

Jim Tilbury

Call 1996



clerks@mountfordchambers.com



020 7936 6300

Praised by clients as being “a rare talent”, “a joy to work with from the outset” and a “first-class barrister for client care and meticulous preparation”, Jim enjoys a robust and varied defence practice built up over many years.

Jim is regularly instructed in complex organized crime, involving serious allegations of drugs and violence, proving himself to be “hard working, tactically very astute and extremely skilful in cross examination”, with “an outstanding work ethic, client manner and court presence”.

Recent successes include an acquittal on all counts after 2 trials and 9 months of complex evidence alleging kidnap and false imprisonment [R v Edney & Others; March-July 2022 and Jan-April 2023].

Jim’s practice also includes the representation of a variety of professionals ranging from Company Directors to Detective Inspectors, involving allegations of fraudulent trading, perverting the course of justice, money laundering and corruption.

Jim has represented a Company Director in what was then the “UK ‘s longest ever” Trading Standards prosecution and acted for a senior police officer in the “largest ever conspiracy to pervert the course of justice” [acquitted after a 6-month trial].

He has defended well known individuals facing allegations of fraud, and various other professionals in the public eye. These have included a chartered surveyor accused of defrauding the Home Office, a company accountant for accused of tax and pension fraud, and an independent financial advisor regarding a novel “SIPP” scheme [acquitted after 4-month trial].

Expertise

Crime

Jim has considerable experience in defending in complex organized crime. He is presently instructed in numerous complex lengthy matters involving OCGs and kidnap, blackmail, money laundering and drugs.

Notable Crime cases

R v Edney [March-July 2022 & Jan-April 2023] Cardiff Crown Court

Operation Arbus: secured unanimous jury acquittals on all counts of kidnap, blackmail and false imprisonment. The prosecution alleged that the defendant had assisted in guarding a victim at a safe house in Herts following a professionally planned kidnap by a London OCG who had travelled to Cardiff. The defence involved careful analysis of criminal liability at the scene for a secondary party.

R v Finnerty [Nov-Dec 2022] Wood Green CC

Operation Electra: acquittal on all counts [nationwide conspiracy to blackmail and falsely imprison] for female said to have been acting as the key courier for an OCG

R v Talawilla [February 2021] Warwick Crown Court

Multi handed trial involving allegations of perverting the course of justice following murder

R v Jones [Winter 2020] Mold Crown Court

Multi handed trial involving allegations of perverting the course of justice following murder

R v Plesniak [Summer 2019] Kingston Crown Court

Operation Steak; 2-month trial involving serious allegations of violence in turf war by a Hells Angels biker group against rivals

R v Diasamidze [Autumn 2018] Isleworth Crown Court

2-month trial involving multi handed allegations of immigration conspiracy

R v Bohuslava [Summer 2018] Leeds Crown Court

Operation Angelstoke; 2-month trial involving Slovakian OCG and modern slavery, exploitation and trafficking into the UK

R v Windass [Spring 2018] Sheffield Crown Court

Operation Gold; multi handed allegations involving OCG, conversion of firearms and supply of drugs

R v Zafar [May-June 2017] Manchester Crown Court

Modern day slavery trial; acquitted after 7 weeks

R v Hussain [May 2017] Birmingham Crown Court

Operation Granthall; multi handed allegations of conspiracy to supply class A drugs

R v Clarke [Jan-Feb 2017] Birmingham Crown Court

Operation Typhoon; secured acquittal in multi handed drugs conspiracy

R v Kulikowski [Feb 2014] Guilford Crown Court

Successful defence of young student in group violence allegations including manslaughter

R v Moucher [July-December 2011] Swansea Crown Court

Junior counsel for lead defendant, a Detective Inspector, facing allegations of perverting the course of justice, arising from the original police investigation into the Lynette White murder; acquitted after 5-month trial involving over 70,000 pages of evidence and protracted disclosure issues

Business Crime & Fraud

Jim has successfully represented a variety of professionals over the years, some of which have been in the public eye. This has included finance directors, company accountants, trustees for charity and independent financial advisors

Notable Business Crime & Fraud cases

R v Mohammad [May-June 2023] Inner London Crown Court

Represented Company Director accused of money laundering

R v Keeber [Autumn 2020] Bristol Crown Court

Successful defence of fraud manager for GWR facing allegations of payroll and expenses fraud; prosecuted by silk and junior

R v McDonald [Autumn 2018] Newcastle Crown Court

Represented company accountant in allegations of multi million pound tax and VAT fraud

R v S [Summer 2017] Central Criminal Court

Represented well known individual charged with fraudulently abusing position as trustee of sports charity

R v B [Autumn 2016] Bradford Crown Court

Represented chartered surveyor facing allegations of conspiracy to defraud the Home Office

R v Evans [Summer 2014 and Autumn 2015] Wolverhampton Crown Court

Represented company director in vast trading standards trial [the "longest ever trading standards prosecution"]

R v Hoole [Autumn 2014] Birmingham Crown Court

Junior counsel for independent financial advisor in complex novel "SIPP" scheme; acquitted at half time after 4-month trial

Memberships

- CBA

Publications

- “Young Victims of trafficking- prosecution or protection?” Counsel Magazine January 2020
- “DPP v M [2020] EWCA: common Sense Prevails”: Blog December 2020
- “VCL and AN v UK” Blog February 2021
- “The Times, they are a-changin’ (again)” Expert Witness August 2021; Blog May 2021