



## Mark Ainsworth

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Call 1992

Since being called to the Bar in 1992, Mark has developed an extensive criminal practice involving both prosecution and defence work. He is regularly instructed in large and complex cases (alone or as leading or led junior) in the following areas:

- Homicide
- Drugs
- Firearms
- Sexual offences
- Fraud
- Election fraud

He is a Category 4 prosecutor and is on the Attorney General's list for the Northern Circuit. Mark has been recommended in crime by the **Legal 500** from 2006 to 2010 and is described as being "rated for crime and fraud".

**Chambers & Partners** have also recommended Mark over the last 7 years as a leading junior describing him as:

2011: *had the added advantage of having considerable knowledge of medio-legal issues.*

2010: *best known for his "extremely efficient" prosecution work.*

2009: *an excellent performer for his work on cases involving matters such as homicide, drugs, health and safety, and fraud.*

2008: *straight as a die in his dealings... with a mixed prosecution and defence practice.*

2007: *a keen and insightful prosecutor, his bread and butter is gang-related work and sex cases, although he has handled two electoral frauds and undertaken prosecutions for the GMC in the past year.*

Mark is regularly instructed to represent the General Medical Council before their Fitness to Practise Tribunal as well as being instructed in Health & Safety cases.

Mark has recently been instructed in the following notable cases:

**Operation Caber** – as defence counsel, an ongoing case involving 11 defendants charged with offences arising out of the Consumer Protection from Unfair Trading Regulations 2008.

**R v H and 8 others** – as defence counsel, an ongoing case involving 9 defendants charged with offences arising out of the Consumer Protection from Unfair Trading Regulations 2008.

**R v C and others** – as defence counsel, an ongoing case involving numerous defendants alleged to have been involved in a conspiracy to supply cocaine.

**Operation Seward** – as junior counsel for the Prosecution, an ongoing case involving 4 defendants charged with murder and related firearms offences.

**Operation Greengage** - as junior counsel for the Prosecution, an ongoing case involving 25 defendants charged with the importation of drugs, firearms and ammunition into the UK.

**Operation Shepherd** - as junior counsel for the defence, a case involving complex confiscation proceedings relating to an MTIC fraud.

**Operation Talmine** - as junior counsel for the Prosecution, an ongoing case concerning alleged electoral fraud in the Bradford West Constituency in the General Election of May 2005.

**Operation Leyden** - as junior counsel for the Prosecution, a case involving 11 defendants and concerning allegations of mortgage fraud, money laundering and concealing criminal assets.

**R v M and others** - as leading junior for the defence in an SFO prosecution, defending a company director charged with conspiracy to defraud.

Mark was appointed as a Recorder in 2008.