

Curriculum Vitae

Eugene Hickey

University of Leeds – LLB (Hons) 1987

Called 1988 Lincoln's Inn

Expertise

Eugene is experienced in complex fraud cases and has represented clients nationwide. His expertise is in acting for defendants facing allegations of fraud including tax and VAT fraud and Company fraud.

Proceeds of Crime – money laundering

The financial implications for a defendant charged with serious criminal offences are severe and Eugene fully understands that this may often be at the forefront of a client's mind. He works towards ensuring that the best possible outcome is achieved. He has extensive experience with Proceeds of Crime (POCA) matters.

Other crime

In addition to such "white collar" crime cases Eugene also has considerable experience in other cases of a serious nature such as murder, serious violent offences and firearms offences. He has also acted for alleged members of Organised Criminal Gangs in large scale conspiracies to steal and handle stolen goods as well as drug importations and conspiracies to supply.

He is adept at appreciating and dealing with the complex assessment of evidence in such cases - which is often of a highly technical nature such as phone records, cell site evidence, social media evidence, APNR evidence, DNA evidence and financial records.

Eugene also undertakes cases involving serious sexual offences and is able to deal with vulnerable witnesses. He has undertaken many cases involving allegations of historic sexual abuse and acted for many professionals who have had allegations made against them: such as teachers and residential care workers.

Notable Cases

Set out below is a selection of cases in which Eugene been involved. They have been selected to demonstrate the breadth and quality of his work but it should not be regarded as exhaustive.

FRAUD

R v IS (Operation Armadale) at Nottingham Crown Court (VHCC)
A four-month Ponzi scheme fraud case.

R v SH (Operation Steric) at Reading Crown Court
The defendant alleged to be part of a conspiracy to make and then use false documents to cover up a fraud committed by a welfare to work company upon the DWP. The defendant was acquitted after a 3-month trial.

R v R (Operation Savate) at Birmingham Crown Court (VHCC)

A Construction Industry Fraud. Charged with Conspiracies to Cheat and Conspiracies to Launder Money. Trial lasted 12 weeks. The fraud involved Construction companies both in the West Midlands and the North-West area and concerned an abuse of the 'Construction Industry Scheme' (CIS) in order to avoid the payment of VAT and Income Tax. The loss to the HMRC was calculated to be approximately £4 million in the West Midland limb of the fraud and £4.2 million in the North-West limb.

R v S (Operation Heterodon) at Birmingham Crown Court

A large scale international money laundering operation involving a 'cuckoo smurfing' syndicate. The scale of the laundering was in the region of £1 million per month.

R v D (Operation MFB) at Liverpool Crown Court

A 12-week MTIC fraud trial at Liverpool Crown Court. Charged with Conspiracy to cheat the Revenue (VHCC).

R v H (Operation Dumpcart) at Manchester Crown Court

An MTIC fraud involving VAT reclaims for engineering plant that had purportedly been exported to Spain. Charged with Conspiracy to cheat the Revenue. The estimated loss to the Revenue was £2.3 million.

R v S at Stoke on Trent Crown Court

Acted for husband and wife who were charged with offences under the Insolvency Act 1986 for not disclosing all their assets after having been declared bankrupt.

R v F at Birmingham Crown Court

SF was charged with money laundering and a mortgage fraud relating to funds that the Crown suggested were the proceeds of crime coming from a payroll fraud.

R v C at Maidstone Crown Court (VHCC)

A 10-week VAT fraud trial at Maidstone Crown Court.

Drugs, violence and sexual abuse

R v BR (Central Criminal Court) 2020

Gross Negligence manslaughter. The prosecution case was that the defendant sold DNP (an unregulated diet pill) on the internet and caused the death of a young woman

R v B (Winchester Crown Court) 2020

Defendant faced an indictment involving the sexual assault and rape of two nephews

R v DH (Stafford Crown Court) 2020

A large-scale drug conspiracy case involving complex drug supply evidence.

R v TC (Swansea Crown Court) 2019

Defendant and others charged with a conspiracy to burgle and aggravated burglaries in south Wales. There were over 130 burglaries. After a 6-week trial Eugene's client was the only defendant acquitted from those left on the indictment for the jury to consider.

R v JJ (Worcester Crown Court) 2018

Defendant charged with Unlawful Act manslaughter by assaulting another inmate at a prison. Acted alone in the trial without a leader.

R v CB (Bristol Crown Court) 2018

Defendant charged with two counts of Murder of his wife and child.

R v G at Birmingham Crown Court

Prosecuted by the Complex Casework unit.

Prosecution case was that the defendant was part of an Organised Criminal Gang that were dealing wholesale in Cocaine and the cutting agent Benzocaine. Recovered cocaine if cut with the Benzocaine would have had a street value of £1.8 million.

R v S at Warwick Crown Court

Prosecution case was that defendant was part of an Organised Criminal Gang that had set up several cannabis farms in the West Midlands/Warwickshire.

R v C at Birmingham Crown Court

A 3-week Rape trial in which the prosecution case was that the complainant was falsely imprisoned by the 4 defendants and raped over a period of hours by 2 of them. Eugene acted for the main defendant.

R v L (Operation Grey) at Stafford Crown Court

Prosecuted by the Complex Casework unit. Eugene represented LL in a 9-week trial. LL was charged with being involved in a drugs conspiracy. The prosecution case being that the defendants were part of a gang that imported large amounts of class A drugs from Pakistan and then 'cut' the drugs and sold it on wholesale.

R v R (Operation Opal) Woolwich Crown Court

Prosecuted by the Complex Casework unit. Eugene acted for RR in a trial lasting 8 weeks. RR was charged with being part of a Criminal Conspiracy to plan and execute the escape from prison of JA – a man facing serious allegations of drug offences and Murder. The escape involved holding up a prison van whilst brandishing weapons including a sawn off shotgun and getting the escapee to Birmingham and then to Cyprus.

Contact Details

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