

Heather Oliver



Call: 2010

Contact Details:

3 Raymond Buildings
Gray's Inn
London WC1R 5BH
Tel: +44 (0)20 7400 6400

Email Address:

heather.oliver@3rblaw.com



Details of practice

Heather has developed a successful practice encompassing all of Chambers' areas of expertise, including criminal law, professional discipline, regulatory and licensing work.

Crime

Heather has considerable experience in defending criminal matters before the Magistrates' and Crown Courts, having successfully represented clients accused of a wide spectrum of offences, including those involving violence, dishonesty, drugs, public disorder, sexual misconduct, data protection violations and driving breaches. Cases in which she is currently instructed, or has recently successfully concluded, include:

- Fraud: **R v HD** (Southwark CC, ongoing), **R v AK** (Snaresbrook CC, ongoing)
- Theft/handling: **R v OD** (Inner London CC, ongoing), **R v SO** (Southwark CC, 2018)
- Assault: **R v NB** (Guildford CC, ongoing), **R v DS** (Medway MC, 2018), **R v GP** (Southend MC, 2018)
- Exposure/outraging public decency: **R v TM** (Lewes CC, ongoing)
- Forgery: **R v JA** (Maidstone CC, 2018)
- Criminal damage: **R v TP** (CCC, ongoing)
- Sexual assault: **R v HC** (Croydon CC, ongoing)
- Voyeurism:
 - **R v OD** (Inner London CC, ongoing)
 - Coercive and controlling behaviour: **R v TP** (Snaresbrook CC, 2018), **R v MT** (Winchester CC, 2018)
- Conspiracy to supply Class A drugs: **R v CB** (Snaresbrook CC, ongoing)

Several of her cases involve representing police officers who are charged with criminal offences, and she specialises in the particular issues and sensitivities that may arise in such matters.

She has represented defendants in various matters concerning the proceeds of crime, including restraint, confiscation, forfeiture and enforcement proceedings. In confiscation proceedings she has most recently achieved favourable results in **R v YA** (Wood Green CC, 2017), **R v BL** (Chelmsford CC, 2018) and for the wife of a convicted offender seeking a determination under section 10A of the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 in **R v MC** (St Albans CC, 2017).

Heather has further been instructed to act for the prosecution in criminal matters for the Crown Prosecution Service, the London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority, Transport for London and the London Probation Service.

Licensing and regulatory law

Heather regularly represents licensees, applicants and responsible authorities in a wide range of licensing matters. Most recently this has included applications on behalf of **Tesco Stores Ltd**, **Pret a Manger** and various West End restaurants/cafes.

She has represented the Metropolitan Police Service in licensing matters as well as applications for football banning orders, applications to extend pre-charge bail and application for a control order under the Dogs Act 1871.

She has substantial experience in representing and advising individuals and enforcing authorities in the field of regulatory enforcement, including food safety and hygiene, fire safety, and taxi licensing.

Professional discipline

Heather specialises in representing police officers facing disciplinary proceedings for gross misconduct. Recently this has included the successful resistance of gross misconduct findings in relation to allegations of racism, sexual touching and homophobic abuse.

Public inquiries and inquests

Heather was instructed by the Metropolitan Police Service in relation to the **Undercover Policing Inquiry (UCPI)** in 2016/2017.

She is developing her practice in relation to inquest work. She is currently instructed as junior to Neil Saunders in relation to the **Inquest into the death of Edson Da Costa**, due to take place in 2019.

Director recommendations

Heather is ranked in **Chambers UK 2020: Crime**

'A class act in court: strong on the papers, and a fantastic legal mind for the complex law.' **The Legal 500 2019: Crime**

Education/professional qualifications

BA (Oxon) – English Language and Literature (First Class)
Graduate Diploma in Law (Distinction)
Bar Vocational Course (Outstanding)
Pegasus International Scholarship (2016)
Princess Royal Scholarship (Inner Temple)
City University Scholarship (Inner Temple)

Other information

In 2016, Heather was awarded a Pegasus Scholarship by the Inns of Court and was fortunate to be offered a 6-week placement in the USA, supported by Pegasus Funding and a grant from Three Raymond Buildings.

You can read about her experiences in *the Inner Temple Yearbook 2017-18*

Professional memberships

South Eastern Circuit (previously Junior of the Circuit, 2016)
Member of the Marshall Hall Trust Committee
Criminal Bar Association
Young Fraud Lawyers Association

Notable cases

Crime

R v JS (2018), Wimbledon MC

Successfully defended a young Asperger's sufferer accused of racially aggravated public order offences. The case involved expert evidence concerning the defendant's capability of forming the requisite mens rea due to his condition.

R v AS (2017), Central Criminal Court

Instructed as junior to Jane Humphries QC defending a Catholic priest accused of multiple historic sexual offences.

R v H v D (2017), Willesden MC

Successfully represented a defendant accused of multiple assaults by his ex-wife. The case involved sensitive issues relating to the giving of evidence by young witnesses.

R v RT (2017), Southwark CC

Secured the acquittal of a police officer accused of data protection offences, namely the obtaining and disclosure of material from police computers.

R v AS (2017), Southwark CC

Secured the acquittal of a police officer accused of assaulting a colleague in an off-duty altercation.

R v FS (2017), Southwark CC

Successfully defended one of four police officers accused of misconduct in a public office in relation to the arrest of a youth offender which resulted in injury.

R v LW (2017) Reading CC

Represented a defendant with significant mental health difficulties, accused of s.18 assault involving the use of a weapon, securing an acquittal to the assault charge.

R v SB (2016), Guildford CC

Successfully defended an employer accused of sexually assaulting his young employee.

R v BR (2016) Peterborough CC

Secured the acquittal of a defendant accused of acting as a courier in a conspiracy to supply Class A drugs.

R v SC (2015), Southwark CC

Instructed as junior to Michael Bromley-Martin QC to represent the first defendant accused of conspiracy to defraud in relation to a large-scale land banking fraud, investigated as Operation Cotton.

R v D (2015), Winchester CC

Successfully defended a police officer accused of assault occasioning actual bodily harm following an off-duty altercation.

R v UA (2015), Kingston CC

Secured the acquittal of a mother accused of child cruelty and actual bodily harm in relation to the physical chastisement of her child.

R v DW (2015), Chelmsford CC

Successfully represented a man accused of causing death by careless driving.

R v MT (2015), Wimbledon MC

Successfully defended a police officer accused of public order and violence offences, arguing the defence of automatism.

R v JM (2014), Basildon CC

Instructed as junior to Ben Summers representing the first defendant accused of committing a substantial time-sheet fraud against the NHS.

R v AH (2013), Southwark CC

Successfully appealed the conviction of a police officer accused of making indecent images of children.