

John Hardy QC



Call: 1988
QC: 2008

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Details of practice

Since taking silk in April 2008, John Hardy QC has been instructed in a number of lengthy and complex fraud prosecutions as well as continuing his criminal practice, particularly in extradition where his expertise spans over 15 years. John has appeared in a number of cases in the House of Lords as a junior (twice as leading junior).

John makes frequent appearances in the Divisional and Administrative Courts representing both foreign governments and defendants in Habeas Corpus and Judicial Review proceedings in extraditions, as well as prosecuting authorities and defendants in domestic Judicial Reviews and cases stated.

He appears for both prosecution and defence in major criminal trials and has extensive experience in money laundering cases as well as appearing in licensing matters. He is highly experienced in disciplinary tribunal work (for example the GMC and police discipline cases) and has significant expertise in dealing with regulatory offences.

John is also in demand as an expert witness on matters of United Kingdom extradition and criminal law in foreign jurisdictions, as well as being a regular contributor to lectures and seminars around the world. He has given evidence in a murder case in the Supreme Court of British Columbia in Vancouver, as well as in the Dublin District Court. He has given presentations, lectures, and addresses on a wide variety of subjects, including extradition, constitutional law, and general crime with an emphasis on bribery and corruption, and money-laundering, in (amongst others) the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Ghana, Spain, and Ukraine.

John is also experienced in cases which have a civil dimension. He is presently engaged in Supreme Court proceedings in Dublin relating to a civil confiscation process and has also appeared in contested trials in the Family Division of the High Court. At present he is instructed in a major civil action in a case against a United Kingdom Police Force.

Directory recommendations

'An absolute star who is extraordinarily hard-working, wonderful with clients, extraordinarily personable and a very fair minded opponent.' **Chambers UK 2017: Extradition**

John is ranked in the **Crime** section of **Chambers UK 2017**

Extradition guru "He has a schoolmasterly approach which in the right cases is devastatingly effective. He is a really vigorous and courageous advocate." "He is able to assimilate huge amounts of evidence very quickly and translate them into very practical advice." **Chambers UK 2016: Extradition**

'Well known for his money laundering expertise.' **The Legal 500 2015: Fraud**

'Charming and dedicated to his cases.' **The Legal 500 2014: Fraud**

"He knows his way around extradition law backwards and forwards". **Chambers UK 2014: Extradition**

John Hardy QC has over 15 years of extradition expertise and is well regarded in this field, but is also a dab hand at all areas of criminal work including fraud. Sources described him as "very conscientious, highly approachable, and tenacious when on a case." **Chambers UK 2013: Crime**

"Respected silk John Hardy QC enjoys the esteem of the market for his skills at extradition and general criminal cases." **Chambers UK 2012: Crime**

"John Hardy QC has over 15 years' experience in extradition. In addition to his well-respected practice in this area, he also appears for both prosecution and defence in major criminal trials." **Chambers UK 2011: Crime**

"New entrants to the table this year are the popular Hugo Keith QC, who took Silk in 2009, and John Hardy QC." **Chambers UK 2011: Fraud**

Education/professional qualifications

BA Hons Magdalen College Oxford
Diploma in Law
Facilitator at Bar Council Human Rights Courses
Regularly appears on TV and radio discussing matters of international criminal law and has appeared as a guest speaker in many jurisdictions

Appointments

Recorder of the Crown Courts 2002
Queen's Counsel 2008
Appointed to the SFO Prosecution List 2013

Notable cases

Crime:

R v Mandair
[1995] 1 AC 208 (HL)

R v Gok & Ors
Prosecuted one of the most substantial heroin seizures by police in mainland UK in 2008 resulting in a 40 year sentence

R v Asghar Sheikh & Ors
Prosecuted this DVD piracy and money-laundering case committed by a gang responsible for Britain's largest film piracy scam

R v Ballingall & Anor
(Murder)

Security Industry Authority v Sabrewatch Limited & Ors
Regulatory prosecution

R v Andrew Hill
Defended a barrister who was acquitted after being accused of defrauding the HMRC of over £210,000 for failing to make VAT returns or payments over the course of seven years.

Extradition

Calderelli v Court of Naples
Concerned with the validity of a European Arrest Warrant issued on an accusation basis in respect of a person who had in fact been convicted

In re Burke
[2001] 1 AC 422 (HL)

In re Ismail
[1999] 1 AC 230 (HL)

R v Governor of Belmarsh Prison, Ex parte Gilligan; R v Governor of Exeter Prison, Ex parte Ellis
[2001] 1 AC 84 (HL)

R v Secretary of State for the Home Department, Ex parte Gilmore

R v Same, Ex parte Ogun
[1999] QB 611

R v Staines Magistrates' Court, Ex parte Westfallen & Ors
[1998] 1 WLR 652

Re Proulx
[2001] 1 All ER 57

R (St John) v Governor of Brixton & Ors
[2002] 2 WLR 613

R (Guisto) v Governor of Brixton Prison & The United States of America
[2004] 1 AC 101

Birmingham & ors v Government of USA and SSHD
[2006] 3 All ER 239

Other

R v Legal Aid Board, ex parte Thanki Novy Taube

R (Redgrave) v Commissioner of Police for the Metropolis
[2003] 1 WLR 1136