmouth Crown Court. Multi-handed section 18 GBH arising out of a mass brawl.

R v YB and Ors. Representing defendant charged with public order offence arising out of high profile protests in Luton Town Centre against a military march. Case received widespread media coverage. (See BBC News report here: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/8452616.stm>. See Guardian report here: <https://www.theguardian.com/uk/2010/jan/11/luton-guilty-soldiers-baby-killers>)

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Fraud and Money Laundering

R v DK & Ors. Currently instructed to represent the first defendant in confiscation proceedings arising out of a money laundering enterprise in excess of £30m.

R v MG, LTDM, DA, RG, MC, KKG and EDS. Led (prosecution) in 7 week trial at Inner London CC. Conspiracy to defraud and launder money. Defendants involved in setting up fraudulent bank accounts to deposit cheques stolen from the postal service, and the laundering of the proceeds through a complex web of fake companies with much of the money sent to Brazil. Approximately £1.05m laundered in this way. A subsidiary charge of conspiracy to defraud Brent Council of housing benefit totalling £285k. Acted as junior alone in subsequent contested confiscation proceedings over a total of 6 days, resulting in confiscation orders amounting to benefit of £2.75m and available assets in excess of £600k.

R v KC. Fraud in excess of £600k relating to the purchase and subsequent sale of multi-million pound commercial properties, evasion of VAT, and breach of a director's disqualification order. Included evidence obtained from Singapore.

R v HSS, KSS, SFH, GS, ASH, MSH, SA. Led (prosecution) in the restraint and confiscation proceedings arising out of a VAT carousel fraud. Resulted in confiscation orders being made in excess of £6m. The proceedings included contempt of court applications against two defendants for breaches of restraint orders by, inter alia, transferring large sums between bank accounts in India and Spain. (See Birmingham Mail report here: <https://www.birminghammail.co.uk/news/local-news/sutton-coldfield-vat-gang-ordered-1738314>)

R v MF & AH. Led in offence of money laundering, where Defendant laundered the proceeds of a crash for cash insurance scam totaling at least £500,000. Consequent confiscation proceedings acting as junior alone. (See BBC News report here: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-essex-26224212>)

R v MA. Prosecuted defendant convicted after 3 week trial of offences relating to sophisticated thefts of high value bespoke pedal cycles and their onward sale. Case presented digitally with expert cell site evidence and ANPR.

R v SS. VAT fraud of approximately £425,000.

R v CV and SV. Defrauding charity of approximately £900,000 whilst working as finance director. (See Daily Mail report here: <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-5510317/Financial-director-stole-1m-charity-fund-VIP-lifestyle.html>)

Drugs

R v AP. Representing defendant acquitted after trial of importation of 2kg of heroin.

R v JI & Ors. Representing only defendant to receive a non-custodial sentence, 4th on the indictment in an 8 handed conspiracy to supply Class A and Class B drugs. Close analysis of 50,000 pages of phone and probe evidence showed a lesser role.

R v DP and DP. Prosecuted both defendants in conspiracy to supply crystal meth and cocaine, along with other Class A and B drugs in a highly organised operation. Extensive phone evidence, texts and WhatsApp messages. 1st Defendant also dealt with for sex offences. (See Daily Telegraph report here: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/02/13/cancer-sufferer-jailed-11-years-starting-breaking-bad-drugs/>)

R v OC and HW. Prosecution of two defendants for importation of 1.6kg of cocaine from St Lucia. Live link evidence to Jamaica. NCA prosecution.

R v JM. Prosecuted student accused of supplying heroin, resulting in the death of one of the parties supplied. Rebuttal of abuse of process legal argument and application to dismiss led to plea.

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QUALIFICATIONS

BA (Hons) Exeter University – English & Drama
BA (Hons) Oxford University – Law
Direct access qualified

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Criminal Bar Association
Gray's Inn

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