

John Greany

Call: 2012



John Greany has a broad practice across Chambers' areas of expertise, including criminal law, professional discipline, public inquiries, regulatory and licensing work. He has recently been instructed in complex criminal cases, in the Manchester Arena Inquiry by Greater Manchester Police, and in a wide range of disciplinary matters involving police officers and medical professionals.

Crime

John Greany prosecutes and defends in a wide range of criminal cases; in his defence work he often represents professionals, many of whom also face disciplinary proceedings arising from criminal allegations of dishonesty, use of unlawful force or other breaches of professional standards. In criminal proceedings he has recently represented company directors, police officers, members of the armed forces, and a civil servant whose employment prospects turned on the outcome of the criminal case.

John is also an experienced prosecutor. He is regularly instructed in complex cases of fraud, bribery, tax evasion and money laundering. John is a DV cleared member of the CPS counter-terrorism and specialist fraud panels.

Notable Crime cases

- **Al Bared and the design of an explosive drone for Islamic State**

In 2023 John Greany prosecuted the case of Mohammed Al Bared for the CPS Counter Terrorism Division at Birmingham Crown Court. After a six-week trial the defendant, a PHD student with expertise in mechanical engineering, was convicted of preparing for acts of terrorism by (a) designing a remotely piloted drone for Islamic State and (b) setting up a sham company as cover for travel to Islamic State territory via Turkey and (c) completing

an application form to join Islamic State. The case involved calling expert evidence in relation to explosive substances, aeronautical engineering, drones, the structure and evolution of Islamic State, and the interpretation of multiple documents which had been written in Arabic by the defendant. As much of the evidence was in Arabic, John's knowledge of the language was an asset to the police and prosecution team. John was led in this case by Michelle Heeley KC, the leader of the Midlands Circuit.

- **Islamic State**

John Greany is currently instructed by the CPS Counter Terrorism Division (acting alone) to prosecute defendants accused of disseminating terrorist publications, including publications attributed to Islamic State. He is prosecuting defendants who are alleged to have planned to leave the UK in order to fight for Islamic State in the Middle East and West Africa.

- **R v Allard (2023, Southwark Crown Court)**

In 2023 John Greany was instructed (acting alone) by the Specialist Fraud Division of the CPS to prosecute Jonathan Allard, the so called "Lord of Fraud". Allard was sentenced at Southwark Crown Court for playing a leading role in a £3.7 million investment fraud linked to Zurich Private Capital (ZPC). Large numbers of victims had been tricked into investing their savings in ZPC as Allard spent the proceeds on luxury goods, sports cars and foreign travel. Allard, who had registered foreign companies and bank accounts in order to sustain the fraud, was sentenced to 7 years and 2 months custody on 22 May 2023.

- **R v MM (2021-22, Southwark Crown Court)**

In 2022 John Greany represented a defendant accused of money laundering when serving as a police officer in Kent. The officer had agreed to pay cash through his personal his bank account for a friend who, it subsequently transpired, had been dealing Class A drugs and steroids. The officer was acquitted following a five week trial at Southwark Crown Court.

- **R v BC (2021 Southwark Crown Court)**

John (led by James Hines KC) prosecuted the Chief Information Officer of a large corporation convicted of bribery at Southwark Crown Court.

- **R v J (2019)**

John defended a member of the MPS staff charged with assaulting an emergency worker and with public order offences; the court found that she had been unlawfully arrested and unlawfully detained by the arresting officers; the charges were dismissed at the close of the prosecution's case.

- **R v H (2019)**

John defended a senior police officer charged with assaulting a member of the public. The court found that the complainant had lied to the police about the incident and that an independent witness must have been mistaken when she reported the alleged assault to the police. The officer did not face any disciplinary proceedings in light of the criminal court's findings.

- **R v Carl Tiltman (2019 Southwark Crown Court)**

John prosecuted a Chief Executive Officer and former employee of the Ministry of Defence charged with fraud by abuse of position and fraud by false representation following an investigation by the MOD police. The defendant

had deceived specialist units of HM armed forces and his own company directors in relation to laser equipment marketed to the Royal Navy and to the airline industry.

- **R v Mangava, Atitebi and others (2019)**

Acting alone, John prosecuted in a multi-handed high value fraud and money laundering case, instructed by the CPS Specialist Fraud Division.

- **R v Chukwuka and others (2018-2019)**

Led by John Hardy KC, prosecuted to conviction 9 defendants charged with conspiracy to commit high value fraud and money laundering.

- **R v Brooks and others (2014)**

John was part of the team advising prosecution witness Dan Evans in the “phone hacking trial” at the Central Criminal Court

Professional Discipline

John represents police officers facing disciplinary proceedings for gross misconduct. He has considerable experience in providing advice, drafting and advocacy in misconduct hearings involving allegations of dishonesty, excessive use of force and other alleged breaches of professional standards. He represents officers from the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS), British Transport Police (BTP) and regional forces.

John has experience of representing officers in Gross Misconduct Hearings, before the Police Appeals Tribunal and in UPP hearings.

Notable Professional Discipline cases

- **Successful appeal in the case of TW (2023, Northamptonshire Police Headquarters)**

In 2023 John successfully argued that there was new evidence capable of undermining the testimony of an officer who had given evidence against TW in a police gross misconduct hearing at Northamptonshire Police Headquarters. The accused officer was reinstated on full pay and the case remitted for fresh determination by a new tribunal.

- **Officer accused of providing information to a foreign embassy**

John Greany represents a serving police officer accused of providing sensitive information to officials of a foreign embassy. The case is ongoing.

- **Key evidence excluded leading MPS to offer no evidence in case of PC Gibbons**

In 2023 the MPS brought gross misconduct proceedings against an officer accused of assaulting his partner. The defence argued that the sole and decisive evidence in the case was the hearsay evidence of the officer’s partner. After hearing legal argument on the first day of the hearing the panel agreed with the defence submissions that it

would be unfair for the hearsay evidence to be admitted in evidence. Following that ruling the MPS offered no evidence, and the allegation was not proven.

- **Inspector KW**

In 2023 John represented an Inspector who had been accused of bullying and harassing a colleague. The panel found that whilst the officer had made errors of judgment, the conduct did not amount to gross misconduct in all the circumstances.

- **MPS allegation of gross incompetence not proven against serving PC**

In 2023 the MPS alleged that a serving PC had been “grossly incompetent” because he had failed to identify and report a “non-crime domestic” incident in accordance with force policy. The panel found the allegation of gross incompetence not proven. The Panel commended the officer for displaying commendable remorse, reflection and humility and described the incident as “a deeply unfortunate but an honest misjudgement.”

- **Officer breaching MPS policy by setting up "only fans" account receives final written warning**

In 2023 John Greany represented a serving officer who had set up an “only fans” account with his partner. Members of the public could pay to view the sexual activity of the officer, his partner and other consenting participants in various video clips. The defence acknowledged that the officer had breached MPS policy by failing to register the “only fans” account as a business interest; the officer also accepted that his conduct risked bringing discredit to the police. However, there was a strong mitigating context which was set out in defence submissions, and which allowed the panel to issue final written warning.

- **MPS v LT**

In September 2022, John defended in a MPS case in which the officer concerned was alleged to have falsely imprisoned a colleague in his home. The allegation that he did so was not proven.

- **BTP v PJ**

In 2022 John advised federation representatives and solicitors assisting officers of West Yorkshire Police; the officers allegedly failed to provide appropriate first aid to a detainee who had died in police custody. John drafted written submissions which were relied on by the officers. The allegation was not proven against any of the officers.

- **West Yorkshire police officers**

In 2022 John acted for a British Transport Police (BTP) officer facing multiple allegations of dishonesty, racist behaviour and excessive use of force against members of the public. The officer denied the allegations of gross misconduct, denied dishonesty, and relied on medical evidence to explain aspects of his conduct. He also contended that the some of the allegations had been dealt with by way of management action, and that he had a legitimate expectation that no further disciplinary sanction should be imposed. Having received the written response to the allegations served by the defence, BTP reviewed the case shortly before the hearing. In light of the medical evidence BTP withdrew the allegation of gross misconduct.

Notable Cases

Manchester Arena Inquiry

John was instructed by Greater Manchester Police in the Manchester Arena Inquiry alongside other members of chambers, led by Richard Horwell KC.

Counter Terrorism cases 2023

Al Bared and the design of an explosive drone for Islamic State

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Notable recent professional disciplinary cases

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Professional Memberships

- CPS Panel (General Crime) Level 3
- CPS Panel (Counter Terrorism) Level 3
- CPS Panel (Fraud) Level 3
- DV Cleared

Education / Professional Qualifications

- Bar Professional Training Course, BPP London (Outstanding; highest score in year in advocacy and criminal procedure and litigation)
- Graduate Diploma in Law (Distinction)
- Middle Temple Diplock Scholarship

- The Queen's College, Oxford University (MA)
- The Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst
- The Defence School of Languages
- The School of Oriental and African Studies (MSc)

Other Information

John served as a reconnaissance officer in the British army and subsequently in the NGO sector. Before being called to the Bar he worked in the UK, Canada, Iraq, Jordan, Afghanistan, Egypt, Ethiopia, Pakistan, India, Nepal, Colombia, Argentina, and Guatemala.

Languages

- Arabic
- French

Privacy Statement

I, John Greany, 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 john.greany@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 1.0 – 25.05.2018

[Data Protection Policy](#)

[Legitimate Interests Assessment](#)

Direct Access

John Greany 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](#).