

Isabelle Gillard

Call 1980



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Isabelle is an accomplished barrister whose expertise covers a broad range of criminal law matters. She holds The Royal London Hospital Postgraduate Certificate in Forensic Medicine and during her career has defended in over 30 murder trials. She has extensive trial experience of cases involving murder, terrorism, serious fraud, firearms, and drugs conspiracies.

She has represented members of the Armed Services in both military and civilian trials. Her experience is augmented by her work in the Court of Appeal; for many years she was on the list of counsel instructed in cases in the CCA where trial counsel no longer acts.

Besides criminal trial advocacy, her practice includes professional regulation and Coroners' courts work (presently in a Prevention of Future Deaths case) and advisory work; she advises in sensitive areas involving reputational issues (most recently a successful submission to IPSO) and safeguarding as well as pre-charge.

Expertise

Crime

Crime

In addition to her other criminal work, she is highly sought after by medical and business professionals accused of sexual offences – including defending historical allegations made against professionals by people formerly in

their care and, most recently, advising a very well-known musician faced with a rape allegation, the result of which was that he was not charged.

Notable Crime cases

R v M [2021]

Defending in a 'County lines' drugs conspiracy

R v E [2021]

Defending in an organised crime widespread conspiracy to supply Class A drugs

R v F [2020]

A very good outcome defending in a professional, organised crime conspiracy to supply Class A drugs.

R v S [2020]

A very good outcome defending in a case of possession of the most serious indecent images of children

R v S [2018]

Successful defence of a young professional man accused of rape

R v B [2019]

A very good outcome for a professional man accused of multiple counts of voyeurism

Business Crime & Fraud

She defends where business and financial crime are alleged, including in SFO and HMRC prosecutions. She also has defence experience in money laundering allegations (most recently a successful defence in a multi-million pound NCA investigation), trademark fraud, conveyancing and other land law fraud and where there are allegations of fraudulent wills.

Notable Business Crime & Fraud cases

Re G [2021]

Defending trademark fraud and counterfeiting allegations in respect of Apple products

R v Y [2020]

Defending a large conspiracy to defraud high net worth individuals through clearing banks

R v M [2019]

Successful defence of HMRC prosecution of very large VAT fraud allegations

R v H [2018]

Secured an exceptionally good outcome for a businessman accused of a VAT fraud

Public Law

She holds The Royal London Hospital Postgraduate Certificate in Forensic Medicine and both appears at inquests and advises in respect of them.

Notable Public Law cases

In re G

Advising interested parties where a central London coroner has sent a Prevention of Future Deaths report to a major national institution.

Professional Regulation

She has long experience of providing discreet advice on reputational issues, including making submissions to the old Press Complaints Commission and IPSO.

Notable Professional Regulation cases

In re R

Advising the family of a public figure in submissions to IPSO which resulted in a finding that the lengthy, repeatedly published story was untrue and a retraction issued.
