

Curriculum Vitae

Martin L Sharpe

Called 1989 Middle Temple

University of Manchester BA (Hons) 1984

University of Liverpool MA 1985

Pupil supervisor 1996 to present

Expertise

Martin is an experienced complex fraud practitioner but has represented defendants who have faced the whole spectrum of serious criminal charges. He pioneered *Goodyear sentence indications* (see below).

Fraud

He has been involved in cases where defendants have faced a wide range of allegations including company fraud, VAT & tax fraud, mortgage fraud, insurance fraud, education fraud, property investment fraud, solicitor fraud, immigration fraud, advance fee fraud etc

Necessarily Martin's expertise extends to all types of confiscation proceedings under all legislation – including High Court & appellate work. He is currently instructed in important POCA proceedings that have hitherto lasted 6 years, for someone who resides abroad & for whom there are a number of allied extradition issues

Other crime

Martin has always also worked on other cases of a serious nature such as murder, serious violent offences & firearm offences. He has also acted for alleged members of organised crime groups in large scale conspiracies to import & supply drugs.

He has considerable experience in analysing complex forensic & technical evidence – such as cell site, ANPR, DNA & international financial instruments.

Finally, Martin has undertaken a wide range of serious sexual complaint cases. He has experience in many cases of historic sexual abuse involving vulnerable witnesses. He has also been involved in cases where health care & other professionals including Doctors, teachers & residential care workers have faced sexual & other allegations.

Notable Cases

Set out below is a selection of cases in which Martin Sharpe has been involved, but it should not be regarded as exhaustive.

Fraud

R v A [2023]

POCA part of prosecution, of Britain's most notorious fraudster, who is currently serving a prison sentence in Spain, where he was extradited to from the UK, having previously been extradited from Switzerland.

R v B [2023]

Environment Agency prosecution listed for two months. Owner of large property & first defendant in multi-handed prosecution for allowing industrial scale tipping of hazardous waste, in multi-million pound case.

R v S [2020] (Operation Bulkhead)

Film development fraud. Trial lasted two years. Represented lead defendant in POCA as junior, ultimately settled for less than a million pounds, when the prosecution had sought £74 million.

R v A [2019] (Operation Liniment)

This case was listed for six months over two trials & involved company, tax & VAT fraud.

R v C [2016]

Large scale immigration fraud organised by solicitor & involving multiple sham marriages.

R v F [2015] (Operation Armadale)

For first defendant in four month (VHCC) Ponzi scheme fraud case.

R v J [2014]

Large-scale tobacco fraud.

R v F [2013/14]

Leading junior in large scale 'No money down' buy-to-let mortgage fraud.

R v M [2013]

Leading junior in multi-million pound counterfeit goods case.

Murder, manslaughter & rape**R v W [2023]**

Alleged rape of neighbour. Listed for a 2 week trial.

R v R [2022]

Historic sex abuse, involving two victims. Case was originally dis-continued in the 90's & involved multiple complex legal issues. The defendant was acquitted of all the counts concerning one alleged victim. Leave currently granted to appeal sentence.

R v Y [2018]

Alleged rape of company colleague after work night out, with immediate complaint. Defendant acquitted.

R v C [2017]

Twelve year old rapes five ten year olds at several scout camps.

R v K [2016]

Series of sexual assaults including rape of different strangers.

R v C [2014]

Historic sexual abuse including repeated rapes & buggery of female & male siblings & sister in law.

R v C [2013]

Represented lead defendant in gang knife murder of bodybuilder; issues included self-defence & toxicology relating to long-term steroid abuse.

Drugs**R v A [2022]**

Three month large scale drug importation case, from the Caribbean to the UK.

R v D [2022]

Two month trial in large scale firearms & drugs case which ended with the leader of the gang (who I represented) being found not guilty of possession of firearms with intent to kill.

R v N [2019]

Nationwide portfolio of cannabis factories in large commercial buildings. Instructed to do POCA proceedings.

R v H [2017/18]

Nationwide Chinese ran cannabis importation gang.

R v W [2015]

Large scale cocaine conspiracy in the north-west, based on probe evidence.

Unusual/Miscellaneous

R v M – Admin Court [2012] & COA [2014]

Complicated application for certificate of inadequacy in 10 year old confiscation case.

M - Civil Court of Appeal [2011]

Representing parents fighting appointment of Receiver to enforce sale of their home in enforcement of confiscation order.

R v Goodyear [2005] 3 All E.R. 117, Archbold 5-79b

Appeared at first instance in Doncaster Council corruption case & then took this case to the Court of Appeal, without a leader. Introduced sentence indication “Goodyear indications” in open court

R v Hamed [2006]

Privately instructed to represent “Prince” Naseem Hamed, the World Champion boxer, on his plea and sentence for dangerous driving.

R.(Miller Gardner Solicitors) v Minshull St Crown Court [2002] 67 JCL 370, EWCA 3077, Archbold 15-79 JR case, which arose from the prosecution of the supposed armourer of the notorious “Gooch Close Gang” in Manchester (the first case in Manchester in which “Special Counsel” was appointed). It concerned access to special procedure material by a firm of solicitors & has become a leading case on legal professional privilege.

Oldham & Burnley Riot Cases 2002

Represented defendants facing riot & violent disorder counts following large scale civil disobedience.

“Bolton Seven Case” 1997/98

This was a male sex case, which involved similar issues to the “Spanner Case” and was taken to the Court of Appeal, where five defendants were represented and then to ECHR, where the British Government settled the matter by way of compensation. Led to abandoning of law on gross indecency & was made into a Channel 4 dramatisation.

Castlemorton Common Festival Case 1994

New Age traveller “mass rave” case under the old common law offence of public nuisance, led to change of law & new “anti rave” legislation. Largest ever investigation by West Mercia Police.

To Note/Other

Considerable experience in multi-media presentation of fraud & other cases. Highly computer literate.

Contact Details

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