



Practice Profile

Robert Ellison is a Criminal and Regulatory barrister renowned for his expertise in cases of Serious Fraud, Homicide, Organised Crime and Police Misconduct.

Robert Ellison is frequently instructed as a Leading Junior in complex and demanding cases. He prosecutes and defends across the whole range of criminal offences. In recent years his work has focused on cases involving Organised Crime Networks, Serious Fraud and Regulatory work. He is described as “*adept at strategy and a skilful advocate who is liked by juries.*”

He has developed particular expertise in cases involving complex Fraud, Police Misconduct, Public Interest Immunity issues and challenging Forensic evidence. Unusual areas of his work have included HIV Transmission cases, Police Pension Forfeiture and Security Vetting Appeals. He also handles Company Director Disqualifications and Judicial Review.

The combination of his background and academic ability often enable him to bring useful insights to difficult cases. He served with the Metropolitan Police from 1981 to 1995. He left the service as a Detective Sergeant with particular experience of covert police operations and Homicide investigations. He was an outstanding legal scholar who received academic awards for his achievements at the University of London and the Inns of Court School of Law.

He has a keen interest in the Financial Markets and offers expertise in FCA regulated activities and trading frauds. His current cases include tax fraud using capital loss relief, ‘boiler room’ fraud, and Police Misconduct hearings.

Areas of Practice

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

What The Directories Say

‘He has an exceptional intellect, which allows him to analyse and dismantle a prosecution case with first-class

finesse in the courtroom.' *Legal 500 2017*

"Recommended for his experience from his previous career in the Police." *Legal 500 2016*

Education

University of London: Bachelor of Laws (First Class Honours)
Inns of Court; School of Law: Bar Vocational Course,
Pupil of Patrick Gibbs QC

Recent Cases

Operation Lunar [Birmingham] 2017

£Multi-Million HMRC Tax Avoidance Prosecution

Sarah Forshaw QC and Robert Ellison acted in the defence of this defendant charged with 10 others of a multi-million pound conspiracy to cheat HMRC. The fraud centred around multiple tax avoidance schemes. The charges were dismissed against our client following legal argument. The trial on the remaining defendants is listed for 6 months in 2019. Instructed by King and Spalding LLP.

Thames Valley Police v. R & anr 2016

Police Misconduct

Robert Ellison defended an officer in this Thames Valley police misconduct case. Issues included breach of confidentiality and Data Protection regulation. Co-defending with Queen's Counsel, his client was cleared of any wrongdoing. Instructed by Cartwright King.

R v. H & G [Snaresbrook] 2016

Child Cruelty

Robert Ellison successfully prosecuted this child cruelty case involving the sadistic torture of an infant. Issues included the admissibility of psychological evidence about the mother of the child.

R v. J & ors [Isleworth] 2016

Supply of Firearms & Ammunition

Robert Ellison led Dickon Reid in this case involving four defendants charged with possession of a firearm with intent to endanger life, possession of cannabis with intent to supply and with the supply of firearms and ammunition. The defendants were accused of robbing drug dealers at gunpoint of cash and drugs.

W v. Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime 2015

Appeal against the forfeiture of police pension rights

Robert Ellison acted for an officer in his appeal against the forfeiture of police pension rights. The appellant was involved in the 'Plebgate Scandal'.

D v. Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime 2015

Appeal against the forfeiture of police pension rights

Robert Ellison acted for this senior police officer in a referral to the Criminal Cases Review Commission and an appeal against the forfeiture of police pension rights. The appellant was the most senior police officer prosecuted for over thirty years.

R v. Reza & 5 ors [Southwark] 2015

DWP Fraud

Robert Ellison defended in this complex and substantial benefit fraud based on over 16,000 pages of evidence. The client was profoundly deaf and without speech.

R v. James [Isleworth] 2015

HIV Transmission case

Robert Ellison defended in an HIV Transmission case with multiple victims. Issues included legal argument on the extent of 'knowledge' required before a complainant could be said to be 'consenting' to the risk of infection

R v. Iqbal & 18 ors [Southwark] 2014

Banking & Credit Fraud

Robert Ellison led Jonathan Polnay for the Prosecution in this 19 defendant Credit and banking fraud with many thousands of pages of served and unused evidence. A conspiracy to defraud creditors and 'Acquiring Companies' by abusing technical weaknesses in the 'chip and PIN' payment process. The fraud was so complex that the trial judge described the methodology and money laundering as an 'impenetrable scheme'.

R v. Cisse & 5 ors [Croydon] 2014

Conspiracies to commit armed robberies

Robert Ellison acted as leading junior. A conspiracy to commit armed robberies. Issues included complex circumstantial evidence based upon telephone data and data from vehicle security tracking systems.

R v. Kendrick [Luton] 2014

Rape

Robert Ellison defended in this Rape of a 12 year old girl. The case required a lengthy cross-examination of the young complainant who had learning difficulties.

Notable Cases

Thames Valley Police v. S & ors [Disciplinary Tribunal] 2010

Police Misconduct

Robert Ellison represented an officer in Police misconduct proceedings at a 2 week discipline hearing involving four officers charged with breaches of the Discipline Code involving Dishonesty and bringing the service into disrepute. The allegations were that officers were taking and supplying Class 'A' drugs. The officer was cleared of all charges.

R v. V & ors [Southwark] 2011

Boiler Room Fraud

Robert Ellison defended in this "Boiler Room" high pressure, share-pushing operation from call centres in Spain. Around 1,250 investors in the UK were persuaded to buy over £7 million worth of shares. Using their "Gordon Gekko" contract notes to complete the transactions. POCA proceedings involved assets totalling £4.5m.