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## Practice Profile

***Pieter is a skilful and highly experienced barrister, specialising in the defence of serious crime, ranging from murder to fraud. Pieter is instructed as Lead Advocate in appropriate cases and is known for his fastidious preparation and calm yet robust advocacy.***

His practice includes offences prosecuted by the Organised Crime Division and the Central Fraud and Welfare Division and covers cases involving homicide, the supply of Class A drugs, armed robberies, large scale conspiracies generally as well as the full range of the most serious sexual allegations.

Pieter's fraud work encompasses alleged conspiracies related to VAT, mortgage and ghost employee frauds and the facilitation of breaches of immigration controls and also money laundering as well as cases involving Trading Standards prosecutions by local authorities . Pieter also regularly undertakes matters relating to confiscation, asset forfeiture and restraint.

He has extensive experience of representing and advising clients on the mental health aspects of criminal work, relating not only to insanity and fitness to plead and fitness to stand trial, but also the ramifications of Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Recent Case Examples include:

- R v B (2021) Instructed in an eight-defendant case involving allegations of charity fraud.
- R v R (2020) Instructed in an eight defendant violent disorder.
- R v K (2020) Trial on three counts of causing serious injury by dangerous driving.
- R v R (2019) Instructed to represent a prison visitor accused of conveying an article (drugs) into a prison. Proceedings discontinued following service of the Defence Statement.
- R v D (2019) Instructed in case involving the seizure of £630,000 drugs and possession of a firearm.

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

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## Areas of Practice

- Confiscation, Civil Recovery & Asset Forfeiture
- General Crime
- Homicide
- Serious & Organised Crime
- Sexual Offences
- Military Law
- Inquests
- Road Traffic

## News

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### 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.”*



### Attempted Rape Acquittal

30 January 2024

Pieter Briegel, instructed by Lisa Sawyer of VHS Fletchers Solicitors, represented a man accused of attempted rape. After a 4 day trial at Nottingham Crown Court, our client was acquitted of all charges.

### Recent Cases

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#### R v. C & ors [Kingston] 2016

#### Post Office Fraud

Pieter Briegel defended in this 8 week trial of a Post Office worker, accused with 5 others of a complex high value fraud against his employers. Instructed by Thomas Boyd Whyte.

#### **R v. N & ors [Bristol] 2015**

Conspiracy to produce crystal methamphetamine, amphetamine and MDMA

Pieter Briegel led Hannah Wyatt in this 12 week Bristol trial, defending a senior member of a conspiracy to produce crystal methamphetamine, amphetamine and MDMA. An unusual case due to the lack of knowledge about crystal methamphetamine in the UK and involving over 500 hours of covert audio recordings. Instructed by Blackfords LLP.

#### **R v. B & ors [Basildon] 2014**

Conspiracy to Supply Class A drugs

Pieter Briegel led Danny Robinson in this 12 week drugs conspiracy trial in which an undercover Police officer was subjected to attack and had to jump from a first floor window to flee his assailants. Instructed by Thomas Boyd Whyte.