**Markus Findlay – 15NBS Chambers Profile**

Year of call: 2018

Markus accepts instructions in criminal, extradition, regulatory, and public law matters. He prosecutes and defends in the Crown Court, Magistrates’ Court, and Youth Court.

Markus is known for his thoroughness and excellent client care. He has been commended by District Judges for his *“persuasive points under pressure of time”* and his *“focussed”* written submissions.

Before coming to the Bar, Markus worked at Advocate (formerly the Bar Pro Bono Unit). Here he worked on General Medical Council (GMC) cases with doctors facing allegations of manslaughter, drug trafficking, and serious sexual offences. He also worked on the first private prosecution under the Reserve Forces (Safeguard of Employment) Act 1985 and a child death inquest that led to the first prosecution of an NHS Trust for unsafe care and treatment.

Markus was also a paralegal with a Tier 1 London firm where he provided research and drafting support to senior partners in financial crime, extradition, and cross-border civil matters.

As a multilingual lawyer with training in diplomacy, Markus has a strong interest in international work. He was Junior Counsel in a People’s Tribunal concerning organ harvesting in China, for which he cross-examined a former Canadian Secretary of State. He also worked in research and advocacy roles at the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH) in Paris and the United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in Vienna.

Outside of his practice, he volunteers with the charity Bridging the Bar and the prison outreach team at his church.

**Testimonials:**

* *“From my perspective, it is a real bonus to be able to instruct someone who is not only bright and on top of all the legal issues, but is also keen, interested, enthusiastic and hard working.”* **Vivien Cochrane (Shearman Bowen)**
* *“He is very personable and easily gains the trust of clients*.” **Agnieszka Maria Biel (Gherson LLP)**
* *“Markus was brilliant… He was able to really pull it off, successfully making a submission of no case to answer. He was gracious and considerate with the client who was a vulnerable individual.”* **Delaney Igbo (Delaney & Co Solicitors Ltd)**
* *“clients… have described him as “brilliant in court”.”* **Melanie Cooke (Football Law Associates)**

**Notable Cases:**

* R v B – Successful appeal of sentence and Football Banning Order at Wolverhampton Crown Court on behalf of single father and professional regulated by the FCA who was of previous good character.
* R v RT – Successful submission of no case to answer in an assault trial at St Albans Magistrates’ Court, preserving his client’s good character.
* R v P – Drafted written representations successfully persuading the Crown to discontinue a driving prosecution against an architect and victim of identity fraud.
* R v T – Secured conviction in an appealed domestic violence matter at Hove Crown Court.
* R v L – Persuaded a District Judge at Slough Magistrates’ Court to impose a Suspended Sentence Order in a PWITS matter after he was initially minded to impose a sentence of immediate custody or commit the matter to the Crown Court due to the seriousness of the offence.
* R v A – Negotiated with the Crown to significantly reduce the scope and operational period of a CBO and to withdraw a charge of riding a cycle without due care and attention. Subsequently persuaded a bench at Ealing Youth Court to impose a Conditional Discharge for the remaining charge of handling stolen goods.
* R v D – Secured conditional bail at Luton Magistrates’ Court for a client charged with robbery using a knife and broken bottle where the matter was committed to the Crown Court and the Co-Defendant was remanded in custody.
* R v LA – Secured conditional bail for a client implicated in a seven-handed Class-A drugs conspiracy matter at Guildford Magistrates’ Court.

**Appointments:**

* Crown Prosecution Service (Grade 1)
* Nursing and Midwifery Council (Case Presenter)
* Attorney General’s Civil Panel (Junior Junior Counsel)
* Advocate (formerly Bar Pro Bono Unit)

**Memberships:**

* Human Rights Lawyers Association (HRLA) – Bursary Officer since 2019 and Chair of Young Lawyers Committee in 2018
* Bar Human Rights Committee (BHRC)
* Defence Extradition Lawyers Forum (DELF)
* Extradition Lawyers Association (ELA)
* Criminal Bar Association (CBA)

**Awards:**

* Ann Felicity Goddard Scholarship – The Honourable Society of Gray’s Inn (2022)
* David Karmel European Scholarship – The Honourable Society of Gray’s Inn (2019)
* CPE Scholarship – The Honourable Society of Gray’s Inn (2015)
* Charles De Gaulle Bursary – British Council (2009)

**Publications and Seminars:**

* *‘Extradition, Diplomatic Assurances and War Crimes’ –* Seminar at Geoffrey Nice Foundation Master Class in Dubrovnik, Croatia (2021)
* *‘UK-China Extradition: The View from 2021’* – Seminar at Corker Binning (2021)
* *'Are the Reports of The Council of Europe’s Committee for The Prevention of Torture (CPT) Fit for Purpose for Extradition Hearings Involving Issues of Mental Health?'* – European Human Rights Law Review (Sweet & Maxwell) Volume 1 (2019)
* *‘Out of Sight, Out of Mind: The Mental Health Act and Prisoners’ Rights’* – UK Parliament’s Joint Committee for Human Rights (2017)
* *‘Migration and the Right to Education: The Case of Tigere’* – Gray’s Inn Student Law Journal (GIJ) Volume 9 (2017)

**Education:**

* The City Law School: LLM in Professional Legal Skills (Extradition)
* The City Law School: Bar Practice Training Course
* The City Law School: Graduate Diploma in Law
* Diplomatic Academy of Vienna: Graduate Diploma in International Relations
* University College London (UCL): BA French and German

**Languages:**

* French (fluent)
* German (fluent)
* Arabic (basic)