

Mark Rhind KC

Call 1989 | Silk 2021



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Mark was called to the Bar in 1989 starting off his professional career working for a commercial firm of Solicitors in London. He now specialises in criminal work acting for both the prosecution and defence.

Before taking silk in 2021 he was involved in many serious and high profile cases as leading or as junior alone and had a particular specialism in high value MTIC and Tax frauds, he was regularly involved in cases prosecuted by the SFO and Revenue and Customs and was certified as a "leading advocate" for the VHCC panel.

Mark was a Category 4 Prosecutor, certified to prosecute offences of rape and other serious sexual offences.

Since 2021 he has been led defence teams in several large multi handed murder conspiracies, pension and Timeshare frauds and regularly accepts private instructions to advise individuals and companies on issues involving business, environmental or general crime.

Expertise

Crime, Business Crime & Fraud

Mark was called to the Bar in 1989 starting off his professional career working for a commercial firm of Solicitors in London. He now specialises in criminal work acting for both the prosecution and defence.

His main areas of practice include:

- Fraud (including carousel and e-bay)
- Money laundering
- Confiscation and asset recovery
- Homicide
- Large gangland conspiracies
- Armed robbery
- Drugs conspiracies

Over recent years he has been involved in many serious and high profile cases as leading or led junior or as junior alone and is regularly involved in cases prosecuted by the SFO and RCPO.

He is certified as a “leading advocate” for the VHCC panel.

Mark is also a Category 4 Prosecutor and is certified to prosecute offences of rape and other serious sexual offences.

Motoring and Vehicle Crime

Mark represents those involved in fatal road traffic accidents and motoring matters, from fatal road traffic accidents to cases in the lower court. He has developed an in-depth knowledge of expert evidence tachograph analysis and medical defences available. He has also been involved in defending many cases of vehicle-related fraud.

Over recent years he has been involved in many serious and high-profile cases as leading or led junior or as junior alone and is regularly involved in cases prosecuted by the SFO, RCPO UK Border agency and the Environment Agency.

He is certified as a “leading advocate” for the VHCC panel and is a Category 4 Prosecutor.

Notable Crime, Business Crime & Fraud cases

R v W

Acting for the managing director of a aftermarket vehicle parts manufacturer prosecuted by the DfT after two long running investigations and judicial reviews brought by commercial competitors. After multiple applications all defendants were acquitted on the direction of the Court and substantial costs were secured.

R v S

Defending a case brought by the national ‘Scambusters’ Trading Standards team relating to the prosecution of a holder a multi national franchise.

R v M

defendant was alleged to be the ‘go to’ solicitor for an organised crime group and conducted conveyancing for 100s of properties over many years before moving to work for an accountancy practice which laundered money

through a licensed loan company. Money laundering and regulatory offences were alleged, 12 of 15 counts were dismissed after legal argument.

R v Jacob Harrison

Multi handed gangland conspiracy to murder trial relating to a feud between two organised crime groups.

R v Byrne & others

Leading Junior prosecuting a 7 handed cannabis importation conspiracy involving up to £32m of cannabis being imported from Spain in containers of fruit and vegetables.

R v Michael and Others

Leading junior defending a director of an insulation company in a Trading Standards prosecution brought by the national 'Scambusters' team, all regulatory offences dismissed after legal submissions, all defendant acquitted on all counts.

R v D

Leading junior defending in the multi million pound Vance Miller kitchen fraud conspiracy brought by the national 'Scambusters' Trading Standards team.

R v Bennetta & others (Operation Gurvey)

Leading Junior on an identity, long firm and mandate fraud.

R v Randles & others (Operation Galleon)

High cost case, multi-million-pound publishing fraud selling advertising space in multiple magazines and publications aimed at the emergency services.

R v O'Neill & others (Operation Savate)

High cost case, multi-million pound construction industry tax fraud based around the special tax rules used for construction industry sub-contractors.

R v Campbell & others (Operation Valgus)

Leading Junior – £25m mortgage fraud

R v Ferguson

Instructed in an £11m MTIC fraud transferring digital data leads by jurisdiction

R v People & others (Operation Compost)

Leading Junior in a cross-jurisdictional red diesel fraud.

R v Mirza & others (Operation Slynness)

Complex carousel fraud involving former employee of HMRC.

R v Flannagan

Fraud prosecuted by the Environment Agency involving acceptance and disposal of waste without permits.

R v Tinsley & others (Operation Nanobot)

Theft of £1.25m from the Department of Environment and Rural Affairs which was laundered in gold bullion transactions to facilitate a carousel fraud.

R v Baldeep Takhar (Operation Instalbox)

Multi-million pound high cost case, VAT and duty evasion fraud centred around the drinks industry.

R v Southern (“Operation Cambist”)

Leading junior for the principle defendant in a £25 million duty evasion.

R v Green (“Atoriana II”)

SFO company asset stripping fraud.

R v Taylor (“Operation Greengage”)

28-handed multi agency cross-border case involving firearms and drugs importation from Eastern Europe through

Amsterdam into the UK.

R v Ogden & Birchall

The first prosecution in the North West relating solely to money laundering allegations under the Proceeds of Crime Act.

R v McColl

Gangland double murder contract killing.

R v Dott

Murder involving entomological evidence which was used to accurately date the time of death by reference to the developmental state of various insect pupae.

R v Shaw & others

Multi-million pound cocaine importation conspiracy Mark was involved in the Strangeways Riot case and the Oldham and Burnley race riots.

Regulation

Mark Rhind has extensive experience before all manner of courts and tribunals achieved over 24 years as a barrister.

He regularly appears in the Coroners Court acting for interested parties including in particular the families of the deceased, carers, doctors or healthcare professionals. He has conducted Article 2 inquests and inquests with and without juries and is fully conversant with the practice and procedures in this developing and complex area of law.

Mark has particular experience in regulatory healthcare work and so frequently represents healthcare professionals who are interested parties after a death in hospital or other institution. He is conversant with hospital practice and procedures and is able to deal with cases involving complex medical issues.

Mark is experienced in defending a wide variety of cases prosecuted by the Environment Agency, in particular those involving the owners/directors of waste management companies and farms.

He has defended companies and individuals accused of breaches of waste licences and permits and has extensive experience in the areas of exemptions, ELVs, end of waste, restitution, applications and appeals for

licences including under the recent Scrap Metal Dealers Act and in the financial aspects of EA prosecutions and subsequent POCA proceedings.

Notable Regulation cases

Environmental Regulation Cases

R v B 2012

Defending the owner and manager of two licenced waste transfer stations in relation to breaches of the terms of the licence storage, transfer and disposal of hazardous and non-hazardous waste and the setting up of unlicensed waste storage facilities.

R v B 2012

Case involving waste transfer station which caused significant pollution in nearby waterway.

R v F 2013-14

Three month crown court trial acting as leading junior the owner director of a skip hire firm in relation to allegations of industrial scale unlawful storage and disposal of hazardous and non-hazardous waste, ELVs and recovered metals on various farm sites and scrap yards across Northumberland.

R v B 2014-15

Representing the owner of a skip hire and waste management company in relation to allegations of unlawful storage and disposal over a number of sites.

Public Law

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Memberships

- Criminal Bar Association
- Association of Regulatory and Disciplinary Lawyers

Appointments

- Recorder (2009)

Awards



Mountford Chambers

LEADING SET

Legal500

UNITED KINGDOM

2026