

Sarah Allen

Call: 2005



Sarah Allen is an experienced Criminal and Regulatory law advocate, for both the defence and prosecution.

Expertise

Crime

Sarah is an experienced defence and prosecution advocate. She has an established practice dealing with grave and complex cases as both junior-alone and led junior. Recent instructions have involved allegations of serious sexual offences involving 'grooming gangs', organised crime, (including drugs importation and wide scale supply), serious violence, firearms offences, money laundering and fraud.

Sarah is a grade 4 prosecutor and is on the panel of specialists to deal with serious sexual offences. She is regularly instructed by the CCU and cases involving organised crime.

Sarah also has extensive knowledge of dealing with civil asset recovery and confiscation orders under the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 and has dealt with large and complex cases with multi-million pound orders, hidden assets and dealing with international letters of request.

She has successfully challenged a number of sentences and convictions in the Court of Appeal and is as confident committing her argument to writing as she is making them in person. She has an excellent knowledge of common aspects of criminal practice including DNA, psychological and cell-site evidence and is very capable mastering subject matter rapidly in order to challenge expert evidence.

In addition to her busy Crown Court work, Sarah is also instructed on professional disciplinary matters, having appeared on behalf of Teachers, Head Teachers, Nurses and Social Workers.

Sarah also speaks fluent Spanish.

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Bristol

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Notable Cases

R v Maynard Ellis [2020]

Sarah defended as led-junior a man for murdering and dismembering a woman with his partner.

R v Bukowski [2020]

Sarah prosecuted as led-junior a bouncer accused of murder.

R v Bourne [2020]

Sarah prosecuted the chief financial officer of a firm for fraud. The case involved detailed analysis of financial records spanning the course of 10 years to identify the methodology of the fraud perpetrated which accounted for over GBP100k.

R v Longshaw [2020]

Prosecuted a man for historic sexual abuse against his nieces and nephews.

R v Vallely [2020]

Prosecuted a man for attempting to meet a child following grooming. The case involved undercover officers posing as a young person and dealing with the defence suggestion that he had been entrapped into committing the offence.

Operation Vapour [2019]

Sarah prosecuted as led-junior a Telford 'grooming gang' case involving multiple defendants.

Operation Olly [2019]

Sarah prosecuted as led-junior multiple defendants for conversion of criminal property. Defendants were prosecuted using evidence of a criminal lifestyle.

R v Ahmed [2019]

Sarah prosecuted a man for the kidnap and abuse of his ex-partner. Case involved multiple complainants and the management of hostile witnesses.

R v JM [2019]

Sarah defended a retired police officer for the possession of indecent images.

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R v Hayre [2019]

Sarah prosecuted as led-junior a man for the murder of a 70 year old.

R v Khan and Ors [2017]

Sarah prosecuted as led-junior multiple defendants involved in an organised crime gang for the sale and distribution of firearms and drugs.

Regulatory

Sarah is regularly instructed to deal with all aspects of licensing legislation. She has taken instructions for work in an advisory capacity to Councils and also as advocate for responsible authorities and large commercial organisations. Sarah has extensive knowledge of the Licensing Act 2003.

Sarah brings a particular edge in advocacy to her licensing and regulatory work as a result of her experience as a criminal practitioner. In her criminal practice, she acts as prosecution and defence, often instructed in serious cases, ranging from sexual abuse to money laundering.

As well as her criminal practice Sarah is also instructed on professional disciplinary matters, having appeared on behalf of Teachers, Head Teachers, Nurses and Social Workers

Professional Misconduct

Sarah is a well known and respected advocate who both prosecutes and defends. She has an established practice in dealing with grave and complex cases on her own and with leading counsel. Recent instructions have involved allegations of serious sexual offences, drugs (including importation and wide scale supply), serious violence, firearms offences, money laundering and fraud.

Sarah is a grade 3 prosecutor, although regularly accepted instructions for cases far beyond that level. She is on the panel of specialists to deal with serious sexual offences and recent prosecutions have involved dealing with very young witnesses and historic allegations.

Sarah also has extensive knowledge of dealing with civil asset recovery and confiscation orders under the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 and has dealt with large and complex cases with multi-million pound orders, hidden assets and dealing with international letters of request.

She has successfully challenged a number of sentences and convictions in the Court of Appeal and is as confident committing her argument to writing as she is making them in person. She has an excellent knowledge of common aspects of criminal practice including DNA, psychological and cell-site evidence and is very capable mastering subject matter rapidly in order to challenge expert evidence. She also has experience of gait recognition expert evidence and facial mapping.

In addition to her busy Crown Court work, Sarah has a wealth of experience in all aspects of motoring law where she regularly appears in Magistrates' Courts and Crown courts throughout the country. She is instructed on behalf of some of the country's

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leading insurers and specialist motoring solicitors. She has represented well-known figures in the media world and also business leaders and is well regarded in this area of law.

As well as her criminal practice Sarah is also instructed on professional disciplinary matters, having appeared on behalf of Teachers, Head Teachers, Nurses and Social Workers.

Sarah also speaks fluent Spanish.

Prior to coming to the Bar Sarah worked in Westminster in government communications at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and Department of Trade and Industry, dealing with Ministerial trade missions.

Memberships

- Grays Inn
- Criminal Bar Association
- Midland Circuit

Qualifications

- BA Hons
- Bessemer Clark Scholarship Award – Grays Inn
- Lord Justice Holker Scholarship Award – Grays Inn

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