

# Matthew Buckland

Call 1998



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020 7936 6300

An advocate described by Criminal Law and Justice Weekly as “masterful” and by the Guardian as “deft and subtle”.

Calm, measured, strong and persuasive; Matthew brings intellectual rigour and confidence to every case he is instructed in.

Matthew is a specialist defence advocate with extensive and frequently successful experience in defending complex fraud, money laundering and other allegations of serious organised criminal activity.

Matthew has represented numerous professionals charged with fraud including accountants, bankers, chartered surveyors and lawyers. He has also acted for them at related disciplinary proceedings. He has achieved many successful outcomes in the VAT tribunal.

Currently instructed in one of the lead Encrochat cases and assisting numerous clients with issues arising out of Operation Venetic.

## Expertise

## Crime

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An advocate described by Criminal Law and Justice Weekly as “masterful” and by the Guardian as “deft and subtle”.

Calm, measured, strong and persuasive; Matthew brings intellectual rigour and confidence to every case he takes on.

Instructed in many high-profile cases involving serious and organized crime- extensive experience in defending those accused of being involved in the supply of drugs and/or laundering the proceeds.

Regularly instructed in cases of homicide or incidents of serious violence.

Separate niche specialization in Obscenity offences and extensive experience dealing with sexual offences committed online.

## Notable Crime cases

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Instructed in several ongoing complex Encrochat cases including the current spearhead case R v ACBD Complex legal submissions on the lawfulness of police and other state agents’ activities.

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### Thomas

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Large scale supply of drugs throughout South Wales. Acquitted.

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### Khawaja

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Heroin importation – acquitted.

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### Operation Cartoon

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Acting for the Lead defendant in massive heroin importation case.

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### Ventre - Operation Venetic

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Drugs and firearms – Acquitted.

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### Musson

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Successful Newton Hearing reducing culpability from 30 kilos to the admitted 8 kilos.

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### Fensome - Murder

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### James Foy - Murder

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Sandhu - One punch manslaughter

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Junior alone.

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Daniel - Kidnap and armed robbery

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Acquitted.

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### Manjra-kidnap

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R v F

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Lorry – jacking- Acquitted of the principal conspiracy – convicted of HSG.

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### Walsh

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Barrister charged with extreme pornography offences – Acquitted.

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Twink trial

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A professor charged with IIOC – acquitted.

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A teacher at a Public school charged with extreme pornography. Acquitted of 3 of the 4 counts. Non- custodial sentence.

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Represented many professionals including a COO of a financial institution, a pilot, a nuclear scientist, and a doctor.

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## Business Crime & Fraud

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Instructed in many of the major frauds of the last decade and with a strong record of arriving at successful outcomes.

## Notable Business Crime & Fraud cases

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### Operation Amazon

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Largest tax fraud ever prosecuted. Successfully defended a city professional said by the Crown to be at the heart of the funding mechanism of the fraud.

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### R v WS

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Acquittal in a money laundering case arising out of a fraud on the Candy brothers.

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### Operation Eggcups

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Very large VAT fraud.

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### Operation Bamburgh

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Mortgage Fraud on a huge scale. Professional client.

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### Operation Coponent

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A novel and complex fraud on McDonalds.

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### Operation Vex

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A VAT fraud on an almost unprecedented scale.

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### Vantis Fraud

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Accountants prosecuted for aggressive tax avoidance scheme- client acquitted.

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### R v Lagan

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Olympic ticket fraud.

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### R v Ahmed

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Fraud by breach of trust and an attempt to obtain substantial property portfolio by deception.

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# Asset Forfeiture & Civil Recovery

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Instructed by Professionals and third parties to intervene in Proceedings or seek to challenge POCA outcomes in Higher Courts.

## Notable Asset Forfeiture & Civil Recovery cases

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Wright

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Application under section 23 and Admin Court for Habeas Corpus.

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Sharma

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Proceedings under the Criminal Justice Act 1994. Acting for an accountant charged with orchestrating a highly complex and sophisticated money laundering scheme. A leading case on proportionality.

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Doherty

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Advice on restraint orders and POCA proceedings arising out of allegations of drug supply.

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Anand

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Advice on restraint and complex arguments on principles of joint ownership.

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Ahmed

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Complex confiscation where Prosecution had returned properties and cash to victims. Abuse issues and proportionality arguments.

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# Professional Regulation

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I have represented nurses, accountants and surveyors before their respective professional disciplinary bodies, or in the High Court when seeking to overturn a previous decision.

# Education

- MA OXON

# Recommendations

## 2025

Chambers & Partners

Crime: *"He is a brilliant advocate who is very much sought after." "He is a safe pair of hands and is reliable and trustworthy on big cases."*

Ranked: Band 5

Legal 500

Crime: *"Matthew is a truly excellent advocate. He has strong interpersonal skills and works hard. Juries like him and respond positively to the arguments he makes."*

Ranked: Tier 4

## 2024

Chambers & Partners

Crime: *"He has great judgement and is a commanding presence in court."*

Ranked: Band 5

Legal 500

Crime

Ranked: Tier 4

## 2023

Chambers & Partners

Crime: *"Able to take on enormous amounts of work and produce the goods. He can absorb massive amounts of information under pressure and is a big-time player."*

Ranked: Band 6

Legal 500

Crime: *'Matthew is a great jury advocate and has a busy crime practice.'*

Ranked: Tier 4

Fraud:Crime: Ranked Tier 4

## 2022

Legal 500

Fraud:Crime: *“Matthew is extremely bright and shrewd. He has a phenomenal work ethic. Clients appreciate his direct, smart approach.”*

Ranked: Tier 3

## Awards

**Chambers**

**RANKED IN**

**UK**

**Bar**

**2025**

**Mountford Chambers**

LEADING JUNIOR

Legal500

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UNITED KINGDOM

2025



**Chambers**  
RANKED IN  
**UK**  
**Bar**  
**2024**

**Mountford Chambers**



**Chambers**  
RANKED IN

**UK**

**2023**

**Mountford Chambers**