




Chris Stables

Call 1990



Clerks' Details

 Kate Masher
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Memberships

- Member of the Northern Circuit
- Criminal Bar Association
- UKELA (UK Environmental Lawyers Association)
- Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society

Education

- LL.B (Hons), Class 2:1 (University of Liverpool)
- Inns of Court Certificate of Honour (Bar Finals First)
- Gray's Inn McKaskie Prize
- Called to the Bar October 1990

Beyond the Bar

Chris is married and has two children. Beyond family, his interests include sport and, in particular, mountaineering and climbing. Chris climbs in the Alps as much as other commitments allow, with notable ascents including the Eiger, the Matterhorn, Mont Blanc, and other 4000m peaks.

Criminal CV

Overview

Specialising in criminal advocacy and advisory work, Chris is one of the most experienced and established practitioners on the Northern Circuit. With over 25 years of experience, he has strength in all aspects of criminal practice and undertakes both defence and prosecution work.

He is known for his meticulous preparation of cases, his clear focus on the client's cause, but also his relaxed and approachable style. He is a 'no stone unturned' barrister, who puts his back into his cases and works tirelessly for his clients.

Defence work is undertaken for a wide range of solicitors across Merseyside, Greater Manchester, Cheshire, Lancashire and Cumbria. He has established a loyal following amongst senior solicitors and this work spans all aspects of serious crime. His extensive practice includes both privately funded and legal aid work.

Having previously been a member of the Attorney General's 'A' List of Prosecuting Advocates for the Northern Circuit, Chris has been appointed to the CPS Advocates Panel (2016 - 20) at Grade 4, the most senior grade. He has also been appointed to the CPS specialist Rape and Child Sexual Abuse List, and to the CPS Fraud and Organised Crime Panels (including terrorism).

Prosecution work includes regular instructions received from the Crown Prosecution Service (including serious fraud and complex casework), HM Revenue and Customs, the Environment Agency and Natural Resources Wales (formerly Environment Agency Wales). Increasingly in recent years, Chris's prosecution work has developed a national basis.

In general crime, his experience and areas of expertise encompass serious and complex fraud (including excise, revenue, banking and oil fraud), homicide (all aspects of murder and manslaughter), cases involving serious violence, drugs and serious sexual offences. In addition, Chris is known for his expertise in relation to the proceeds of crime and asset recovery matters.

Cases

R v Antonov. Current instructions. Murder case following sustained hammer attack. Case involving complex psychiatric issues and evidence.

Operation Polymer, R v Allen & others. Long-running, multi-handed trial involving allegations of serious sexual abuse of children within care homes in Yorkshire in the 1970s and 1980s.

Operation Affleck, R v Wren & others. Multi-handed trial concerning 'land-banking' fraud in the context of sales of numerous plots of land.

R v Neave & others. Heard at the Old Bailey and part of Operation Elveden. Involving the sale of confidential information to national newspapers. Senior staff member at Broadmoor Secure Hospital selling information to The Sun newspaper concerning the Yorkshire Ripper Peter Sutcliffe and Robert Napper (Rachel Nickell murder on Wimbledon Common).

R v Taylor & others. With Lord Carlile QC. Alleged murder of police officer off duty in Liverpool city centre. Defendant acquitted of murder, convicted of manslaughter.

Operation Camaro, R v Terry & others. Long-running, multi-handed trial involving Class A drug supply and serious firearms offences.

R v Kell, & others. Leading Junior. Trial lasting 4 months concerning conspiracies to commit offences of corruption, false accounting and to pervert the course of justice. Corruption between Merseyside Police Estates Management Dept and external contracting companies.

Operation Savannah, R v Little & others. HMRC excise and oil fraud. Conspiracy fraudulently to evade excise duty.

R v Gardner. Attempted murder (of wife by husband).

R v Hall & others. Operation Greengage. Large scale conspiracy to supply Class A drugs, firearms and ammunition.

R v King. Child destruction. Serious assault (by kicking) on pregnant mother causing death of unborn child.

R v Williams & others. Trial lasting 4 months and concerning conspiracy to defraud. Tried at Southwark Crown Court. Complex £20M fraud upon NatWest and RBS.

R v McCaffrey. Murder. Joint participation in murder by stabbing.

R v Hoey. Attempted murder of police officer on duty, by multiple stabbing.