

Alan Kent QC

Call 1986 | Silk 2009



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Alan has a reputation for sound judgement, thorough preparation, and fearless advocacy. He has been in Silk for 12 years and has considerable experience of defending and prosecuting in serious and difficult multi handed cases, including allegations of murder, rape, other serious sexual offences.

He is frequently instructed to defend and prosecute in cases alleging gang murder.

Alan has outstanding trial strategy and tactics based on over 35 years of experience in the criminal courts. He is regularly instructed in cases involving young and vulnerable people. He is always ready and willing to listen, provide advice and assistance. He is especially good with vulnerable clients including the young and those with mental health issues.

Alan is adept at explaining the law and procedure in a clear and simple way. He builds an excellent rapport with clients, both professional and lay. He is down to earth and very easy to work with.

Expertise

Crime

Alan specialises in homicide. He had conducted hundreds of murder trials, acting for the Prosecution and the Defence throughout the country. A true, all-round advocate who can always see the 'other side'.

Alan's practice comprises of murder cases, ranging from single handers to multiple defendants in gang related cases. He has considerable expertise and is regularly instructed in the most difficult and complex murder cases in the UK. He is a very busy and popular Silk who, as one solicitor clients puts it, has an, "inclusive nature and relentless calmness which is both refreshing and very welcome. We do not see those qualities enough." [2020]

In October 2020, Alan conducted one of the **longest murder trials held in the covid** era, defending in an 8-handed murder at Nottingham Crown Court. The case concerned a drug related, revenge murder by a criminal gang on a rival gang.

Notable Crime cases

July 2021

Defended a 16 year old at the Old Bailey who was accused of participating in a revenge, gang related murder. The Prosecution accepted a guilty plea to perverting the course of justice.

R v Constable and others [January-June 2021]

Prosecuted multiple defendants in two separate trials at the Old Bailey that involved a drive by shooting of innocent civilians. The murder was gang related activity. The case involved thousands of hours of CCTV and the largest number of telephones seized and examined during a homicide inquiry.

R v Connolly Mellon [March 2021]

Defended a man who was accused of attempted murder. The defendant was suffering from psychosis. He believed he was on a training mission with the SAS and attempted to find the helipad at the Royal Sussex County Hospital in Brighton. He stabbed a healthworker multiple times. The incident was thought to be terror related, causing the hospital to shut down for many hours. The defendant was found NG by reason of insanity.

R v McDonald and others [October – December 2020]

Nottingham Crown Court. Alan defended the 7th defendant who was alleged to have brought weapons in a drug related retaliation murder. One of the defendants was assaulted by a rival gang in Nottingham who took control of the flat that some of the defendants had been using to supply drugs. The defendants travelled from Birmingham and attacked the occupants of the flat, killing one when he jumped out of the window and tried to run away. He was attacked with at least on machete, which almost severed his foot.

Lewes Crown Court [September 2020]

Prosecuted two defendants for killing their supplier in a row over drugs in Brighton R v D'Agostino and Pettricione

R v Debski [June 2020]

Defended a Polish National who kicked and punched a stranger to death. The assault was captured on CCTV. He Pleaded guilty to Manslaughter.

[March 2020]

Prosecuted two defendants at Lewes Crown Court. The jury was discharged a day before the national lockdown came into force. The case was retried in September

R v Shemar Dawes [February 2020]

Prosecuted the remaining defendant at the Old Bailey in a 5 handed murder. The Court of Appeal had quashed his initial conviction. It was a gang murder that led to the convictions of all 5 defendants.

R v Jonathan Treadgold [January 2020]

Represented a 17 year old who stabbed his friend to death during an argument.

[December 2019]

Represented CPS in an abuse of process hearing

R v Shaun Thomson [September/October 19]

Represented a vulnerable young man at Nottingham Crown Court with mental health issues who stabbed his brother to death.

R v James Creaghan [and Gochani] [September 2019]

Represented the second defendant who was found not guilty at Lewes Crown Court in a 2 handed murder.

[July/August 2019]

Defended a 72-year-old woman at Sheffield Crown Court who was jointly accused with her son of murdering a man following a long-standing dispute between them. Issues were lack of involvement and joint enterprise. R v Scott and Carol Dawson. Her appeal against sentence was successful and her minimum term was reduced by 11 years.

R v MacKenzie, Kendall and Kendall [May/June 2019]

Prosecuted three defendants at Wolverhampton Crown Court for the robbery and murder of a man in his own home. Issues centered around DNA, telephone evidence, CCTV evidence, involvement, participation and joint enterprise. CCTV footage showed one of the defendants scaling the wall to break into the victim's flat through the window.

R v Lewis Gibbons and others [April /May 2019]

Defended a 26-year-old at Liverpool Crown Court for an allegation of murder. He was jointly charged with 3 others. Issues included a careful examination of DNA evidence, involvement and joint enterprise. The defendants were dealing drugs from a flat when they heard someone stealing their moped. They gave chase in a car knocked the thief off the bike, chased him on foot and when they caught him, they repeatedly stabbed him.

R v Laurens Brand [May 2019]

Defended in Reading Crown Court. The client defendant believed that his wife was being unfaithful and she wanted a divorce. In the early hours of Boxing Day morning he armed himself with a knife while she slept and repeatedly stabbed her. One knife broke, so he returned downstairs, obtained another knife and continued his attack. He pleaded guilty to murder.

R v Lewis and others [January 2019]

Defended at the Old Bailey in a 4 handed conspiracy to commit GBH and possession of a firearm with intent to endanger life. The defendant was accused of being on a 'ride out' with other gang members, seeking to attack members of an opposing gang in East London.

R v Idris, Muir, Abdille and others [October – December 2018]

Murder Prosecuted 5 youths at the Old Bailey for the murder of a 17-year-old youth. Issues involved DNA, identification, CCTV evidence, telephone cell site evidence and joint enterprise. The defendant's robbed a woman of her car to use in a 'ride out'. They drove to the area of a rival gang where they saw the deceased. In what is thought to have been a case of mistaken identity, they ran him down in the car. He got up and ran for his life. They chased him in the car and when they caught up with him, they repeatedly stabbed him.

R v Craig Savage [October 2018]

Defended a man at Lewes Crown Court who stole a loaded firearm from a rifle range in Hastings before travelling to the home of his estranged wife. He shot his way into the house through a window and shot and killed her, her mother and the family dog.

R v MT [June / July 2018 and February / March 2019]

Defended a client at the Old Bailey who was accused of being a member of 'National Action' post proscription. He was linked to a conspiracy involving his co-defendant to murder a sitting MP. Two juries failed to reach verdicts in the case of MT.

Memberships

- South Eastern Circuit
- Sussex Bar Mess (Chairman 2010-2019)

Publications

- Blog : [One of the Gang](#)
- Blog : [Pupillage](#)

Recommendations

2022

Chambers & Partners

Crime: *"People listen to him when he talks."*

Ranked: Band 3

Legal 500

Crime: *"A very smooth advocate, who is calm under pressure and extremely jury friendly."*

Ranked: Tier 3

2021

Chambers & Partners

Crime: *"An excellent jury advocate who is well respected by judges and other counsel. He is especially strong at murder cases." "An excellent prosecutor."*

Ranked: Band 3

Legal 500

Crime: *"His calm, measured and unflappable approach instantly creates confidence."*

Ranked: Tier 3

Awards

RANKED IN

Chambers

**UK Bar
2022**

Alan Kent QC

