



David Smith

A wealth of experience both prosecuting and defending serious violence, sex, drugs and fraud

YEAR OF CALL 1988

Education

Leeds Beckett University
CIFE [Centre of
International Federalism,
Vorarlberg, Austria] The
Inns of Court School of Law

Appointments

CPS External Advocates
Panel: Level 4
CPS Specialist Rape List

Memberships

The Honourable Society of
the Middle Temple
The South Eastern Circuit
The Criminal Bar
Association
Fraud Lawyer Association

Awards

Commander's
Commendation,
Metropolitan Police,
(awarded for prosecuting
multiple defendant drugs
cases involving undercover
police officers)

Overview of Practice

David Smith has been practicing at the bar continuously for almost 30 years and has a practice spanning the whole criminal calendar. David both prosecutes and defends in equal measure and finds there to be a great advantage in practice to possessing both skill sets.

David has both prosecuted and defended in multiple defendant trials as leading and junior counsel in cases involving serious violence, drugs, fraud, child cruelty and sexual offending.

David is known for his work with vulnerable witnesses and defendants, children and the mentally ill.

Practice Areas

– Criminal Defence and Prosecution

Crimes of Violence

- Murder
- Attempted Murder/GBH
- Unlawful Wounding/Assault
- Child Cruelty
- Violent Disorder
- Prison Mutiny

Drugs

- Firearms Offences

Sexual Offences, (Historic and Contemporary Offending):

- Rape/Sexual Assault
- Sexual Activity with Children
- Child/Extreme Pornography: making and distribution
- Review of Social Services Records
- Breach of Restraining Orders/Sexual Harm Prevention Orders

Dishonesty

- Fraud – Advance Fee, Benefit Fraud, Employee/Employer
- Money Laundering
- Possessing Criminal Property

Drugs

- Importation
- Supply

Miscellaneous

- Causing Death by Dangerous Driving
- Perverting the Course of Public Justice
- Assisting Unlawful Immigration, Document Offences thereto
- Blackmail
- Kidnap/False Imprisonment
- Confiscation arising from the above
- Private, Domestic Violence Defence

Advising in all areas, including pre-charge advising for the Crown Prosecution Service.

Notable Cases

– [View All](#)

R v Steven Port (Snaresbrook – 2016) – A serial killer targeting gay men, drugging and killing them. Perverting the course of justice by disguising the death of his first

victim through making a false report of discovering and moving the body and lying to the police in that investigation.

[View media report](#)

R v Igbindeon (Central Criminal Court – 2013) – The defendant murdered his seven-year-old nephew. Prosecution witnesses included the defendant's young children.

[View media report](#)

R v Manji (Central Criminal Court – 2016) – The defendant killed his geriatric father while suffering from mental illness. The defendant pleaded guilty to manslaughter and was detained under the Mental Health Act, with a restriction upon his release.

[View media report](#)

R v Diriye (Central Criminal Court – 2016) – The attempted murder of a stranger by savage knife attack.

R v Dempster and others (Blackfriars Crown Court – 2014) – Prison mutiny, disorder and occupation of HMP High Down. Challenging Trojan (Armed Response Vehicle) and firearm officers.

[View media report](#)

R v Cooper (Reading Crown Court – 2017) – The defendant, who had autism, ADHD, a learning disability and was visually impaired, acted together with his vulnerable co-accused to sexually abuse and conspire to rape a three-year-old child. Each defendant required special measures (intermediaries).

R v Gibbins (Chichester Crown Court – 2017) – The defendant accessed and uploaded child pornography via the dark web. Contested expert evidence.

R v Deery (Inner London Crown Court – 2017) – The defendant targeted, groomed, photographed,

blackmailed and raped a number of schoolgirls from the same Catholic girls' school in South London.

R v Osaigbovo (Southwark Crown Court – 2016) – The defendant was involved in internet phishing scams through Friend Finder, involving US-based victims and the laundering of the fraud proceeds through his own money transfer business.

[View media report](#)

R v Adil (Harrow Crown Court – 2017) – Advanced fee fraud: Foreign companies were defrauded by the defendant, who had arranged substantial advanced fee for providing Sharia compliant lending vehicles to projects in the Republic of Ireland and the Cayman Islands.

R v Clay, Millington and Meijboom (Central Criminal Court – 2017) – Importation of Class A drugs for CPS Special Casework.

R v Roque-Hall (Isleworth – 2013) – Importation of cocaine by a person with quadriplegia and degenerative disease. Arguments re right to life and imprisonment breaching human rights.

[View media report](#)

R v Scott Parker (Isleworth – 2015) – Importation of cocaine from South Africa in containers transporting pets into the UK.

[View media report](#)

R v Nur (Isleworth – 2017) – Death by dangerous driving: Expert evidence re fatigue and sleep.

R v Cetince and Ganidagli (Wood Green – 2017) – Using a self-recorded 'sex tape' to blackmail a young victim and her family.
