

## Richard Wormald QC

Call: 1993 / QC: 2019



Richard Wormald QC practices in crime, financial crime and licensing, and is regarded as a standout leader at the criminal bar.

As a junior he was consistently ranked as one of the very best, winning the Chambers' Junior of Year award in 2013/4.

Over the last year Richard has been leading in a high-profile insider-dealing case being prosecuted by the FCA (FCA v Choucair). He is currently engaged in the appeal of Giovanni Di Stefano (on a novel point of jurisdictional law), is advising the Metropolitan Police in respect of ongoing terrorism investigations and defending in the UK's largest ever cash seizure cases. He is acting for Trocadero in respect of a licensing appeal and has been advising Punch Taverns at board level. He acts for an advise a number of high-profile individuals.

Last year he acted for two of the senior management team of Rolls Royce; as leading counsel in a high-profile Watchdog fraud; for the first defendant in one of the country's biggest boiler-room frauds; for a solicitor in a complex, multi-handed embezzlement case.

Other cases in the recent past include various corporate fraud, bribery and corruption allegations, representing the former Cabinet Minister Chris Huhne, a well-known hotelier on charges of rape, acting in a number of murder and manslaughter cases, and undertaking judicial review proceedings, inquest and inquiry work.

Richard also acts as a legal adviser in licensing and disciplinary hearings.

He is highly-rated in all his chosen fields of practice: crime, fraud, professional discipline and licensing. He is commended for his hard-work and industry, for his colour and life, and for his professional knowledge and expertise.

He is also experienced in tax tribunal work, inquest work, health and safety prosecutions and is a well-regarded licensing practitioner.

His fields of practice are:

- Crime – murder, manslaughter and serious drugs cases
- Fraud – in particular bribery, corruption, insider-dealing and corporate fraud
- Licensing and gaming
- Professional discipline and regulatory
- Public and Administrative law
- Inquests
- Civil and commercial
- VAT and tax inquiries

## Crime

Richard has defended and prosecuted a broad range of criminal offences for just over 24 years. He has defended in a number of murder, manslaughter and death by dangerous cases, including as leading junior. He undertaken a series of complex and sensitive matters for the defence in the Court of Appeal. He prosecutes serious crime for the National Crime Agency, and in 2011 he was commended by the Home Secretary for his work on behalf of its predecessor, SOCA.

He has a reputation for robust cross-examination and as fearless defence advocate. This year he is defending in a heroin trafficking case, a multi-handed murder, and acting for a solicitor charged with perverting the course of justice.

### Notable Crime cases

- **R v Adams & Ors (2015)**  
Leading junior – kidnap, GBH, imitation firearms.
- **R v William Davies (2015)**  
Leading junior in large scale wine investment fraud.
- **SFO**  
Investigation into Rolls Royce 2014.
- **R v Hamilton (2014)**  
Murder.
- **R v Jason Moore (2014)**  
Murder.
- **R v Chris Huhne (2013)**  
Junior instructed to represent the former Cabinet Minister Chris Huhne.
- **FSA v Patrick Cryne (2013)**  
Counsel representing Patrick Cryne, owner of Barnsley FC and the first defendant in the iSoft fraud who was

acquitted of conspiring to mislead the markets. Proceedings before the Financial Reporting Council were discounted after it was submitted that it would be tantamount to an abuse of process for them to proceed.

## Fraud

Richard has acted in some of the most high profile fraud cases, both on behalf of the Crown and the defence. He has developed particular expertise in bribery and corruption cases, acting for an HMRC officer charged with accepting corrupt payments from The Sun; and the director of an oil company involved in procuring contracts through bribes, several Indonesian corruption cases, and management of Rolls Royce under investigation by the SFO.

This year Richard is defending in a market abuse fraud, an insider-dealing allegation, a corporate corrupt payments case, as well as on behalf of two solicitors each separately charged with fraud, and an insolvency service prosecution. He has dealt with a series of complex fraud appeals in Court of Appeal, prosecutes financial crime for the CPS and acts in tax tribunal cases where fraud is alleged as part of the claim.

### Notable Fraud cases

- **FSA v Cryne**  
Market abuse – misleading the markets.
- **R v Fonseka & Ors**  
Ponzi fraud.
- **HM Customs & Excise v Knight**  
£60m fraud.
- **DTI v Mahady**  
Serious and complex fraud.
- **R v Zimmel**  
Leading counsel in serious and complex fraud.
- **Edwards Duthie v SFO**  
Judicial review of SFO re undertakings of confidentiality.

## Licensing & Gaming

Richard has conducted numerous applications and appeals on behalf of licensees acting as counsel of choice for Punch Taverns, Greene King, Exxon Mobil, Asda and others. As well as representing market-leaders in the industry he is

instructed by private clients and sometimes by residents' associations. He acts for Apollo Resorts & Leisure Ltd in respect of its various casino applications, and is instructed by Cashino in respect of its AGC and Tanning outlets.

## Professional Discipline & Regulatory

He is experienced in hearings at police disciplinary tribunals, before the Law Society and a variety of professional disciplinary bodies: sports discipline tribunals, the General Dental and General Medical Councils, and the Architects' Regulatory Board. He has appeared in a dozen or so inquests and represented one of the officers said to have falsified evidence in the Stockwell inquest after the death of Jean Charles de Menezes.

## Public & Administrative Law

Richard has appeared in the Administrative Court on numerous occasions in relation to judicial review of criminal, licensing and regulatory matters. He is particularly familiar with costs' legislation and has twice been to the High Court in respect of defendants costs orders.

### Notable Public & Administrative Law cases

- **Brewer, R (on the application of) v Supreme Court Costs Office [2006] EWHC 1955 (Admin) (2006)**  
Judicial Review of a refusal to pay a defendant's costs order.
- **Verma, R (on the application of) v Stratford Magistrates' Court [2006] EWHC 715 (Admin) (2006)**  
Judicial Review of the Crown's refusal to call test purchase volunteers.
- **Brewer v Director of Public Prosecutions [2004] EWHC 355 (Admin) (2004)**  
Judicial Review of a conviction relating to drink driving/driving without insurance.

## Notable Cases

2017 / 2018

### **R v Michael Nascimento**

Leading junior for the principal defendant in a multi-handed boiler-room fraud

### **City of London Police v Zala LLP/Hamilton**

Largest ever cash forfeiture case, investigation into virtual currency Ponzi fraud

**SFO v GD**

Pre-charge advice to a senior manager of Rolls Royce investigated for making corrupt payments

**SFO v JF/E Ltd**

Pre-charge advice to an individual and an arms/munitions company at the centre of Indonesian bribery allegations

**R v Culaj**

Large scale cocaine trafficking case / Court of Appeal authority on confiscation

**R v Fannon & Others**

Leading junior for a police officer charged with others for perverting the course of justice in a high-profile 'Black Lives Matter' case

**Re Club Metropolitan**

Licensing Appeal for club premises

## 2016

**R v Clarke**

Leading junior in high value advanced-fee and fraudulent trading case

**R v Izzet Eren & Ors**

For the defence in the Wood Green escape case (in which Jermaine Baker was shot and killed)

**R v Kolaj**

Leading junior for the defence in massive cocaine trafficking case

**R v Coates & Kenny**

£1m Solicitor fraud

**R v Serani**

Supply of 40 kilos of heroin

**R v Ke XU**

Leading junior – £100m fraud by theft of trading strategies intellectual property

## Crime

**R v Adams & Or**

2015

Leading junior – kidnap, GBH, imitation firearms

**R v William Davies**

2015

Leading junior in large scale wine investment fraud

**SFO**

2014

Investigation into Rolls Royce

**R v Hamilton**

2014

Murder

**R v Jason Moore**

2014

Murder

**R v Chris Huhne**

2013

Junior instructed to represent the former Cabinet Minister Chris Huhne

**FSA v Patrick Cryne**

2013/14

Counsel representing Patrick Cryne, owner of Barnsley FC and the first defendant in the iSoft fraud who was acquitted of conspiring to mislead the markets. Proceedings before the Financial Reporting Council were discounted after it was submitted that it would be tantamount to an abuse of process for them to proceed

**R v Jonathon Hall**

2013/14

HMRC Press Officer charged with conspiracy to make corrupt payments (Op Elvenden)

**R v Smirnoff & Surmacki**

2013/14

Allegation of conspiracy to commit commercial blackmail

**R v Napoli & Ors**

2011/12

**Operation Candlelight**

2011

Commended by the Home Secretary and the Director of SOCA for successfully prosecuting a series of drugs cases

**Operation Hornblower**

2011

Commended by the Home Secretary for securing convictions in the largest people trafficking operation that the Organisation has seen

**R v F**

2011

Successfully defended 'F' a well-known hotelier on charges of rape and sexual assault at the Central Criminal Court

**R v Price**

2011

Leading counsel for the defence at the Court of Appeal in the largest ever attempted importation of cocaine

**R v Cooper**

2010

Leading counsel for the defence in the House of Lords on an issue relating to mental capacity

## Fraud

**FSA v Cryne**

Market abuse – misleading the markets

**R v Fonseca & Ors**

Ponzi fraud

**HM Customs & Excise v Knight**

£60m fraud

**DTI v Mahady**

Serious and complex fraud

**R v Zimmel**

Leading counsel in serious and complex fraud

**Edwards Duthie v SFO**

Judicial review of SFO re undertakings of confidentiality

**R v Holland**

Leading counsel in serious and complex fraud

**SFO v Massingham & Others**

SFO fraud

## Public & Administrative

**Brewer, R (on the application of) v Supreme Court Costs Office**

[2006] EWHC 1955 (Admin) (27 July 2006)

Judicial Review of a refusal to pay a defendant's costs order

**Verma, R (on the application of) v Stratford Magistrates' Court**

[2006] EWHC 715 (Admin) (15 March 2006)

Judicial Review of the Crown's refusal to call test purchase volunteers

**Brewer v Director of Public Prosecutions**

[2004] EWHC 355 (Admin) (11 February 2004)

Judicial Review of a conviction relating to drink driving/driving without insurance

**E (R on the application of) v Serious Fraud Office**

2004 proceedings CO/4862/2004

Undertakings of confidentiality

**Murray, R (on the application of) v Ministry Of Defence**

[1997] EWHC Admin 1136 (15th December, 1997)

Judicial Review of a court-martial finding – 'fairness requires the giving of reasons'

## Inquests

**Inquest into the death of Jean Charles de Menezes**

2009

Appeared on behalf of a police officer accused in part of a cover-up

**Inquest into the death of baby J**

2009

## Civil & Commercial Law

Recently acting for a telecommunications company in a multi-million pound cross-jurisdictional claim for breach of contract (settled), for a sailing school (winning outright) and in protracted civil contempt proceedings (settled).

**Marketmaker Technology (Beijing) Co Ltd & Ors v CMC Group Plc & Ors**

[2009] EWHC 1445 (QB) (24 June 2009)

Civil contempt

## VAT & Tax Tribunals

**Crown & Cushion Hotels Ltd v Customs & Excise**

[2003] EWHC 1639 (Ch) (14 July 2003)

**Crown & Cushion Hotels Ltd v HM Commissioners of Customs & Excise (2004)**

[2004] EWCA Civ 516 – VAT tribunal appeal

**Fast Forward Resources PLC v Revenue & Customs**

[2002] UK VAT (Customs) C00223 (15 February 2002)

VAT Tribunal Appeal



### **ARA v Rose**

Before the Special Commissioners for Tax

### **ARA v Barry**

First ever civil trial under the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002

## **Education**

- BA (Joint Hons) University of York
- MA in Law, City University, London

## **Appointments**

- Qualified Gray's Inn Advocacy Tutor
- Honorary Lecturer in Criminal Law at City University, London; judge of the annual mooting competition
- Senior External Monitor of the Inns of Court School of Law

## **Accreditations**

