



Albion
Chambers

Harry Ahuja

**Degree:**

LLB (Hons) Kings College London; LLM The University of Manchester

Year of call and Inn:

2001; Inner Temple

Professional Membership:

Western Circuit; CBA

Email:

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Specialist Areas:

Crime, including Courts Martial

Regulatory, including Health and Safety

Practice Overview:

Harry Ahuja is an accomplished practitioner having worked in the criminal justice system for over 16 years. Prior to practising in chambers, he was a legal adviser to the justices for four years gaining extensive knowledge of law and procedure in the Magistrates' and Youth Courts. Over the last 12 years he has developed a busy prosecution and defence practice in the Crown Court and the Court of Appeal.

Areas of Practice

Crime

Violence and drugs

Harry is instructed in a wide range of matters including serious assaults, attempted murder, armed robberies, firearms offences, large-scale public order and drugs offences involving 'county lines'.

Sexual offences

Harry has developed a first-rate reputation in defending the full range of sexual offences which include historic allegations. He has successfully defended in multi-handed trials and is often selected to deal with cases of a sensitive nature such as child cruelty.

Dishonesty offences

Harry specialises in cases of fraud ranging from benefit fraud, theft from employer, money laundering to large-scale conspiracies to defraud. He has defended in cases of tax evasion involving up to half-a-million pounds, and has conducted cases involving the dishonest use of powers of attorney.

He also has a wide-ranging experience of ancillary matters. He has dealt with cases involving ASBOs, closure orders, firearms appeals and has also prosecuted and defended applications for sexual harm prevention orders.

Harry Ahuja is a CPS grade two prosecutor and is authorised to prosecute on behalf of various agencies including the Department of Work and Pensions, local authorities and the National Probation Service.

Reported cases and cases of interest

AG Reference (French) (2017) EWCA Crim 1207 - Acting for the Respondent - Successfully ensured that an immediate custodial sentence was not passed for a serious sexual offence which the prosecution submitted should merit such a sentence.

R v Broadway and others (2016) Bristol Crown Court - Multiple murder trial (seven weeks' duration) - Represented one of the six defendants in this high-profile Somerset case involving the use of shotguns and resulting in a fatal dispute between rival traveller families.

R v VG (2012) EWCA Crim 73 - Successful appeal against the imposition of a life sentence.

R v Ryan Shaun Andrew (2010) EWCA Crim 798 - Appeal against conviction - Possession Class A drugs with intent to supply. The focus of this unsafe conviction related to the conduct of the Judge at trial. The court considered the nature of the Recorder's questioning of the appellant when giving evidence before the jury and improper comments made by him during the summing up. The appeal against conviction was allowed and accordingly the three-year sentence was overturned.

R v Popescu and others [2010] EWCA Crim 2466 - Appeal against sentence - Multiple frauds. Sentence successfully appealed in respect of fraudulent use of cloned credit cards of Japanese bank customers by a group of Romanian nationals in the UK. The court accepted that where criminal activity was within the scope of the 'banking and insurance fraud' sentencing guideline it is incorrect to sentence outside the prescribed range on the basis of the impact of the offending on the commercial system since such an impact is an inherent part of any activity to which the guideline applies.

R v Chalupa [2009] EWHC 3082 (Admin) - Case stated - Failing to provide a specimen of breath under section 7(6) RTA 1988. Appeal by way of case stated in relation to the Magistrates' decision not to exclude evidence of breath test procedure under section 78 of PACE 1984.

R v Jason Higgins (2009) EWCA Crim 708 - Appeal against sentence - Racially aggravated common assault. Sentence appealed on the basis that the court should have adopted a two-stage approach in considering the appropriate term for the basic offence of assault and then imposing an uplift to reflect the racial aggravation. The court agreed with this principle and confirmed that the judge had erred in imposing 12 months' for the common assault with six months' uplift, however the overall term of 18 months' imprisonment was not manifestly excessive.

R v Coates (2007) HMNB Portsmouth - instructed as junior defence Counsel in the first court martial of an alleged rape at sea.

Crime Clerks:

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Privacy Policy

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