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## 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.

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## Areas of Practice

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

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## Memberships

- The Criminal Bar Association
- The South Eastern Circuit

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## Recent Cases

### R v. MH [Kingston] 2016

Sexual Assault

Charlotte Hole represented this defendant where allegations of sexual abuse made by defendant's step children, now aged 11 and 13. Case to involve pre-recorded cross-examination of the child complainants.

### **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.