



Ciju Puthuppally

Call: 2017

Ciju Puthuppally has a broad practice across Chambers' main areas of expertise, including criminal law, extradition, public law, inquests and inquiries, regulatory matters, and licensing.

Extradition and mutual legal assistance

Ciju has acted successfully for requested persons in extradition proceedings involving a wide range of issues encompassing human rights, convictions in absentia, delay, abuse of process, and expert evidence. He is currently instructed on several appeals before the High Court. During pupillage, he assisted on the case of Julian Assange.

Ciju also has experience on matters concerning requests for mutual legal assistance.

Notable Extradition and mutual legal assistance cases

- **USA v W (2021 – ongoing)**

Led by James Lewis KC and Ben Watson KC for the requested person in a highly complex case arising out of the Brazilian Odebrecht corruption scandal, raising a wide range of issues including abuse of process, dual criminality, prison conditions in the USA, and mental health.

- **Russia v M (2021)**

Led by Ben Watson KC. Successfully represented the requested person, who was discharged under s.81 (political motivations), ECHR Article 6 and ECHR Article 3.

- **W v USA [2021] EWHC 1847 (Admin)**
Led by Ben Watson KC. Successfully appealed to the High Court against the refusal of bail.
- **Lithuania v Z (2021)**
Successfully represented a requested person in securing the withdrawal of an EAW due to the expiry of a limitation period following an appeal to the High Court.
- **France v I (2021)**
Represented the requested person. Secured an assurance on French prison conditions under Article 3.
- **Slovakia v S (2020)**
Successfully represented a requested person discharged under both section 20(5) (re-trial rights) and Article 8 of the ECHR. The case involved expert evidence in relation to Slovakian law and engaged arguments on convictions in absentia, delay, medical issues, and abuse of process.
- **An EU Judicial Authority v X**
Successfully represented a requested person discharged under Article 8. The case raised sensitive issues in relation to the likely impact of extradition on family members.

Sanctions

Ciju is frequently instructed in complex sanctions matters for high net worth individuals and companies. He has experience dealing with de-designation applications and has advised on several matters arising from the Russian sanctions regime, including as to the provision of legal services, the conduct of litigation, the payment of debts, the transfer of bonds, the management of trusts, and the sale of Chelsea Football Club.

Crime

Ciju appears regularly in the Magistrates' Courts, Youth Courts, and the Crown Court in relation to a wide range of offences. He has also appeared before the Military Court.

Ciju has a particular interest in white collar crime and POCA cases. During pupillage, he assisted with the defence case in the SFO's prosecution of four Barclays executives in connection with their capital raisings during the 2007 financial crisis. Before coming to the Bar, he worked as a paralegal acting for a high-profile company in a multi-national investigation into corruption in the Middle East.

Notable Crime cases

- **R (FCA) v S (2024)**
Represented the second defendant (led by Guy Ladenburg) in a two-handed FCA prosecution for insider dealing. The prosecution offered no evidence against the second defendant following a hung jury.
- **R v C (2024)**
Persuaded the prosecution to discontinue its case against a woman charged with assaulting four police officers after submitting representations in relation to her mental health.
- **R v N & ors (2023)**
Secured the acquittal of the fourth defendant in a six-handed prosecution for a money laundering conspiracy involving the seizure of approximately £1m.
- **R v G (2023)**
Secured the acquittal of a police officer charged with a racially aggravated offence of intentionally causing harassment, alarm and distress.
- **R v C (2022)**
Advised and secured a suspended sentence for a police officer who pleaded guilty to a serious offence of coercive and controlling behaviour.
- **R v S (2021)**
Successfully represented the defendant in an appeal to the Crown Court against a harassment conviction.
- **R v G (2021)**
Successfully represented the defendant in an appeal to the Crown Court against sentence (refusal to find special reasons in relation to a driving conviction).

Proceeds of crime

Ciju has particular experience acting in complex and high-value claims involving the proceeds of crime.

He is regularly instructed by police forces in both the Crown Court and the magistrates' courts in POCA cash and account forfeiture applications and appeals. He has also successfully represented the defence against both Account Freezing Orders and Account Forfeiture Orders. As junior counsel to Simon Farrell KC, he persuaded HMRC to set aside Account Freezing Orders in respect of over £3 million, and helped secure favourable court findings in relation to HMRC's decision to pursue an ex parte application and its inadequate pre-application investigations.

Ciju has also acted as junior counsel on high-value High Court cash forfeiture and civil recovery cases concerning money exchange services. He is currently acting for the defence in a multi-million pound civil recovery and forfeiture investigation involving a challenge to a disclosure order and intelligence obtained from abroad.

Similarly, Ciju has experience dealing with complex points of law in confiscation matters. He has acted as junior to Simon

Farrell KC in confiscation appeals to the Court of Appeal in relation to two multi-million pound orders, one of which was quashed.

In addition, he has special experience dealing with the intersection between POCA proceedings and civil claims against banks. He acted in a challenge to a bank's suspension and closure of accounts in connection with Suspicious Activity Reports, and has also advised successfully on liaising with a bank to secure the release of suspended funds.

Ciju is co-author of the **Lexis PSL** practice note on restraint orders.

Notable Proceeds of crime cases

- **R v K (2021)**

Junior to Simon Farrell KC. Helped secure the quashing by the Court of Appeal of a confiscation order for over £8 million, which was remitted for a re-hearing.

- **Commissioner of Police v A (2021)**

Acted for the police in securing an Account Forfeiture Order for £90,000 in relation to a supposed door-to-door trader suspected of fraud.

- **HMRC v R (2020)**

Led by Simon Farrell KC. Persuaded HMRC to withdraw Account Freezing Orders in respect of over £3 million and helped secure favourable court findings in relation to HMRC's decision to pursue an ex parte application and its inadequate pre-application investigations.

- **Commissioner of Police v M (2020)**

Acted for the police in obtaining an Account Freezing Order for over £350,000 in relation to a supposed lettings agency.

Public law, inquests and inquiries

Ciju accepts instructions across all areas of public law. He has advised on numerous issues relating to judicial review and human rights, in particular in the context of policing, and has experience drafting letters before action. He is currently acting in the High Court on a judicial review of national significance concerning the dismissal of police officers via vetting removal.

Ciju is also regularly instructed on inquest matters on behalf of both public authorities and companies, in particular in relation to assisted living/care home settings and the response of emergency services to calls for assistance.

In addition, Ciju gained extensive experience of public law and human rights cases during the course of pupillage. Notable matters on which he assisted include:

- **EI-Gizouli v SSHD** (concerning the provision to the USA of evidence that was likely to lead to the imposition of the

- death penalty on members of Isis);
- the question of a public inquiry into allegations of rendition and torture by the security services after 9/11;
- the Undercover Policing Inquiry;
- the Inquest arising from the 2017 London Bridge Terrorist Attack.

Prior to joining chambers, Ciju was ranked joint-first for Judicial Review during his bar course and third for Public Law at Cambridge University. He has also interned at the European Court of Human Rights where he drafted single-judge judgments.

Notable Public law, inquests and inquiries cases

- **Judicial reviews re: dismissal of police officers via vetting (2023 – ongoing)**

Led by Kevin Baumber in a number of cases of national significance challenging the legality of dismissing police officers via removal of vetting instead of misconduct proceedings.

- **R (Victor) v West Mercia Police [2023] EWHC 2119 (Admin)**

Junior counsel in a judicial review of national significance determining the extent to which police officers may be dismissed via vetting removal rather than formal disciplinary proceedings.

Licensing and regulatory law

Ciju regularly accepts instructions in licensing and regulatory matters.

He has acted for both the Metropolitan Police and the applicant in contested premises licence hearings. He recently represented an applicant in obtaining a premises licence in the face of numerous objections by local residents. He has also advised on pavement licences.

Ciju is regularly instructed by Transport for London in licensing appeals in the magistrates' court and at the Old Bailey.

Professional Discipline

Ciju is regularly instructed in a wide range of professional discipline contexts including cases involving police misconduct, medical misconduct, and the Teaching Regulation Agency (TRA).

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Other civil matters, quasi-criminal matters & contempt

Ciju is regularly instructed by the Metropolitan Police on applications for the full range of Civil Preventative Orders, in particular closure orders, sexual risk orders, sexual harm prevention orders, and stalking protection orders.

Ciju has special experience dealing with gang injunctions involving sensitive evidence and ex parte applications in the County Court and Youth Court, and with related contempt of court proceedings (reported on in the press, eg [here](#)). He is regularly instructed on such proceedings from the pre-application stage.

Ciju has acted for both the applicant and the defence in contempt proceedings, appearing in both the County Court and the High Court.

In addition, Ciju has acted in civil actions against the police involving claims of wrongful arrest, false imprisonment, breaches of human rights and discrimination.

Notable Other civil matters, quasi-criminal matters & contempt cases

- **Commissioner of Police v J & O (2021 - ongoing)**

Acted for the Commissioner of Police in obtaining interim gang injunctions in respect of two members of a dangerous gang involved in knife crime and drug-dealing. The order prevented access to gang territories and made provision for the monitoring of gang-related activities on social media.

- **Commissioner of Police v N (2020)**

Acted for the Commissioner of Police in obtaining, exceptionally, a Sexual Harm Prevention Order with an indefinite term against a man previously convicted of assault occasioning ABH and accused of possessing indecent images of children.

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Professional Memberships

Criminal Bar Association
Health & Safety Lawyers Association
Young Fraud Lawyers Association
Defence Extradition Lawyers Forum
United Kingdom Environmental Law Association
UK Centre for Animal Law

Education

BPTC (BPP University) – Outstanding (ranked third nationally at BPP and joint-first for Judicial Review)
LLM (Cambridge) – First Class (ranked first for Legislation)
BA in Law (Cambridge) – Double First Class (ranked third for Public Law and Contract Law)

Scholarships and prizes

Second Place, Kalisher Trust Essay Prize 2018 on corporate criminal liability
Winner, UK Environmental Law Association Essay Prize 2017 on Brexit
Best Orator and Winning Team, ELSA Moot in the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg 2016
Finalist, Cambridge Blackstone's De Smith Moot 2014
Finalist, International Criminal Court Moot 2013
Winner, Cambridge Quadrant Moot 2012

Downing College Senior Harris Scholarship
BPP Scholarship
Lincoln's Hardwicke Award

Publications

Dead in the water? Sentencing practice and the future of water prosecutions (2023) UK Environmental Law Association e-Law (co-author: Saba Naqshbandi)

LexisPSL Practice Notes on Restraint Orders (co-author: Nicholas Yeo)

Working in partnership: a new approach to economic crime (2018) Financier Worldwide (co-authors: Alison Levitt KC and Gareth Minty)

New test for criminal dishonesty: all bets are off (2017) Practical Law (co-authors: Jo Rickards et al)

Asserting and maintaining privilege in SFO investigations (2017) The Law Society (co-author: Jo Rickards)

Science, Expertise and Due Deference [2014] King's Student Law Review Vol.5(2)

The Human Rights Act 1998 s.2(1) Taken into Account [2013] UK Law Students' Review Vol.1(2)

Other Information

Before starting pupillage, Ciju worked as a litigation paralegal in Mishcon de Reya's White Collar Crime & Investigations team. He assisted on many of the firm's major cross-border cases concerning bribery, fraud, POCA proceedings, private prosecutions, extradition and regulatory issues.

Ciju has also worked as legal assistant for an environmental NGO and spent a month assisting a criminal defence barrister in India. He has interned at the European Court of Human Rights, the Council of Europe, and the Public International Law & Policy Group where he worked on legal issues regarding the conflicts in Libya, Syria and Yemen.

Privacy Statement

I, Ciju Puthuppally, am a data controller and can be contacted at 3 Raymond Buildings, Gray's Inn, London WC1R 5BH or by telephone on 020 7400 6400 or by email at ciju.puthuppally@3rblaw.com. My Data Protection Policy can be found below.

All personal data that I process is for the purposes of providing legal services, conducting conflict-checks, marketing, defending potential complaints, legal proceedings or fee disputes, keeping anti-money laundering records, training other barristers and pupils and when providing work-shadowing opportunities, and/or exercising a right to a lien. The types of data I process vary upon the nature of the legal matter in relation to which I am engaged to advise, but can include names, contact details, biographic details and 'special category personal data' (such as details of racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, health, sex life and criminal convictions and proceedings).

Depending upon the circumstances of the case, the legal bases upon which I process personal data are (i) the performance of a contract to which the data subject is a party or in order to take steps at the request of the data subject prior to entering into a contract, (ii) the processing is necessary to comply with legal obligations to which I am subject, or (iii) the processing is necessary for the legitimate interests set out above, except where such interests are overridden by the interests or fundamental rights and freedoms of the data subjects which require protection of personal data, in particular where the data subject is a child. When I rely on (iii) legitimate interests, my 'Legitimate Interests Assessment' can be found [here](#). When I process data which has not been obtained directly from the data subject (e.g. personal data

contained in evidential materials), it will have been supplied to me as part of my instructions in circumstances covered by legal professional privilege.

Depending upon the circumstances of the case, I may share the personal data with:

1. my Chambers, which supplies professional and administrative support to my practice;
2. Courts and other tribunals to whom documents are presented;
3. my lay and professional clients;
4. potential witnesses, in particular experts, and friends or family of the data subject;
5. solicitors, barristers, pupils, mini pupils and other legal representatives;
6. ombudsmen and regulatory authorities;
7. current, past or prospective employers;
8. education and examining bodies;
9. business associates, professional advisers and trade bodies.

I retain personal data for no longer than 7 years after the case has come to an end or as otherwise required by law.

I do not intend to transfer data to any country which is not either within the European Union, 'white listed' by the EU or otherwise permitted by EU law (e.g. to the USA under the provisions of the 'Privacy Shield').

Under the GDPR, data subjects whose personal data I process have the right to request from me access to, and rectification or erasure of, their personal data, the right to the restriction of processing concerning them, the right to object to processing as well as the right to data portability. Data subjects also have the right to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner's Office (ico.org.uk).

In cases where there is a contract between me and the data subject, the provision of personal data is a contractual requirement and the data subject is obliged to provide the personal data in order that I can supply legal services. A failure to provide such data may mean that I will not be able to provide the legal services.

Rev 1.1 – 12.04.2019

[Data Protection Policy](#)

[Legitimate Interests Assessment](#)

Direct Access

Ciju Puthuppally is qualified to accept instructions direct from clients under the Bar Council's [Public Access](#) Scheme. This means that members of the public who seek specialist advice can come direct to him. In addition, he welcomes instructions from solicitors, in-house law departments, qualified foreign lawyers, and clients licensed by the Bar Council to give instructions direct to barristers under the Bar Council's [Licensed Access](#) Scheme.

For further information please contact our [Clerks](#).