

## Benjamin Myers QC

Call 1994 | Silk 2014



### Clerks' Details

 Nick Buckley  
 0161 817 2757

 Dave Haley  
 0161 817 7118

 Ria Ashcroft  
 0161 817 2758

### Memberships

- Northern Circuit
- Criminal Bar Association
- JUSTICE

### Education

- LLM – International and European Human Rights Law (Distinction) – University of Leeds
- BA – Joint Honours – University of Leeds

### Criminal Overview

Ben specialises in serious crime. He is instructed consistently in substantial and complex cases of murder, manslaughter, high value fraud, money laundering, multi-million pound confiscation under POCA, drug trafficking, national and international organised crime, rape, historic sexual abuse and armed robbery. He has a wide experience of appellate matters.

Ben's knowledge of law and procedure relating to disclosure and abuse of process is extensive. His expertise in the field of human rights and criminal law is a feature of his practice, both in court and in an advisory capacity. He is able to provide advice at all stages of proceedings, from pre-charge and investigation to appeal

Ben is experienced in public law and is instructed in judicial review proceedings in the fields of both criminal and regulatory law.

Ben has lectured on criminal law and on international human rights.

Ben undertakes both legally aided and privately funded work.

## Recommendations

Ben has been ranked consistently as a leading practitioner in crime in Chambers Guide to the UK Legal Profession and in the Legal 500: he is described as a “polished and focused” advocate with excellent judgement.

“One of the most highly regarded young silks on the circuit. His client manner and meticulous preparation stand out.”

“He’s a wonderful advocate and very well organised.” “He is extremely astute and puts clients at their ease.”

**Chambers and Partners 2019**

“A very impressive silk who can handle serious cases extremely well.” “Very popular with clients and has an excellent rapport with juries.” “He is a really good technical lawyer and jury advocate - what more do you want?”

“Ben is excellent, professional and very good with clients. He is affable and experienced.” “He treats clients with respect rather than being aloof.”

**Chambers and Partners 2018**

“An excellent lawyer with great courtroom skills.” “He is a proper charismatic performer and comes across as genuine and thoughtful.”

**Chambers and Partners 2017**

“Noted for his expertise across a range of serious criminal matters.”

**Legal 500 2018/19**

“A brilliant silk.”

**Legal 500 2017**

“An exceptionally gifted lawyer – a fearsome advocate, incredibly conscientious and hardworking.”

**Legal 500 2016**

“He really goes above and beyond the call of duty.”

**Legal 500 2016**

“Highly regarded for his expertise in a wide range of serious crimes and is experienced in appellate matters.”

**Legal 500 2015**

## Cases

### MURDER

**R v RH and Others:** Multiple shootings culminating in the shooting of unarmed police officers.

**R v GC:** Gangland execution of businessman whose partially burnt body was discovered in a field in Cumbria.

**R v SS:** Paranoid schizophrenic tried for murder of his partner and two children. Complex psychiatric issues in relation to the law of diminished responsibility.

**R v GT:** Murder of 14 year-old boy in a graveyard.

**R v AK:** 'Honour killing' by professional hit-man.

**R v SW:** Young woman in abusive and controlling relationship charged with murder of partner after argument.

**R v AF:** Violent assault followed by death two years later. Complex issue of causation. Requiring medical opinions of nine experts across different medical disciplines.

### FRAUD AND FINANCIAL

**R v TR:** £330 million tax fraud based upon claims arising out of film and pharma investment schemes.

**R v CC:** £160 million banking fraud. Prosecution brought by Serious Fraud Office.

**R v MF:** Multi-million pound corporate banking fraud.

**R v DB:** Historic financial abuse of residents of care home in excess of £10 million. Issues relating to banking, probate and fraudulent financial instruments.

**R v CP:** Multi-million pound mortgage fraud.

**R v TL:** £21 million pyramid fraud. Flagship prosecution by the Office of Fair Trading under the Consumer Protection from Unfair Trading Regulations 2008.

**R v NK:** £40 million pound money laundering by businessman using via international money- transfers. Associated confiscation proceedings of £40 million.

**R v NM:** Blackmail and fraud by faith healer. Sensitive cultural issues in addition to high-

value offending.

## DRUGS

**R v MP and Others:** £500 million international conspiracy to import class A drugs.

**R v CI:** Multi-million pound importation of class A drugs combined with money laundering operation. Use of road haulage systems to import drugs into the UK.

**R v AM:** Bulk supply of cutting agent on industrial scale. Complex legal issues relating to provisions of Serious Crime Act 2007.

## SEXUAL OFFENCES

**R v MN:** International trafficking, prostitution and rape of multiple victims by international crime ring. Largest operation of its type at time of prosecution.

**R v JH:** Multiple-rape of 3-year old daughter by father. Broadcast of associated images over the internet to paedophile ring.

**R v ML:** Alleged historic rape of music student by teacher.

**R v AK:** Violent rape of a student by a defendant suffering serious psychiatric abnormalities, raising complex psychiatric and neuropsychiatric issues.

## FURTHER OFFENCES

**R v AD:** Coercive control of female partner in commission of probate fraud. Complex psychiatric and psychological issues and expert analysis of coercive control.

**R v P:** Misconduct in public office. Abuse of police data systems by serving police officers.

**R v W:** Conspiracy to possess firearms and use explosives. Use of this weaponry in excess of 20 attacks on city streets.

**R v P and others:** Importation of illegal firearms into UK from overseas. These included handguns, silencers and ammunition concealed in a motor vehicle and brought into the UK from Eastern Europe. Largest post-war importation of its type at time of prosecution.

**R v IM:** Explosive substances sent through the postal system. Detailed scientific forensic issues relating to explosives and DNA.

**R v MG:** Judicial review relating to search warrants and special procedure material.

**R v RB:** Death by dangerous driving. Technical issues relating to the law and science of alcohol analysis.

#### REPORTED CASES

**Unsworth v DPP [2010] EWHC 3037 (Admin):** Case stated regarding the parameters of lawful excuse as a defence to criminal damage under section 5(2) of the Criminal Damage Act 1971.

**Benson, R (on the application of) v Secretary of State for Justice [2007] EWHC Admin 2055:** Impact of Article 5 and common law due process when considering alleged breach of home detention curfew.

**R v Rashford [2005] EWCA Crim 3377:** Murder; extension of circumstances encompassing self-defence.

**R v Bevan [1999] EWCA Crim 2172:** Where disparity in sentence is objectionable.