

Michael Borrelli QC

Call: 1977 / QC: 2000



Michael Borrelli QC defends in high profile, serious and complex crime, and in other areas of quasi-criminal work, including Inquests and Disciplinary work, where his advocacy skills can be fully utilised.

He is instructed to review and advise on appellate work and to conduct cases in the Court of Appeal, both here and in Northern Ireland, where he also has experience in non-jury trials with a terrorist or paramilitary link. He has developed a reputation for his ability in cases requiring both tactical acumen, and careful handling of witnesses. He has considerable skills as a robust cross-examiner and is well known for the commanding presence he makes in Court, and his abilities in the examination and testing of experts' evidence. He has defended in numerous well-publicised trials involving murder, money laundering, drugs and hijacking.

Michael's expertise in fraud includes banking, duty evasion, phishing fraud, mortgage and land banking fraud. He has defended in prosecutions brought by the SFO and the FCA.

Crime

The majority of his practice since taking Silk has been at the Central Criminal Court.

- Armed robbery
- Corruption
- Drugs trafficking
- Homicide

Notable Crime cases

- **R v C & Ors**

Killing of victim of street robbery with Zombie Killer knife by 16 year old.

- **R v C & Ors**

Unprovoked attempted murder of stranger who was stabbed 11 times by a 15 year old.

- **R v L & Ors**

Brutal killing of rival gang member, hacked to death with machete on the Blackbird Leys Estate.
Subsequent appeal saw Court of Appeal set Guidelines for Judges confronted with extended periods of holiday during Jury retirement.

- **R v P & Ors**

Victim of attempted murder, rival drug dealer shot in face during County Lines reprisal shooting. Subsequent appeal considered identification witnesses' evidence being impugned by Prosecution.

- **R v P**

Misconduct in public office.

- **R v T**

Defence of one of two gunmen tried for shooting dead an aspiring rapper.

- **R v A**

A cold case review, following quashing of the murder conviction, after a BBC Rough Justice investigation.

- **R v C**

Defended the head of the family of travellers prosecuted for allegations of keeping vulnerable men in servitude or requiring them to perform forced labour, and it was one of the first cases under new anti-slavery legislation.

- **R v D**

The missing body murder of a drug dealer in the Midlands.

- **R v A**

The law undergraduate who murdered his 80 year old father and buried the body under concrete.

- **R v O**

The murder of a Matalan store manager.

- **R v W**

The 'slave' whose dismembered body was found in the Blue Lagoon.

- **R v P**

Millionaire property developer extradited from USA to face murder allegation of tenant who impeded property

development.

- **R v C**

Second case of murder conviction ordered to be quashed and retried, with a subsequent attempted murder, resulting in a change of plea to manslaughter.

- **R v M**

The shooting in nightclub of ex British heavyweight boxing champion.

- **R v E**

Alleged manslaughter of soldier by 'Beasting' and punishment drill.

- **R v C**

Murder and kidnap of 15 year old "missing Essex schoolgirl" Danielle Jones.

- **R v L**

Representation of one of the two acquitted Afghans in the first Stansted hijack trial.

Fraud

- Banking fraud
- Duty evasion
- Money laundering
- Mortgage fraud
- Phishing fraud

Notable Fraud cases

- **R v H**

CEO charged with computer hacking of company computers.

- **R v W**

Acting on behalf of a Solicitor in a land banking fraud, who had been advising and acting for the Director and owner of a land buying company.

- **R v E**

Represented principal defendant, the founder and head of a property development group, one six charged in connection with a loan fraud of over £30million.

- School Governors accused of involvement in a £1.8M fraud conspiracy.

- Money Laundering and Mortgage Fraud, of funds stolen from the Delta State in Nigeria.

Notable Cases

Inquests/disciplinary

Acted on behalf of the Police Federation and represented 11 police officers in the **Seni Lewis Inquest**; a death arising out of a restraint in a mental hospital. The 6 officers subsequently facing gross misconduct were totally exonerated.

Acted on behalf of the Police Federation and represented 2 police officers in re-opened Inquest into the death of a motorcyclist, **Onese Power**, following a police chase. The Jury's findings exonerated both officers of any blame.

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R v I

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Other notable cases

R v Passmore

Misconduct in public office

R v Walker

“Operation Cotton” land banking fraud

R v Entwistle

Six month loan fraud trial involving RBS, NatWest, Northern Rock and other lending institutions

R v Day and others

School Governors accused of involvement in a £1.8M fraud conspiracy

R v Thomas

Defence of one of two gunmen tried for shooting dead an aspiring rapper

R v Ahmed

A cold case review, following quashing of the murder conviction, after a BBC Rough Justice investigation

R v Connors

Irish travellers prosecuted for allegations of keeping vulnerable men in servitude and was one of the first cases under new anti-slavery legislation

R v Theresa Ibori

Money Laundering and Mortgage Fraud

R v Doe

The missing body murder of a drug dealer in the Midlands

R v Alexander

The law undergraduate who murdered his 80 year old father and buried the body under concrete

R v Owuso

The murder of a Matalan store manager

R v Watt

The ‘slave’ whose dismembered body was found in the Blue Lagoon

R v Papalexis

Millionaire property developer extradited from USA to face murder allegation of tenant who impeded property development

R v Celaire

First case of murder conviction ordered to be quashed and retried, with a subsequent attempted murder, resulting in a change of plea to manslaughter

R v Mulenga

The shooting in nightclub of ex British heavyweight boxing champion

R v Edwards

Alleged manslaughter of soldier by 'Beasting' and punishment drill

Memberships

- Criminal Bar Association
- Fraud Lawyers Association
- Association of Regulatory & Disciplinary Lawyers

Education

- Called to the Bar in 1977
- Queen's Counsel 2000
- Called to the Bar of Northern Ireland: 2018
(Member of the Bar Library)

Appointments

- Member of the Criminal Bar Association
- Former member of the Criminal Bar Association Committee
- Former member of the International Practice Committee of the Bar Council

Other Information

- Member of the Royal Automobile Club
- Keen motorsport enthusiast
- Rugby fan

Accreditations

