



Practice Profile

Andrew Collings is a specialist criminal and family law practitioner, with vast experience of handling high profile and complex cases within these fields and is noted for his client handling, eye for detail and thorough preparation. Andrew appears as Lead Counsel, with Queen's Counsel and alone in a variety of cases but primarily in cases of homicide and all serious sexual offending.

Additional work undertaken has included Money Laundering, Drug Importation and Supply cases, Kidnap and the Facilitation of Illegal Immigrants.

Andrew's Privacy Policy can be downloaded [here](#).

Areas of Practice

- Family
- General Crime
- Prosecution
- Sexual Offences
- Serious & Organised Crime
- Public Access
- Homicide
- Cyber Crime
- Confiscation, Civil Recovery & Asset Forfeiture

Family Law:

In his capacity as a family practitioner Andrew appears in High Court Care cases, primarily representing parents who face the daunting intervention by Social Services into their lives and the prospect of permanent removal of their children.

In these difficult cases Andrew has been noted by those who instruct him to have an ability to communicate with and explain complex issues to, the clients in a clear and sympathetic manner.

News

5KBW wins “Crime Set of the Year 2024” at the prestigious Chambers UK Bar Awards

15 November 2024

We are absolutely delighted to announce that 5 King's Bench Walk was awarded "Crime Set of the Year Award 2024" at the Chambers UK Bar Awards held at Old Billingsgate on 15 November. This is Chambers' 5th nomination for the prestigious Chambers UK Bar Awards in the field of Crime. We are very proud to have won this award for the second time in 5 years.

Commenting on the awards, Heads of Chambers at 5 King's Bench Walk, Sarah Forshaw KC and Mark Heywood KC said:

"We are absolutely delighted that 5KBW has been recognised once again as the UK's pre-eminent Crime Set. It is testament to the outstanding ability of every member of our Chambers, to our excellent clerking services and to our administrative staff. The shortlists and ultimate awards are the result of extensive research by Chambers and Partners. We could not be more proud.

That our own Louise Oakley also carried away the award for 'Crime Junior of the Year' is the icing on the cake. She is, quite simply, a star."



Recent Cases

R v. O & ors [Snaresbrook] 2015

Drugs, Kidnap & Wounding

Christopher Sutton-Mattocks led Andrew Collings on the first trial who then led Samantha Bonner in a long running trial and re-trial at Snaresbrook Crown Court involving multiple incidents of kidnapping false imprisonment and GBH over a failed drug deal. Those kidnapped were burned to the face and body with irons whilst falsely imprisoned.

Essex CC v. C & M 2013

NAHI / Shaken Baby Case

Andrew Collings represented the father in this "shaken baby case". Case involved extensive cross examination of experts called by the Local authority with regard to adverse reaction to 5 in 1 vaccinations. Judge described cross examination of Dr Richards, leading world Neurosurgeon, by Mr Collings, as, "skilfully conducted."

R v. E [Canterbury] 2013

Cold Case Historic Rape

Andrew Collings was successful in this prosecution of a prolific sexual offender working as a driving instructor in Kent. Eventually traced via, "cold case" DNA profiling.

R v. J & ors [Snaresbrook] 2013

Kidnap / False Imprisonment

Andrew Collings Successfully defended the first defendant in this 6 week kidnap / false imprisonment trial .Complicated factual background to case involving, "turf war "of rival drug gangs. High profile press interest as third defendant related to international singer.

R v. M & ors [Wood Green] 2013

Conspiracies to Handle Stolen Goods

Andrew Collings was Leading Junior for the defence in this significant conspiracy to handle stolen goods. Total value of the conspiracy 10.5 million pounds of BMW parts.

R v. R [Canterbury] 2011

Cold Case Historic Rape

Andrew Collings was Prosecution counsel in this "cold case", historic rape. Significant working knowledge of the scientific developments of DNA profiling.

R v. K & ors [C.C.C.] 2010

Murder.

Andrew Collings was Lead by Ian Glen QC for the defence, in this Murder trial involving a vendetta, drug related stabbing by gang of youths.

R v. C & ors [Croydon] 2009

£3m "Hawala" Banking Fraud

Andrew Collings was leading counsel for the defence in this long running and complex money laundering case involving the complexities of Hawala Banking as a purported defence to the £3,000,000 operation. Instructed by Alexander Johnson Solicitors.

Notable Cases

R v. G [Maidstone] 2008

Murder

Andrew Collings was Lead by John Price QC for the Prosecution in this "Honour killing," by Gravesend Indian community leader to avenge his sister's infidelity.