



Practice Profile

Charlotte Hole practises exclusively in criminal law.

Charlotte is a fearless and committed advocate, with first class client care and a willingness to go the "extra mile". She has experience of the full range of criminal conduct and has recently been involved in cases involving violence, guns, drugs, sex and fraud.

She has experience of post-conviction confiscation proceedings including appellate work and applications to vary existing orders, cash seizure and forfeiture and confiscation enforcement.

Regulatory work includes prosecutions for benefit fraud and prosecuting on behalf of the Architects Registration Board.

Charlotte has also undertaken Independent Counsel disclosure work on behalf of HMRC in relation to 'Operation Amazon', an investigation into tax fraud connected to the carbon credit industry, requiring assessment of tens of thousands of seized documents.

Areas of Practice

- General Crime
- Regulatory & Professional Discipline
- Prosecution
- Appellate
- Confiscation, Civil Recovery & Asset Forfeiture
- Road Traffic
- Serious & Organised Crime
- Sexual Offences

Memberships

- The Criminal Bar Association
- The South Eastern Circuit
- CPS Advocate Panel for General Crime at Grade 2
- Serious Crime Group Specialist Panel at Grade 2

Recent Cases

R v. H [Kingston] 2018

Historic rape, buggery and sexual assault

Paul Jackson Led Charlotte Hole for the Defence of male charged with the historic rape, buggery and sexual assault of eight males over three decades. This trial involved an application to stay a count as an abuse of process, the analysis of volumes of third party material, section 41 applications, section 100 and 101 applications and submissions of no case. Instructed by TS Law.

R v Seabrook & ors [Woolwich] 2018

Conspiracy to supply drugs

Charlotte Hole, instructed by the CPS SE Complex Casework Unit, was led by Martin Yale, Senior Crown Advocate, in a 5 week prosecution of 5 defendants charged with conspiracy to supply drugs with a street value of over £10m, after 951kg of cannabis was found in a lorry load of rabbit hay. The case involved large volumes of telephone records, cell site evidence, and disputed evidence of co-location.

News report here

R v TK [Kingston] 2018

Operation Trident- Possession of live ammunition

Charlotte Hole defended a 21 year old social worker in an Operation Trident case, after live ammunition was found in her bedroom. The defendant faced a mandatory minimum sentence of 5 years, but was acquitted after trial.

R v SB [Southwark] 2018

Assault on partner

Charlotte Hole defended an 84 year old man with Alzheimer's disease who was charged with assaulting his elderly partner, causing her significant facial injuries. The complainant was unable to attend Court, raising issues of hearsay, and the defendant was unfit to plead.

R v SC [Westminster] 2017

Police officer assault on two teenagers

Charlotte Hole, instructed by the CPS Complex Casework Unit, prosecuted a serving police officer charged with assaulting two teenagers when called to a domestic dispute.

R v AA [Central Criminal Court] 2017

Malicious communication to the police

Charlotte Hole defended a 25 year old with autism and learning difficulties, charged with malicious communications offences relating to threatening calls he made to the police. He was found unfit to plead, acquitted of one of the counts, and admitted to the National Autism Unit, a course the Probation Service had been unsuccessfully recommending for a number of years.

R v. MH [Kingston] 2016

Sexual Assault

Charlotte Hole represented this defendant where allegations of sexual abuse were made by his step children, now aged 12 and 15. The case involved pre-recorded cross-examination of the child complainants under the pilot scheme of s.28 YJCEA 1999.

R v. CR [Kingston] 2016

Rape

Charlotte Hole defended allegations of assault by penetration. Defendant has paranoid schizophrenia.

R v. MC [Inner London] 2016

GBH Sc18

Charlotte Hole defended this allegation of s.18 GBH using a knife and metal pole. Extensive issues of non-defendant bad character, and cross-examination of medical experts.

Architects Registration Board v Andrew Plumridge (t/a Peter Scott and Partners) 2016

Architect Regulations Board

Charlotte Hole secured conviction after trial on 5 counts of misuse of the title 'architect', by a former architect who was found to have made deliberate attempts to circumvent legislation with which he did not agree.

<http://www.arb.org.uk/Content/Index/MzM3NH5zdg==>

Architects Registration Board v 'The Market Design and Build Ltd' 2016

Architect Regulations Board

Charlotte Hole secured 'record' fines in respect of multiple offences of misuse of the title 'architect'.

<http://www.arb.org.uk/Content/Index/MzlxOH5zdg==>

R v. Akhtar [Southwark & C.O.A.] 2016

Appeal against a decision to stay proceedings

Charlotte Hole successfully defended a prosecution appeal against a decision to stay proceedings involving a vulnerable defendant where special measures were essential for a fair trial, but had not been put in place by the Court.

R v. Akhtar [2016] EWCA Crim 390

R v. DR [Woolwich] 2015

Firearms

Charlotte Hole represented this defendant charged with possession of a disguised firearm (a taser with the appearance of a mobile phone) and faced a minimum 5 year sentence. Successfully argued 'exceptional circumstances', allowing a suspended sentence to be imposed, following written submissions described as "a model of how to assist the Judge in a case such as this".

R v. MM [Peterborough] 2015

Indecent Exposure

Charlotte Hole represented this defendant who was acquitted of exposure following cross-examination of children aged 8, 11 and 14, one of whom had Tourette's syndrome, and acquitted in a linked trial of one count of possession of extreme pornography.

R v. Zharra & ors [Portsmouth] 2014

Conspiracy to Supply Class A drugs

Paul Walker led Charlotte Hole for the 2nd defendant in this large-scale conspiracy to supply cocaine, an 8 week "*professional drug dealing*" case. Paul Walker persuaded the crown to serve the full telephonic evidence totalling 20,000 pages. Despite his conviction and the crown's allegation that he was a "major player" Mr Zharra received a sentence of only 8 years imprisonment following Paul's plea in mitigation. The 1st defendant received a sentence of 15 years.

R v. CC [Southampton] 2013

Child Abuse

Paul Walker led Charlotte Hole in this trial involving multiple counts of sexual and physical abuse of 7 children. Defendant had significant learning difficulties. Analysis of large volumes of social services and school records was necessary.

R v. JG [Southwark] 2013

Misconduct in Public Office

Charlotte Hole was led by Ian Glen QC in this trial alleging misconduct in Public Office, a former police officer, acquitted after a trial. Instructed by Berry & Lamberts.