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## Practice Profile

***A resolute and skilled advocate with the advantage of a breadth of experience across the full spectrum of serious and complex crime. Pauline's affable demeanour quickly inspires the confidence of her clients and belies a steely determination to neutralise the opposition case.***

A highly regarded senior junior, Pauline is instructed in multi-handed allegations of serious and fatal violence, firearms, drug offences, financial crime and historic sex. These instructions cover both substantive offences and conspiracies, and are often connected to gang feuds. Pauline enjoys the analysis of evidence, uncovering those small details hidden amongst swathes of material, which alter the perception of a case.

Holding the firm belief that the art of advocacy is enhanced with experience of both prosecution and defence work, Pauline lends her skills to both ends of counsel's row.

### Consumer Law & Financial Crime

In 2012 Pauline was instructed to prosecute Operation Beke, where she lead Fiona Ryan at the Old Bailey in the successful prosecution of five defendants, charged with Fraudulent Trading, who had banked £1million from a series of phoenix companies purporting to offer LGV training.

Pauline is now instructed by a number of local authorities in London and the South-East to advise pre-charge, and prosecute, regulatory offences and financial crime. This encompasses a wide remit of consumer law related issues, including unfair, misleading and aggressive trading practices, product safety, enforcement action under Part 8 of the Enterprise Act 2002, applications for restraint orders under POCA 2002 and drafting Criminal Behaviour Orders.

Pauline also provides investigative training to TSO's.

The cases Pauline is instructed in are supported by the National Trading Standards Tri Region Investigation Team (TRIT) and following the successful prosecution in 2015 of Operation Rose, a wine fraud at the Old Bailey, Pauline has been invited to address Trading Standards Heads of Service and Senior Operational Managers at each annual TRIT training day since 2016.

Benefit Fraud prosecution at the Old Bailey, 2013

[News report here](#)

LGV licence fraud prosecution at the Old Bailey, 2014

News report here

Consumer Protection from Unfair Trading Regulations prosecution of a car dealer, 2014

News report here

Wine Fraud prosecution at the Old Bailey, 2015

News report here

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

## Areas of Practice

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

## News

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### Murder Acquittal

16 December 2024

Following a 3-week trial at Woolwich Crown Court, an individual charged with murder and manslaughter, was acquitted of all charges.

The case related to what was described, by the prosecution, as an execution, which occurred on 27th March 2019 on an estate in West Norwood. The defendant consistently asserted that they had no knowledge or involvement in the incident.

Pauline Thompson was instructed by Emma Oliphant of Blackfords Solicitors.

## Recent Cases

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### Operation Mowhawk [Croydon Crown Court] 2019

Conspiracy to commit fraud

Pauline Thompson led Olivia Haggart in a conspiracy to commit fraud and associated money laundering. All ten defendants were convicted. Instructed by Croydon Trading Standards.

<https://news.croydon.gov.uk/ten-sentenced-after-croydon-led-trading-standards-operation/>

## **Kent Trading Standards v. ADRIVEFORLIFE.COM [Maidstone] 2018**

Fraud by False Representation and Money Laundering

Pauline Thompson successfully prosecuted the director of ADRIVEFORLIFE.COM who pleaded guilty to 19 counts of Fraud and one count of Money Laundering. He was sentenced to 38 months imprisonment and disqualified from acting as a company director for 4 years.

[News report here](#)

## **R v. H [Woolwich] 2018**

Rape

Pauline Thompson acted for a defendant charged with rape and submitted a successful application to discharge the jury as a result of disclosure failings, the prosecution later offered no evidence. Instructed by O'Keefe's Solicitors.

## **R v.S (Canterbury) 2018**

Rogue trader prosecution. Instructed by Kent County Council Trading Standards.

Pauline Thompson successfully prosecuted a rogue trader builder who was sentenced to 61 months imprisonment on a fraud of £38,000. Disqualified from company directorship for 10 years and a CBO imposed indefinitely.

[News report here](#)

## **Operation Roburo [Kingston] 2017**

Conspiracy to possess a firearm

Pauline Thompson successfully defended allegations of conspiracy to possess a firearm with intent to endanger life, conspiracy to possess a prohibited weapon and conspiracy to commit violent disorder in a nine-handed trial. Instructed by EBR Attridge Solicitors.

## **R v. K [St Albans] 2017**

Conspiracy to commit knife point robberies

Pauline Thompson led Peter Eguae in a nine-handed conspiracy to commit knife point robberies. Defendant aged 15 avoided a custodial sentence. Instructed by F.A. Lee & Co Solicitors.