



Alphege Bell

Year of Call: 1995



Working exclusively for the defence, he is an established leading advocate at the criminal bar.

His practice arcs across the entire field of criminal law extending through the Crown Court into the Court of Appeal and if required the Administrative Court. He has defended across a very wide range of high profile offences in the criminal calendar, including multiple murder, manslaughter, national drugs conspiracies, complex fraud, fire arms and miscarriages of justice cases. He is often instructed as leading counsel for the defence in multi-handed cases brought by specialist and elite police and prosecution authorities such as SOCO, Trident, CPS Special Casework Unit and the Attorney General.

He has a vast experience in technical evidential matters relating to accounting and police surveillance. This also extends to forensic issues: ballistics, blood splatter, fibre transfer, DNA, ballistics and cell site. Although based in London his strengths in grave and complex crime take him to courts across the national circuit doing private and publicly funded work. As well as being a contributor to the academic debate on the limits and reform of the criminal law, he is also called upon for television and radio consultancy and interviews.

Public and Prison Law

Very knowledgeable about the intersection between Public Law and Criminal law, and where necessary seeking remedies in the Administrative Court.

R v. E, ex parte Isleworth CCDC. Judicial discretion on equivocal pleas.

Appeals and CCRC

Deep experience all areas of appellate work, whether appealing against sentence or conviction. Instructed in numerous court of appeal matters, Attorney General references. Has solid experience in miscarriage of justice cases.

R v. P, CCA. Miscarriage of justice case championed by BBC Rough Justice programme.

General Crime

Deep experience in the full range of general crime. Has particular skill in historical sexual allegations and internet or image based prosecutions. Has acted in cases of serious disorder and represented a number of defendants arrested as a result of the large scale public disorder of in the summer of 2011.

- *R v. A and others, ILCC.* Leading Counsel in allegation of multiple cash in transit robberies.

- *R v. B and others*, Kingston CC. Instructed to represent a defendant on a 50 count indictment alleging robbery and various firearms matters.

Military Law

Interested in the overlap and dual jurisdiction that sits between military law and human rights law. Has often sought to argue the extension of human rights in Courts Martial matters.

Organised Crime

Skilled at defending in specialist team prosecutions. Fully conversant in the rigours of RIPA and known for strong challenges to undercover police operations and the legality of covert surveillance. Regularly defending in the full panoply of drugs offences whether large scale importations or possession with intent to supply matters.

- *R v. A and others*, Manchester CC. Gangland conspiracy to kidnap and blackmail;
- *R v. T and others*, Croydon CC. As leading counsel secured the acquittal of the defendant accused of having terrorist contacts, conspiracy to kidnap and conspiracy to rob;
- *R v. B and others*, Woodgreen CC. As leading counsel secured acquittal of a young defendant accused of conspiracy to rob and firearms offences involving rival gangs;
- *R v MT and others*, Woodgreen CC. Instructed as leading counsel in allegation of conspiracy to rob and multiple point blank discharge of a firearm;
- *R v. S and others*, Chelmsford CC. Instructed in the largest ever prosecution of illegal steroids mounted in the UK.

Terrorism

R v. T, Supreme Court

Fraud and Financial Crime

Has considerable experience in presenting difficult defences in complex large-scale allegations arising from all types of fraud.

- *R v. J*, Birmingham CC. £14 million VAT fraud;
- *R v. H*, Bristol CC. £15 million money laundering;
- *R v. A*, CCA. Leading case on credit card fraud.

Homicide and Corporate Manslaughter

Has a vast amount of expertise and experience in this area and consequently defends in a very large number of murders and is skilled at strategies for all aspects of defence in Homicide. Very able at navigating difficult defences through the complexities of joint enterprise and cut throat scenarios.

- *R v. C and others*, CCC. Recently secured the acquittal of defendant of murder;
- *R v. E and others*, Bradford CC. Secured acquittal as a result of legal submission in relation to a joint enterprise gun fatality;
- *R v. W*, CCC. Gangland contract killing;
- *R v B*, CCC. Murder;
- *R v J*, CCC. Secured the acquittal of a defendant accused of Murder, 'body in the cupboard';
- *R v B*, CCC. Attempted Murder.