

Ryan Dowding

Call: 2017



Ryan Dowding joined Three Raymond Buildings following successful completion of his pupillage.

He is developing a practice across Chambers' main areas of expertise, with a particular interest in crime, licensing and regulatory work and public law.

General Crime

Ryan regularly appears in the magistrates' courts and the Crown Court.

He has prosecuted and defended in cases involving a range of offences, including: grievous bodily harm, assault, battery, theft, motoring offences, drugs offences and perverting the course of justice. Recent instructions include acting as a court appointed advocate in the Crown Court to represent the interests of a defendant in an application by the prosecution for a post-acquittal restraining order. The application, successfully resisted, followed the quashing of the defendant's conviction by the Court of Appeal and the case involved detailed cross-examination of a complainant to an alleged sexual assault. He is currently instructed on behalf of defendants in a number of ongoing matters in the Crown Court.

As well as appearing in court, Ryan regularly advises individuals on how proceedings against them might be resolved without a criminal trial, including by drafting letters of representation to prosecuting authorities in appropriate cases.

Ryan prosecutes cases on behalf of the Crown Prosecution Service, Transport for London and the National Probation Service

Financial Crime / POCA

Prior to joining Chambers, Ryan spent a year working in the bribery and corruption division of the Serious Fraud Office on a long-running investigation into a former FTSE 100 company. He continues to maintain a keen interest in white collar crime and during his pupillage he assisted one of the defence teams in a major insider dealing trial brought by the Financial Conduct Authority. He also gained experience working on the first raft of Account Freezing Order (AFO) applications brought by the National Crime Agency and the Metropolitan Police Service.

Since becoming a tenant, Ryan has acted alone for defendants charged with fraud and money laundering offences at first appearances and sentencing hearings. His recent work includes securing a community order for a defendant who pleaded guilty to attempting to defraud a local branch of Natwest Bank of a substantial sum of money. He is also instructed as junior counsel for the third defendant in a five-handed fraud and money laundering case which is fixed for re-trial in January 2021.

He is establishing a practice across the spectrum of Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 work. He is regularly instructed as both junior and sole counsel in cash, listed asset and bank account freezing and forfeiture proceedings. His recent instructions include:

- Acting as second junior for a Russian national in appeals and judicial review proceedings challenging orders AFOs, production orders and restraint orders;
- Acting as junior counsel for a British-Iranian national who is the subject of bank account forfeiture proceedings;
- Representing the Metropolitan Police Service in an application for an AFO in relation to a company suspected of involvement in the sale of counterfeit goods.

During pupillage Ryan gained experience in confiscation proceedings and has since acted for individuals in his own right. In 2019, he represented a defendant convicted for possession with intent to supply a substantial quantity of cocaine. Following submissions as to the appropriate means of valuing the drugs he obtained a concession from the Crown resulting in a substantial reduction in the benefit figure.

Licensing / Regulatory

Ryan is developing a broad practice in licensing matters.

He is regularly instructed by the Metropolitan Police Service in summary review proceedings and his recent instructions include:

- Successful applications for a Closure Order and the revocation of the Premises Licence in respect of a snooker club following a violent disturbance in which two people were shot and a third stabbed with a pool cue;
- Successful applications for a Closure Order and the revocation of the Premises Licence in respect of a convenience store found to be in possession of (and suspected of selling) over 18,000 canisters of nitrous oxide;
- Successful application to impose additional conditions on the Premises Licence of a sexual entertainment venue

following a violent disturbance (appeal pending).

He has also been instructed on behalf of individuals in applications to obtain new premises licenses or to vary existing licenses. His recent instructions include representing a restaurateur in a successful application for a Premises Licence in relation to a proposed restaurant which was the subject of objections by a local resident.

Ryan regularly appears for Transport for London in licensing appeals in the magistrates' courts.

During pupillage Ryan gained experience in police discipline matters both at first instance and on appeal to the Police Appeals Tribunal.

Civil Preventative Orders

Ryan is frequently instructed by the Metropolitan Police Service to advise on and appear in applications for civil preventative orders, including: Closure Orders, Sexual Risk Orders, Sexual Harm Prevention Orders, Stalking Protection Orders and Violent Offender Orders.

Recent and current instructions include:

- Successful application for a Sexual Risk Order in a case involving evidence of sexual misconduct spanning 10 years and including lengthy cross-examination of the defendant;
- Representing the Metropolitan Police Service in an application for Slavery and Trafficking Risk Orders in respect of five individuals (ongoing).

He also appears for the defence and recently resisted an application by Surrey Police for a Domestic Violence Prevention Order against a serving officer.

Public law, Inquests and Inquiries

Ryan is currently instructed by the London Fire Brigade in relation to the Grenfell Tower Inquiry and has conducted work in relation to Phase 2 of the Inquiry.

Extradition

Ryan has appeared on behalf of requested persons in extradition cases in the magistrates' courts. He also has experience advising on and drafting grounds of appeal to the Administrative Court.

Professional Memberships

- Criminal Bar Association
- Young Fraud Lawyers Association

Education

- Bar Professional Training Course (Outstanding)
- University of Sussex, LLM in International Human Rights Law (Distinction)
- University of Sussex, LLB (Hons) (First Class, second in year)

Scholarships/Prizes

- Certificate of Honour, Middle Temple (2017)
- Queen Mother Scholarship, Middle Temple (2016)
- Blackstone Entrance Exhibition, Middle Temple (2016)
- Excellence Scholarship, BPP (2016)
- Joint award for Highest Mark on an LLM Dissertation, University of Sussex (2017)
- Magna Carta Moot – Winner, Inner Temple (2016)
- International Criminal Trial Advocacy Competition – Semi-Finalist, Symbiosis Law School, India (2016)
- Best Performance on the Final Year of the LLB, University of Sussex (2015)
- Inner Temple Intervarsity Moot – Winner (2015)
- Blackstone’s National Criminal Advocacy Competition – Semi-Finalist & Best Overall Advocate (2014)
- First Generation Scholarship, University of Sussex (2013)
- Bar Professional Training Course (Outstanding)
- LLM in International Human Rights Law (Distinction), University of Sussex
- LLB (Hons) (First Class), University of Sussex

Publications

- Barnes and Dowding, ‘[Account Freezing Orders: Part 2 – In Practice](#)’ (2020) 2 Archbold Review 7 (Westlaw)
- Barnes and Dowding, ‘[Account Freezing Orders: Part 1 – An Introduction](#)’ (2020) 1 Archbold Review 6
- ‘Absent-Mindedness – The Alstom Appeal and the Future of the Identification Principle’ (YFLA Summer Newsletter, 2019)
- ‘The Case of Jimenez – Extraterritorial Jurisdiction in a Post-KBR World’ (YFLA Spring Newsletter, 2019)
- ‘A Little Help From my Friends: Why Sajid Javid’s Letter may have Broken the Law’ (Guest Post, The Secret Barrister, August 2018)

Other Information

Before coming to the Bar, Ryan completed his LLM in International Human Rights Law at the University of Sussex. During his time at university, he co-founded Your Rights Matter: a small organisation which published articles online and visited schools and colleges to teach students about human rights law. He also carried out work for the Free Representation Unit. The following year, alongside studying for his BPTC, Ryan taught the law of evidence and criminal procedure to undergraduates. He also volunteered to assist with projects including Vocalise through which he and other BPTC students led debating classes for inmates at prisons around London.