



Sarah Elliott

Year of call: 1996

Office: London

doughty street chambers



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Specialist Areas

Criminal Law

Overview

Sarah is a specialist criminal practitioner with extensive experience in a wide range of criminal matters, including murders, manslaughters and other serious non-fatal violence, rape and other sexual offences, drug importation and supply, money laundering. She represents activists in a wide range of criminal proceedings arising out of protest actions including climate change, animal rights, and anti war. She regularly advises in criminal appeals, including those from the Caribbean to the Privy Council and in drafting submissions to the Criminal Cases Review Commission. Sarah is an advocacy trainer for Gray's Inn and a member of the Criminal Bar Association. She has recently acted as an international trial monitor in Bahrain for IFEX, PEN and Frontline Defenders.

She has a reputation for strong advocacy, good client relations, careful preparation and determination. She is instructed as leading counsel, (as well as sole and junior counsel) and has considerable experience of defending in long, complex multi-defendant cases. She is particularly skilled with young or demanding clients and with young witnesses.

What The Directories Say

Sarah is listed as a leading junior in the Chambers and Partners 2011 directory

Recent/ongoing cases include:

R v Jensen (and 12 others) (2012) Notting Hill rioting case involving gang robberies of restaurant diners, grievous bodily harm and looting.

R v R (2012) Sexomnia case.

R v M (2012) Conspiracy to kidnap and rape children.



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R v Dodgeon (2011) university lecturer charged with possession of ecstasy taken by a teenager who died after finding it at a party in his home.

R v Barkshire and others (2011) represented 20 Climate Change protesters during their trial for conspiracy to occupy and shutdown one of the largest coal fired power stations in Britain, running a defence of necessity. Sarah also acted in their appeal against conviction after the revelations regarding the undercover officer Mark Kennedy and the withholding by the prosecution of key material.

R v Pawling and others (2011) Sarah represented one of the 6 climate change activists in the second Ratcliffe On Soar trial submitting arguments on abuse and disclosure leading to the collapse of the prosecution and the subsequent inquiries into the actions of the police and the Crown Prosecution Service.

R v Brian Haw (2011) represented the late peace activist in his appeal against a further attempt to exclude him from Parliament Square.

R v Ibrahim (2011) defending at trial a protester charged with violent disorder at Oxford Street Top Shop during the TUC anti-cuts march

R v S (2011) defending the lead performer in a popular Burlesque Jazz Band on charges of grievous bodily harm upon an audience member during a performance.

R v Chivers (2011) appeal of a disabled man against conviction for murder by stabbing.

R v S (2011) teenage Afghan refugee charged with multiple rapes of his foster carer.



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R v J (2011) loan company employee charged with 'sex for loans' rapes.

R v McGowan and others (2010) £1.5 million cashier fraud of Halifax Bank.

R v Shire (2010) fatal shooting of a Camden schoolboy, successfully representing one of three members of same family tried for murder.

R v Avery (2008-2009) acting for the youngest of the SHAC organisers charged with conspiracy to blackmail companies associated with Huntingdon Life Sciences.

R v Britton (2009) representing a woman charged with conspiracy to pervert the course of justice by reporting being the victim of serious indictable offences such as shooting, stabbing and rape, alleged to have been staged by her, who claimed in her defence to be a victim of corrupt police officers and gangsters.

R v Steel (2009) first criminal prosecution for conspiracy to commit tortuous offences under s145 SOCPA.

R v Firkins(2009) four day appeal against conviction for double murder of an elderly couple in Wadebridge, Cornwall.

R v Goodyear (2009) prosecution of 'Sequani' animal rights activists in the first trial under s145 of the Serious and Organised Crime and Police Act 2005.

R v Anwoir and others [2008] 4 ALL ER 582, a 50 million euro money laundering case.

Other Cases of Interest

- **R v Weddell**, (2009) the Metropolitan police inspector accused of killing his wife and mother-in-law.



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- ***R v Vincent*** ('So Solid Crew' murder retrials, 2006).
- ***R v Karimi*** [2006] 1 All ER 759, (Post Holley appeal on provocation as a defence to murder).
- ***Attorney General's Reference No 88 of 2005 (Syron Martin)***, (sentence for manslaughter by shooting).
- ***R v Firkins*** (Cornish double murder of elderly couple, 2005)
- ***R v Cairns and others*** [2003] 1 W.L.R. 796
- ***R (On the application of C) v Balham Youth Court***, [2003] Crim.L.R. 636