

Edmund Gritt

Call: 1997



Edmund Gritt's practice has three closely related strands: crime (both general and regulatory); professional discipline; and inquests.

He specialises in cases which combine factual complexity with technical difficulty, usually where the core issues involve substantial disputed witness evidence. He has extensive experience in handling the most highly charged cases (such as those concerning deaths, allegations of abuse and of professional malfeasance) with calm determination and careful forensic thinking. His oral and written advocacy is effective across the range of courts, tribunals, panels, committees and inquiries.

Edmund's advisory work spans pre-charge advice on behalf of regulators (advising as to investigation and drafting charges) to assisting corporates and individuals subject to investigation.

Crime

In his criminal defence practice, Edmund specialises in:

- Allegations of rape and sexual assault of adults, child sexual offences (usually historic and often complex with multiple complainants), internet grooming and indecent images cases.
- Allegations relating to organised crime from contract killing (e.g. the Danny Morgan axe murder) to large-scale international drug trafficking.
- Defending members of the Armed Forces (in both the Crown Court and the Courts Martial) and serving police officers charged with the most serious offences from manslaughter (e.g. the Army 'beasting' case) to serial rape.
- Allegations of 'white-collar' domestic violence: Edmund represents numerous clients of good character charged with assaults on partners, ex-partners, other family members and domestic staff.

- Allegations of grave violence against children including homicide and Section 5 offences.
- Large-scale fraud and money laundering conspiracies, tax evasion and breach of restraint.
- Substantial trading standards and consumer protection investigations.
- Advising on appeal in cases in which he did not appear at first instance and thereafter conducting appeals in the Court of Appeal.

Edmund prosecutes on behalf of regulators and professional disciplinary bodies.

Notable Crime cases

- **V (2019)**
Defended serving police officer who downloaded pornography while guarding the body of a teenage suicide.
- **R (2019)**
Defended former deputy superintendent of Scarborough children's home charged with rape of and sexual assaults on 3 girls in 1978-9, following post-Savile proactive North York police investigation, revisiting previous 1979 police investigation.
- **D (2019)**
Defended former choir teacher charged with sexual assaults in 1993 on foreign teenage choral student permitted by social services to reside with the defendant despite the latter's previous conviction for a child sex offence.
- **A (2018)**
Defended serving police officer charged with harassment having installed a listening bug in his ex-wife's bedroom.
- **U (2018)**
Defended former ice cream man charged with campaign of sexual assaults upon 4 young girls (2-by-2) in the 1970s.
- **T (2018)**
Defended significant nominal charged with hand-gun road rage on the North Circular.
- **T (2018)**
Defended diplomatic close protection officer charged with violently assaulting a child in public.
- **C (2018)**
Defended former child protection officer charged with downloading IIOCs.
- **L (2017)**
Defended senior conspirator in protracted and sophisticated multi-million-pound frauds on mobile phone service providers.
- **T (2017)**
Defended father charged with joint liability offence (Section 5 Domestic Violence, Crime and

Victims Act 2004) in respect of grievous assaults on baby by mother culminating in skull fracture.
Complex clinical expert evidence as to timing and manifestation of pain.

- **P (2017)**

Defended serving police officer charged with historic sexual offences against family members while still a teenager.
Case halted following legal argument in respect of the former principle of doli incapax.

- **J (2017)**

Defended impeccable international businessman charged with money laundering on behalf of a syndicate allegedly headed by the Tartan Pimpernel, following determined multi-jurisdictional NCA investigation.

- **I (2017)**

Defended man charged with manslaughter of his loved step-father.

Professional Discipline

Edmund frequently represents police officers facing misconduct hearings in London and across the country, and also appears before the Police Appeals Tribunal. Edmund is also regularly instructed in matters for the General Dental Council in proceedings before the Professional Conduct Committee.

Notable Professional Discipline cases

- **O (2019)**

Represented police officer in misconduct hearing accused of assault, unlawful arrest and perjury; allegations dismissed on a Merrill submission arising from 6-year delay in proceeding.

- **A (2019)**

Represented custody sergeant in misconduct hearing accused of failing to prevent DP tying a ligature around neck in alleged attempt at self-asphyxiation.

- **Y (2019)**

Represented police officer in misconduct hearing accused of failing to prevent DP from repeatedly head-butting cell wall in alleged self-harm episode.

- **K (2019)**

Represented police officer in misconduct hearing part of a specialist team accused of unlawful and abusive behaviour towards a traveller family while accompanied by an embedded TV documentary crew.

- **E (2019)**

Represented retired police officer in misconduct proceedings accused of failing to protect a child rape victim from

further offences.

- **D (2019)**

Represented police officer in misconduct hearing accused of repeatedly falsifying her work attendance log in extreme personal circumstances (herself being a high-risk domestic violence victim); dismissal by the panel then successfully reversed on appeal to the PAT.

- **O (2018)**

Represented police officer in misconduct hearing accused of 'sexting' explicit images of himself to civilian and watching pornography on duty.

- **Z (2018)**

Prosecuted medical professional in disciplinary proceedings charged with self-medicating and deceiving the professional regulator in the subsequent investigation.

- **L (2018)**

Prosecuted medical professional in disciplinary proceedings charged with abandoning his 1,800 NHS patients.

- **R (2017)**

Represented police officer in misconduct hearing accused of persistent fare dodging while working on major rail corporate fraud investigation.

- **N (2017)**

Represented police officer in misconduct hearing accused of significant disclosure oversight which left defendant unlawfully in custody for some months.

Regulatory

Edmund has long experience in road transport law, acting for HGV operators and finance houses before the Traffic Commissioners in Public Inquiries and impounding hearings. He also defends HGV Operators and HGV drivers in criminal proceedings in the Magistrates' Courts, and acts in Death by Driving cases. He also advises companies in respect of transport regulatory matters and responding to criminal investigations.

Edmund defends in regulatory proceedings such as brought by the Marine Management Organisation, the Maritime and Coastguard Agency, and the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy.

Edmund regularly prosecutes in Magistrates' Courts and the Crown Court on behalf of various fire services.

Edmund is a Specialist Regulatory Advocate in Health and Safety and Environmental Law (List B).

Notable Regulatory cases

- **N (2019)**
Prosecuting substantial services corporate for alleged protracted breaches endangering numerous customers.
- **M (2018)**
Represented transport manager for large public authority at traffic commissioner public inquiry whose vulnerable persons' PSVs had operated without MOTs.

Inquests & Inquiries

Edmund acts for Interested Persons (including local authorities, police forces and individual officers) at inquests, (most often Article 2/with jury).

Notable Inquests & Inquiries cases

- **LJ (2019)**
Representing police driver in fatal moped pursuit as IP and in parallel judicial review proceedings on CPS charging decision.
- **JO (2019)**
Representing custody sergeant in medical neglect death in custody.
- **Inquest touching the death of Ian Pearson (2017)**
Represented public body IP in inquest into death of prisoner (by suicide) in HMP Wandsworth against a sensitive background of suspected extortion and criminality within the prison.
- **Inquest touching the death of Robert Richards (2017)**
Represented public body IP inquest into death of prisoner (by suicide) in HMP Wandsworth in context of alleged bullying and systemic prison failings.

Licensing

Edmund advises and appears before licensing sub-committee hearings, on behalf of both applicants and objectors.

Edmund is regularly instructed by TfL in respect of licensing appeals in the Magistrates' Courts and the Crown Court, and in respect of criminal prosecutions.

Notable Cases

Crime

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Regulatory

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N (on-going)

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Inquests

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Education

- BA Hons (Cantab) First Class 1988
- Dip. Law (Westminster) 1996
- Called to the Bar 1997

Appointments

- Specialist Advocates' B panellist for Health & Safety and Environmental Law

Other Information

Before coming to the Bar, Edmund worked for a year on a local newspaper and then for five years for the Economist Intelligence Unit specialising in the Middle East, with a particular interest in Yemen and Saudi Arabia.