

Saba Naqshbandi

Call: 1996



Saba Naqshbandi practices in the areas of health and safety, inquests and inquiries and commercial crime.

Recognised in Chambers UK, The Legal 500, Who's Who Legal UK Bar, Business Crime Defence, Criminal Fraud and Investigations and Lawyer Monthly.

Lawyer Monthly Investigations-UK Winner 2019.

Lawyer Monthly Business Crime Defence Lawyer of the Year UK 2018.

Health & Safety, Fire Safety & Regulatory Law

Saba advises and represents notable major companies and acts for enforcing authorities, including the HSE, fire and local authorities and the police nationally in both criminal proceedings, inquests and inquiries. Areas of specialisation include:

- Fire safety
- Data Protection and Freedom of information
- Licensing
- Gambling
- Consumer protection
- Environmental
- Food safety
- Trading standards

Notable Health & Safety, Fire Safety & Regulatory Law cases

- **R**
Acting for a professional football club.
- **W**
Acting for a prominent school.
- **Grenfell Tower**
Acted for the LFEPA in the Public Inquiry into the deaths following the Grenfell tower fire.
- **New Look Retailers Plc**
Prosecuted New Look Retailers for fire safety breaches at its flagship store in Oxford Street, London. First appeal under the RRO and the highest fine in fire safety of £450,000 imposed and upheld by the Court of Appeal.
- **Lakanal House**
Acting for the fire authority in respect of the criminal investigation into the deaths of six people in a tower block in Southwark.
- **Anchor Trust**
Acted for the LFEPA in the prosecution of a care home following a death from smoking. Subsequently acted for Surrey Fire and Rescue Service in a second prosecution of Anchor Trust following a fatality from smoking in a care home.
- **Adeyemi**
Prosecuted landlord imprisoned for serious fire safety breaches discovered after a fire in which two people died.
- **Atomlynn and Douglas & Gordon**
Represented the prosecution against a prominent London managing agents and the leaseholder for fire safety breaches. D&G fined £100,000.
- **C**
Advised a chemical factory following a spillage; resolved without prosecution.
- **TSL**
Acted for a large supermarket in relation to a prosecution.
- **Norfolk & Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust**
Acted for the HSE following the death of a patient at a mental health hospital.
- **Hague Construction Limited**
Acted for the HSE in relation to a fatality.

- **Erith Haulage**
Acted for the HSE in relation to an incident resulting in serious injuries.
- **GB**
Advised an individual regarding a health and safety investigation at a firing range. No enforcement action was taken.
- **KFC**
Represented the company in relation to two health and safety prosecutions.
- **EI**
Acted for a large corporate in relation to an appeal against a fire safety Enforcement Notice.
- **ESL**
Acted for a corporate in relation to an appeal against a fire safety Prohibition Notice.

Inquests & Inquiries

Saba is an expert in high profile, sensitive inquiries.

She is an Assistant Coroner for Inner North London.

Current and previous cases include the Grenfell Tower Public Inquiry, the Inquests into the deaths following the London Bridge and Westminster terrorist incidents and the Public Inquiry into the death of Alexander Litvinenko.

Saba is instructed by all participants including:

- Companies
- Charities
- The police
- Fire and other enforcement authorities
- Families
- Witnesses

Notable Inquests & Inquiries cases

- **London Bridge**
Acted for the LFEPA following the deaths from the terrorist incident at London Bridge.
- **Westminster**
Acted for the LFEPA following the deaths from the terrorist incident in Westminster.

- **Lakanal House**

Acted for the fire in respect of the inquests into the deaths of six people in a tower block fire.

- **MG**

Represented an employer supermarket following the death of an employee at work.

- **MP**

Represented the BBC following the death of an individual after a dog attack.

Commercial Crime

A criminal specialist with a recognised reputation, Saba's advice is sought both nationally and internationally and includes advising foreign Governments and Enforcement Authorities, corporates and individuals in multi-jurisdictional cases.

Areas of specialisation include:

- Private prosecutions
- Bribery & corruption
- International crime
- Mutual legal assistance
- Fraud
- Insider dealing
- Money Laundering
- Confiscation and restraint
- Terrorism
- Complex production orders

Notable Commercial Crime cases

- **SD**

Represented an individual charged with bribery.

- **SEM**

Successfully defended The Sport Entertainment and Media Group Limited and individuals in a private prosecution brought by a football agent, Anthony McGill.

- **W&C**

Represented a company and director regarding alleged breaches of the Data Protection Act 1998.

- **Preko**

Acted for the former banker of James Ibori.

- **Operations Weeting, Elvedon & Tuleta**

Advised the Metropolitan Police specifically in relation to productions orders.

- **Al-Sanea**

Advised in relation to criminal aspects of this substantial civil claim.

- **Rausing**

Represented Hans Kristian Rausing following the death of his wife, Eva, in both the criminal proceedings and inquest.

- **James**

Defended the personal interpreter to General Richards, Commander of forces in Afghanistan charged with offences under the Official Secrets Act and Wilful Misconduct in Public Office.

- **Skinner & Others**

‘Jubilee Line fraud’ – defended in the longest ever criminal trial in which the defendant was acquitted.

- **Whiting**

Junior counsel for the prosecution in the abduction and murder of Sarah Payne.

Professional Discipline

Healthcare: Saba acts for the General Dental Council.

Sports: Clients include UK Athletics and the Lawn Tennis Association. Additionally, she has experience as Chair of a Sports Appeal Panel.

Notable Professional Discipline cases

- **GDC v S**

Presented a case for the General Dental Council where involving allegations of sexual assault where the dentist was erased from the register.

- **GDC v E**

Advised the General Dental Council in relation to allegations of inappropriate claims and standards of care.

- **GDC v M**

Advised the General Dental Council in relation to allegations of inappropriate claims, standards of care and record keeping.

- **GDC v F**

Presented at a review hearing for the General Dental Council.

- **UKA v S**

Presented a case for UK Athletics at both first instance and upon appeal against sanction regarding allegations of inappropriate personal relationships with young female tennis players by a coach.

- **UKA v S**

Chair of an Appeals Panel in relation to the grant of a competition permit.

- **LTC v C**

Acted as a legal adviser to the Lawn Tennis Association disciplinary panel.

Tax Appeals

Building on her criminal experience of Missing Trader Intra Community Frauds (“MTIC”), Saba acts for appellants before the First Tier Tax Tribunal.

Notable Tax Appeals cases

- **Option NTC v HMRC**

Represented the company in its appeal to re-claim input tax of over £1.4 million.

- **Our Communications Plc v HMRC**

Successfully represented the company in this appeal where over £9.5 million in VAT was recovered.

Notable Cases

Fire Safety

R

Acting for a professional football club

W

Acting for a prominent school

Grenfell Tower

Acted for the LFEPA in the Public Inquiry into the deaths following the Grenfell tower fire.

New Look Retailers Plc

Prosecuted New Look Retailers for fire safety breaches at its flagship store in Oxford Street, London. First appeal under the RRO and the highest fine in fire safety of £450,000 imposed and upheld by the Court of Appeal

<http://www.bailii.org/ew/cases/EWCA/Crim/2010/1268.html>

Lakanal House

Acting for the fire authority in respect of the criminal investigation into the deaths of six people in a tower block in Southwark

Anchor Trust

Acted for the LFEPA in the prosecution of a care home following a death from smoking.

http://www.london-fire.gov.uk/news/AC1B4F18D05A4D82B52979C6465BBFE5_Carehomeproviderslatedfordeathofelderlywoman.asp.

Subsequently acted for Surrey Fire and Rescue Service in a second prosecution of Anchor Trust following a fatality from smoking in a care home.

EI

Acted for a large corporate in relation to an appeal against a fire safety Enforcement Notice

ESL

Acted for a corporate in relation to an appeal against a fire safety Prohibition Notice

MC

Defended a care home following fire safety allegations

SSL

Defended the owners of a block of flats for fire safety breaches. Case kept in the magistrates' court

HTO

Defended a sheltered housing provider following fire safety allegations

NE

Defended an individual for fire safety breaches. Case kept in the magistrates' court

Adeyemi

Prosecuted landlord imprisoned for serious fire safety breaches discovered after a fire in which two people died

Atomlynn and Douglas & Gordon

Represented the prosecution against a prominent London managing agents and the leaseholder for fire safety breaches.

D&G fined £100,000

Tesco Stores Plc

Acted for the prosecution in which the Company was fined £95,000 for fire safety breaches

De Havilland & Fox

Represented the prosecution in relation to multiple breaches of fire safety legislation by the landlord defendants. Each was

sentenced to six months imprisonment

Sharma

Defended a hotelier charged with fire safety breaches. The prosecution was eventually dropped just before trial

City Centre Restaurants

Defended Frankie & Benny's in respect of a fire safety prosecution

Health & safety

C

Advised a chemical factory following a spillage; resolved without prosecution

TSL

Acted for a large supermarket in relation to a prosecution

Norfolk & Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust

Acted for the HSE following the death of a patient at a mental health hospital

Hague Construction Limited

Acted for the HSE in relation to a fatality

Erith Haulage

Acted for the HSE in relation to an incident resulting in serious injuries

GL

Acted for the HSE following the death of an employee at a printing works. Individual sentenced to 15 months imprisonment suspended for 2 years, a fine of £7500 and £45,000 in costs

EMRL

Acted for the HSE in relation to a fatality. Company fined £300,000 with costs of over £70,000

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/press/2013/rnn-ldn-emr-ltd.htm>

MB

Acted for HSE prosecuting a builder charged with dangerous gas fitting to a boiler

GB

Advised an individual regarding a health and safety investigation at a firing range. No enforcement action was taken

SG

Successfully represented a pub company in two separate health and safety cases with prosecutions in both cases not proceeded with

KFC

Represented the company in relation to two health and safety prosecutions

Licensing & Gambling

Clients include: Murano, City Cruises, Kensington Roof Gardens/Virgin Limited Edition, Rochelle Canteen, The Department Store, Drop Wine, Madame JoJos, Aspers, Grillshack, Dirty Martini, Bills, Cote, Honest Burgers, Subway, The Bedford, The Gambling Commission

Inquests & Public Inquiries

Grenfell Tower

Acted for the LFEPA in the Public Inquiry into the deaths following the Grenfell Public Inquiry

London Bridge

Acted for the LFEPA following the deaths from the terrorist incident at London Bridge

Westminster

Acting for the LFEPA following the deaths from the terrorist incident in Westminster

Alexander Litvinenko

Acted for the Metropolitan Police Service in the Public Inquiry into the death of Alexander Litvinenko

<https://www.litvinenkoinquiry.org/>

Lakanal House

Acted for the fire authority in respect of the inquests into the deaths of six people in a tower block fire

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-london-21964325>

MG

Represented an employer supermarket following the death of an employee at work

MP

Represented the BBC following the death of an individual after a dog attack

Olaseni Lewis

Represented the Metropolitan Police Service in the inquest <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-london-23943229>

Ashraf Amrani

Represented the Metropolitan Police Service in the inquests of three people: son, father and mother

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-london-31487347>

Ambrose Ball

Acted for the Metropolitan Police Service in the inquest into the death of a man who went missing for three months

Chevonea Kendall-Bryan

Acted for the Metropolitan Police Service in this inquest into the death of a 13 year old girl

<http://www.standard.co.uk/news/london/girl-13-slipped-and-fell-to-death-while-begging-boy-to-delete-video-tape-8450573.html>

HH

Represented a hospital following the death of a patient

MG

Represented an employer following the death of an employee

DJ

Represented a care home following the death of a resident

DP

Acted for a sheltered housing provider following the death of a resident

KM

Acted for a care home following the death of a resident

MD

Acted on behalf of a mother in the inquest into the death of her son

Sahar Daftary

Represented the family in this inquest into the death of a young woman

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-manchester-18976878>

SM

Acted for the employer of a woman in an inquest where the verdict was suicide

Crime / Fraud & Financial Regulation

SD

Represented an individual charged with bribery

SEM

Successfully defended The Sport Entertainment and Media Group Limited and individuals in a private prosecution brought by a football agent, Anthony McGill <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-manchester-34312416>

W&C

Represented a company and director regarding alleged breaches of the Data Protection Act 1998

Preko

Acted for the former banker of James Ibori

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/12/09/us-britain-banker-corruption-idUSBRE9B80OE20131209>

Operations Weeting, Elvedon & Tuleta

Advised the Metropolitan Police specifically in relation to productions orders

Al-Sanea

Advised in relation to criminal aspects of this substantial civil claim

PS, BJ

Advised two individuals facing separate investigations into carbon trading

Rausing

Represented Hans Kristian Rausing following the death of his wife, Eva, in both the criminal proceedings and inquest
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-london-19078646>

Ali

Represented a seriously mentally ill patient in relation to complex confiscation proceedings and separate fraud proceedings. Confiscation significantly reduced by the Court of Appeal

Asil Nadir

Advised a partner of BDO Stoy Hayward, a witness in the trial of Asil Nadir

T

Represented a family in relation to a substantial cash seizure and forfeiture proceedings

Westwood & Westwood

Defended two Directors charged with conspiracy to steal. The case was eventually dropped by the prosecution

Uberoi

Defended a dentist charged with insider dealing
<http://www.fsa.gov.uk/pages/Library/Communication/PR/2009/149.shtml>

James

Defended the personal interpreter to General Richards, Commander of forces in Afghanistan charged with offences under the Official Secrets Act and Wilful Misconduct in Public Office
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/7754981.stm>

Skinner & Others

'Jubilee Line fraud' – defended in the longest ever criminal trial in which the defendant was acquitted
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/london/4373461.stm>

Theobald

Represented the financial director of a company acquitted of a complex £30 million VAT/MTIC fraud

Commissioner of Police for the Metropolis v The Sun

An expert in complex production order applications, this was a successful application on behalf of the police seeking footage relating to Amy Winehouse

Raja & Others

Represented the first defendant at trial, an 18 year old school boy convicted under the Terrorism Act 2000. The conviction was subsequently quashed by the Court of Appeal
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/7242724.stm>

Devani

Represented a solicitor charged with perverting the course of justice

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/london/5106672.stm>

Ocampo

Defended in the largest Columbian importation trial in the UK in which the defendant was acquitted

Whiting

Junior counsel for the prosecution in the abduction and murder of Sarah Payne

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/1701742.stm>

Tax Appeals

Option NTC v HMRC

Represented the company in its appeal to re-claim input tax of over £1.4 million

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UKA v S

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UKA v S

Chair of an Appeals Panel in relation to the grant of a competition permit

LTC v C

Acted as a legal adviser to the Lawn Tennis Association disciplinary panel

Memberships

- Association of Regulatory & Disciplinary Lawyers
- Criminal Bar Association
- Health & Safety Lawyers Association
- Middle Temple International Committee

Education

- LLM (Distinction), University College London (1995)
- LLB (Hons), University College London (1994)

Publications

- *'The Guide to Sanctions'* (GIR) – full publication available [here](#) (2020)
- Featured in the Middle Temple Exhibition Celebrating a Century of Women in Law (2019)
- Author of the online Westlaw Encyclopaedia for 'Health & Safety in Sport' (2012-)
- Author of the online Westlaw Encyclopaedia for 'Licensing: Hearings' (2012-)
- Author of the online Westlaw Encyclopaedia for 'Gambling: Appeals' (2012-)

Appointments

- Assistant Coroner for Inner North London (2019-)
- Board of Governors, The Expert Witness Institute (2019-)
- Bencher of the Middle Temple (2016)
- Middle Temple Bencher Selection Advisory Committee (2016-)
- Bar Council International Committee Member (2016-2017)
- Middle Temple Membership Committee Member (2014-)
- Chair of the Annual Bar Conference (2013)
- Vice Chair of the Annual Bar Conference (2012)
- Co-Chair of the Criminal Law Committee of the International Bar Association (2009-2012)
- Elected Committee member of the Criminal Bar Association Committee (2009-2012)
- Court of Arbitration of Sport Pro Bono Lawyers Panel
- General Dental Council Panel of Advocates
- Middle Temple Advocacy Trainer

- Specialist Advocate in Health & Safety and Environmental Law (A Panel)

Other Information

Awards

- International Crime Lawyer of the Year – Corporate LiveWire Global Awards (2019)
- Best Barrister of the Year in Regulatory Compliance & Criminal Law – United Kingdom Global 100 (2019)
- Crime Defence Lawyer of the Year UK, Women in Law, Business, Lawyer Monthly (2019)
- Criminal Lawyer of the Year, Lawyer Monthly (2014)
- Women in Law Awards, Lawyer Monthly (2014)

Languages

- French (conversational)
- Urdu (conversational)

Accreditations

