Charles McCombe

Call: 2017

2021.

After returning from the Supreme Court, Charles hopes to develop a practice across Chambers' main areas of work, with a particular focus on crime, public law, extradition and related areas of international law.

Crime

Charles appears in the Magistrates' and Crown Courts for both the prosecution and the defence. He also acts for the National Probation Service in breach proceedings. In addition to general criminal matters, Charles has a growing interest in financial crime and the proceeds of crime.

Public Law

Charles accepts instructions across the main areas of Chambers' public law work. He has a particular interest in judicial review proceedings which concern criminal justice and national security matters.

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Extradition and Mutual Legal Assistance

Charles appears on behalf of requested persons in extradition cases.

Professional Memberships

- London Irish Lawyers Association
- Criminal Bar Association
- Young Fraud Lawyers Association
- Defence Extradition Lawyers Association

Education

- LLM (University of Pennsylvania) – Distinction, first in year
- MPhil in Criminology (Cambridge) – Distinction, first in year
- GDL & BPTC (City University, London)
- BA Hons in French and German (King's College London) – First class

Publications

- "Exploring the impact of Council of Europe institutions through a cross jurisdictional collaboration." Howard League for Penal Reform ECAN Bulletin, Issue 39, 2018 (co-authored with other members of the research project).
- "Non-fatal Offences Against the Person: Complexities, Difficulties and Reform." Queen Mary Law Journal, Volume 8, 2017.

Scholarships and prizes

- Karen Iest Award for Excellence in the LLM (University of Pennsylvania, 2019)
- Manuel Lopez-Rey Prize for Criminology (Cambridge, 2018)
- Thouron LLM Scholarship (Thouron Award, 2018)
- Newton MPhil Scholarship (Cambridge, 2017)
- British Academy of Forensic Sciences Prize for Advanced Criminal Litigation (City, 2017)
- Paul Methven Scholarship (Inner Temple, 2016)

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- Exhibition Award (Inner Temple, 2016)
- Exhibition Award (Inner Temple, 2015)
- Formal Commendation for Citizenship and Endeavour (KCL French Dept., 2015)
- Formal Commendation for Academic Achievement (KCL French Dept., 2013)

Other Information

Throughout his legal studies, Charles has been involved in a number of pro bono projects in different areas including prison law, criminal appeals, social security and education law. He intends to maintain his involvement in pro bono and other access-to-justice-related work whilst in practice.

Charles has developed a significant academic interest in criminal justice and public law. At Cambridge, Charles's MPhil dissertation considered the relationship between harm, dangerousness, sentencing and probation. At Penn, his studies spanned constitutional law, criminal law, international human rights law and the ever-growing field of U.S. law referred to as "crimmigration", which seeks to understand the relationship between immigration law and criminal justice.

Outside of law, Charles has worked in politics in his native Northern Ireland, on a voluntary basis, with a particular interest in human rights, cross-community and constitutional issues.

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