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## Practice Profile

***Orla Daly is a highly regarded junior barrister, listed in the Legal 500, with extensive expertise in serious and complex crime. She concentrates primarily on sexual offending of the utmost gravity and also undertakes work in other areas of serious crime, including homicide, multi-handed violence and gun crime.***

Orla has developed particular expertise in the defence of those accused of rape and other serious sexual offences. She has an exceptional record of securing acquittals for those she defends, many whom are professional individuals for whom reputation is paramount.

She is frequently called upon to act in historic cases involving multiple complainants and is highly experienced in presenting issues of abuse of process in appropriate cases. Her clients are often elderly or otherwise vulnerable and she routinely deals with individuals with significant mental health difficulties where capacity is an issue.

She is often asked to advise in cases where Sexual Harm Prevention Orders have been applied for or imposed and is adept at dealing with oppressive or disproportionate applications.

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## Areas of Practice

- General Crime
- Homicide & Corporate Manslaughter
- Inquests
- Prosecution
- Regulatory & Professional Discipline
- Serious & Organised Crime
- Sexual Offences
- Confiscation, Civil Recovery & Asset Forfeiture
- Appellate
- Cyber Crime
- Military Law

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## What The Directories Say

'An electrifying character, who has an excellent rapport with clients.' *Legal 500 2017*

"She has an engaging manner with solicitors and lay clients." *Legal 500 2016*

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## Recent Cases

### **R v. Pentreath [Woolwich] 2016**

Historic rapes

Orla Daly appeared for the crown, prosecuting a businessman and chess professional for multiple historic rapes involving three complainants 30-40 years ago. The principal complainant had suffered severe mental health problems in adult life. Defendant was convicted on all 13 counts.

### **R v. M [Maidstone] 2016**

Historic rapes

Orla Daly successfully defended a sports coach, cleared of all alleged historic rapes & sexual assaults upon five complainants. Instructed by Berry & Lambert LLP.

### **R v. F [Maidstone] 2016**

Sexual offences on patients by chiropractor

Orla Daly acting as unled defence counsel in the case of a chiropractor accused of filming sexual assaults on patients. Instructed by Berry & Lambert LLP.

### **Operation Linear [Nottingham] 2016**

Rape and human trafficking

Prosecution by Queen's Counsel of 23 defendants charged on an 80 count indictment. Orla Daly acted unled in defence of the second defendant, a 17 year old facing allegations including rape and human trafficking. Successful abuse of process application was appealed by the prosecution. Continued to act in the Court of Appeal where the Crown Court judge's ruling was upheld in all but one respect. Complex case involving issues of capacity and consent as well as abuse of process. Now a leading case on indecent images: R v W (P) & others (2016) 2 Cr App. R. 27. Instructed by EBR Attridge LLP.

### **R v. M [Norwich] 2016**

Rape

Orla Daly successfully defended a businessman whom was accused and cleared of multiple rapes upon his daughter. Instructed by EBR Attridge LLP.

### **R v. Sykes [C.C.C.] 2016**

Murder of a pensioner

Sarah Forshaw QC led Orla Daly for the defence in a case prosecuted by Queen's Counsel and Treasury Counsel. The case related to the death of a pensioner bludgeoned to death by a defendant with learning difficulties. Issues of diminished responsibility and assisted suicide. Instructed by Thomas Boyd Whyte Solicitors.

### **R v. H [Maidstone] 2016**

Historic sexual abuse against a pupil

Orla Daly in the defence of an 82 year old retired head teacher for historic sexual abuse against a pupil. The defendant was assessed as unfit to participate in his trial and could not provide any instructions. Acquitted after trial despite the fact that the complainant's account could not be explicitly challenged. Instructed by Berry & Lambert LLP.

### **R v. F [Southampton] 2015**

Rape

Orla Daly twice defended the same individual for separate allegations of stranger rapes six months apart. The defendant was acquitted at both trials. Instructed by Edward Hayes LLP.

### **R v. Roberts [Portsmouth] 2015**

Alleged sexual assault on board HMS Ramsey

Orla Daly successfully defended this Royal Navy sailor for sexual assault on board HMS Ramsey, a warship docked in Bahrain. Acquitted following a successful submission of no case to answer. Instructed by Edward Hayes LLP.

The Portsmouth news article.

## **Notable Cases**

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### **R v. Max Clifford [Southwark] 2016**

Defence of celebrity publicist for historic sexual assault

Sarah Forshaw QC leading Orla Daly were successful in their defence of the renowned celebrity publicist who was cleared of a further charge of historic sexual assault.

BBC news report [here](#).