
Rupert Russell

**Degree:**

BA (Hons) Emmanuel College, Cambridge; GDL, City University; BPTC, Kaplan Law School

Year of call and Inn:

2013

Professional Membership:

Criminal Bar Association

Email:

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Specialist Areas:

Crime, including Courts Martial

Regulatory, including Health and Safety

Practice Overview:

Rupert joined Albion from Carmelite Chambers in London in 2018 where he specialised in defending complex fraud. Since joining chambers, Rupert has built up a busy general criminal practice as well as maintaining his fraud expertise. He is equally confident prosecuting and defending a wide range of work, including organised crime, serious violence and sexual offences.

Rupert is a Grade 3 CPS panel advocate. He is also appointed to the specialist Regulatory List C for advocates prosecuting Health & Safety and Environmental Law.

Areas of Practice

Fraud and Financial Crime

R v JWW (Bristol CC, 2019): Client acquitted of all seven counts of fuel card fraud alleged to have taken place at various locations over a twelve-month period. Despite strong circumstantial evidence, Rupert successfully persuaded the jury that they could not be sure the defendant knew or suspected the transactions he was making were fraudulent.

R v MP (Bristol CC, 2019): Represented an Independent Financial Adviser charged with Fraud by Abuse of Position in an eight-day trial in a case involving detailed forensic analysis of accounts and transactions over a four-year period.

R v GM (Harrow CC, 2018): Instructed by client accused of fraudulently diverting over £100,000 worth of housing benefit from the rightful claimants.

R v KK (Derby CC, 2017): Represented 89-year-old client ruled unfit to plead accused of defrauding his son out of his inheritance by making false representations to the land registry.

R v CH (Cardiff CC, 2016): Instructed as led junior in money-laundering trial for client who ran a lucrative 'legal high' business. The case turned on establishing his profits were not criminal

property because the substances sold were not outlawed during the relevant period.

R v MP (Harrow CC, 2016): Client acquitted on all five counts in a multi-handed property fraud after trial lasting six weeks. Allegations included making false representations about the status of residential properties and the misappropriation of holding deposits.

R v NWD (Southwark CC, 2015): Led by Charles Bott QC and Chris Henley QC in two linked tax frauds which ran for over six months. Acted for the Independent Financial Adviser who sold film schemes to “high net-worth” individuals to offset personal tax liabilities. The schemes utilised LLPs as investment vehicles allegedly created for the sole purpose of allowing the LLP partners to make fraudulent claims for sideways tax relief.

In 2017, Rupert completed a secondment at the white-collar crime department of leading law firm Arnold and Porter Kaye Scholer, where he advised clients involved in one of the SFO’s biggest ever bribery investigations into corrupt payments made by oil contractors to the Iraqi government.

Clerks:

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Regulatory, Disciplinary and Civil Proceedings

Rupert is appointed to the specialist Regulatory List C for advocates prosecuting Health & Safety and Environmental Law.

Rupert is regularly instructed by Gloucestershire Police in proceedings for civil orders such as Domestic Violence Protection Orders and Closure Orders.

Gloucestershire County Council v GF (Gloucester CC, 2020): Successfully prosecuted a woman under the Consumer Protection Regulations who held herself out to be a ‘faith healer’ capable of ‘reversing’ various incurable diseases.

Cornwall County Council v MD (Truro CC & Truro County Court, 2020): Instructed to represent Cornwall County Council in both criminal and civil proceedings relating to persistent breaches of planning control. Successfully opposed an abuse of process argument and prepared detailed submissions on Article 8 rights as they relate to planning enforcement.

Avon & Somerset Constabulary v AP (North Somerset MC, 2020): Instructed to represent a client resisting an application for a Sexual Harm Prevention Order (“SHPO”) founded on a conviction dating from 2010. Successfully argued that the scope of the proposed SHPO was too wide and ensured that the order eventually imposed was proportionate to the risk.

Lancashire Constabulary v MR (Blackburn MC, 2017): Represented client resisting the imposition of a Slavery and Trafficking Risk Order in a four-day civil hearing. One of the first orders of its kind imposed under the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

Clerk:

Nick Jeanes

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General Crime

R v SD & Others (Bristol CC, 2021): Instructed as junior counsel to prosecute a multi-handed conspiracy to supply Class A drugs and prescription steroids throughout Wiltshire and Devon.

R v LK (Exeter CC, 2021): Client acquitted of robbery despite DNA evidence linking him to the crime scene and being picked out by the victim in an identification procedure.

R v LB & Others (Bristol CC, 2021): Instructed as junior counsel for the first defendant who faces multiple counts of child cruelty in relation to two nurseries she ran for over twenty years.

R v AG (Bournemouth CC, 2021): Prosecuted a defendant charged with s.18 GBH after driving his car into a young woman's legs. Despite the defendant being identified solely from a fleeting glimpse of the lower half of his face, Rupert was able to sufficiently discredit him in cross-examination to secure a conviction.

R v AS (Bristol CC, 2021): Instructed to prosecute a third strike drug dealer found in possession of large quantities of MDMA and cocaine. Rupert successfully argued that insufficient evidence had been raised for the defence of duress to be left to the jury and the defendant was convicted on all counts.

R v LF (Liverpool CC, 2020): Instructed to represent client at the top of a conspiracy to produce cannabis at an industrial unit in Birkenhead with a potential street value of £1.5 - £2 million.

R v OP (Bristol CC, 2020): Secured acquittal for client charged with Unlawful Wounding involving an alleged stabbing at a party with multiple eyewitnesses.

R v RW (Taunton CC, 2020): Made a successful application to dismiss two counts of Actual Bodily Harm on the basis that the procedure used to identify the defendant was so inherently flawed no properly directed jury could convict.

R v MH (Isleworth CC, 2019): Rupert's client was one of a number of Bristol City supporters alleged to have taken part in serious violent disorder with a large group of Millwall fans outside a pub in Bermondsey. He was acquitted after a three-week trial in which the defence successfully exposed police failings which left Bristol fans vulnerable to attack from home fans, leaving them no option but to defend themselves.

R v JSW (Bristol CC, 2019): Secured a four-year sentence for a client convicted after trial of assaulting a man with an iron bar with intent to do him grievous bodily harm (s.18). Successfully argued that the provocation suffered by the client over many months, combined with his learning difficulties, merited a sentence well below what the court would normally pass for this type of offence.

R v EH (Bristol CC, 2019): Instructed to represent a client charged with historic sex offences against both his sons, as well as more recent sexual assaults on his granddaughter.

R v JC (Bristol CC, 2018): Represented a client charged with multiple counts of rape and other serious sexual offences. The allegations involved the creation of numerous fictional online identities in order to blackmail women into engaging in sexual conduct against their will.

R v MH (Gloucester CC, 2018): Defended a delivery driver of previous good character charged with causing death by careless driving. The client avoided an immediate custodial sentence after being

convicted in a retrial.

R v EA (Bristol CC, 2018): Led by Edward Burgess QC in a high-profile murder involving a fatal stabbing at a nightclub in Stokes Croft.

R v GQ (Southampton CC, 2016): Instructed as led junior for the first defendant in a major conspiracy to supply heroin and crack cocaine. The allegation involved an organised crime group with at least 35 members running drugs from Manchester to Southampton, Brighton and Winchester.

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Appeals and CCRC

R v JD (Court of Appeal, 2020): Advised the CPS to refer a sentence for Controlling and Coercive Behaviour under the unduly lenient sentence scheme. The Court of Appeal increased the sentence from a 24-month community order to 3-years immediate custody in a case reported in the *The Guardian* as a “landmark appeal”.

Bristol CC v AC (High Court, 2020): Represented Bristol City Council in an appeal by case stated against the award of costs in the magistrates’ court against the principles established in *Bradford v Booth [2000] All ER (D) 635*.

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Confiscation, Civil Recovery and Asset Forfeiture

R v RK (Bristol CC, 2020): Prosecuted confiscation proceedings in relation to a defendant convicted of producing cannabis. Reaching an agreed benefit figure required detailed analysis of gold bullion trading over many years.

R v D (Bristol CC, 2019): Instructed to resist an application to vary a confiscation order by over £100,000 nearly ten years on from the original conviction.

R v W (Swindon CC, 2018): Represented a client resisting the Crown's application to vary a confiscation order in relation to a multi-million-pound fraud.

R v MN (Wood Green CC, 2017): Represented client convicted of conspiracy to supply Class-A drugs in a three-day confiscation hearing involving a third-party intervener.

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Privacy Policy

Please click [here](#) to view Rupert Russell's Privacy Policy.

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