

Omran Belhadi



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Profile

A creative and fearless barrister, he never shies away from taking novel or difficult points of law to advance his client's case. Omran is wholly dedicated to securing the best outcome for everyone he represents.

Omran offers a full range of service, from pre-charge advice to second opinions on appeals against sentence or conviction. His experience with and knowledge of the criminal justice system means he is regularly instructed in crime-related matters, including stalking protection orders, sexual risk orders, and applications to delete cautions.

Omran is qualified to accept instructions directly from members of the public on the **Direct Access Scheme**.

Education

LLB European Law, University of Warwick

BPTC (Very Competent), University of Law

Languages

Arabic

French
Urdu
Hindi
Spanish
German

Related practice areas

Criminal Law
Criminal Appeals
Extradition
Business Crime & Investigations

Homicide

Omran is regularly instructed in cases of homicide or attempted homicide.

- **R v Christopher Trybus** (2026): Led by Katy Thorne KC. Mr Trybus was alleged to have caused the death of his wife by pushing her to suicide. It was only the third prosecution of its kind in England and Wales. Mr Trybus was acquitted of manslaughter, coercive and controlling behaviour and two counts of rape after a seven-week trial. The case involved complex questions of causation of physical injuries, causation in unlawful act manslaughter and credibility of hearsay evidence. Omran argued the admissibility of expert opinion. Omran cross-examined several prosecution witnesses, including a computer expert, PTSD expert and domestic violence professionals. Omran also examined in chief the four defence alibi witnesses and a defence character witness. The trial was widely reported in the press including on **The Guardian**, **BBC**, **Daily Mail**, **Sky News** and **The Times**. It was serialised by the Daily Mail in a podcast available on **Spotify**.
- **R v PR** (2025): Led by Farrhat Arshad KC. Representing a defendant facing allegations of attempted murder, several counts of rape and coercive and controlling behaviour. After a six-week trial, the defendant was acquitted of attempted murder and all rape counts.
- **R v SS** (2024): Led by Maryam Mir. Represented second defendant in an attempted murder involving the use of a firearm on a 16-year-old. Omran cross-examined the officer in the case and made legal submissions on the admissibility of key evidence.

Serious Violence and Weapons

Omran frequently represents those accused of serious violence and possession of weapons including firearms.

- **R v KA** (2026): Representing one of 24 members of Palestine Action alleged to have taken part in violent disorder and criminal damage at Elbit Systems outside of Bristol.
- **R v JR** (2025): Instructed to represent a defendant charged with possession of a prohibited firearm with intent to endanger life. Following discussions with the prosecution, the defendant entered an acceptable plea to transferring a prohibited firearm. He was sentenced to 6.5 years imprisonment.
- **R v OK** (2024): Represented a defendant on a multi-handed conspiracy to rob involving several violent robberies of high-value watches in Central London. The defendant was sentenced to a hybrid order after the court heard evidence from two psychiatrists.

Terrorism and National Security

Having worked extensively in the counter-terrorism field prior to joining the Bar, Omran brings a wealth of practical experience to terror-related cases. This includes work relating to extraordinary rendition, torture, drone strikes, and secret proceedings.

He is adept at representing those charged with terror offences at all levels of court. He also advises Muslim community groups on counter-terror legislation.

- **R v MA** (2024): Sole counsel for defendant alleged to have distributed ISIS videos and encouraged terrorism on TikTok. The case involved cross-examination of technical experts and an expert in ISIS and legal argument about “mindset” material.
- **R v CG** (2023): Led by Rupert Bowers KC. Represented the first of two defendants accused of disseminating far right terrorism material.

Fraud and Financial Crime

Omran has a growing practice in the field of fraud and financial crime. He is skilled in assimilating large amounts of information and presenting it simply and accessibly.

- **R v LH** (2026): Led by Jonathan Lennon KC. Representing a defendant in POCA proceedings with a benefit figure of £16.5 million.
- **R v MK** (2024): Represented a jeweller accused of defrauding his bank and being involved in a scheme to launder over £1 million. Through negotiation with the

prosecution Omran achieved a significant reduction in the benefit figure for POCA proceedings.

- **R v LR** (2023): Led by Farrhat Arshad. Represented a former bookkeeper accused of involvement in a £1.8 million fraud allegedly perpetrated by the partners of a conveyancing firm. The trial judge allowed a submission of no case to answer, following four weeks of prosecution evidence. The defendant was acquitted on the judge's order.

Sexual Offences

Omran regularly advises and represents those facing allegations of sexual offending, including rape, sexual assault, historic sexual abuse, and possession and distribution of indecent images. He has completed the vulnerable witness training and is a junior facilitator for the training carried out by Gray's Inn.

- **R v AV** (2026): Instructed to represent a man of good character facing allegations of rape, strangulation and threats to kill.
- **R v MA** (2026): Instructed to represent a man facing allegations of rape, forced marriage and coercive and controlling behaviour.
- **R v JCW** (2026): Represented a man facing two counts of rape, one count of attempted rape, one count of assault by penetration, one count of strangulation and other charges. He was acquitted of one count of rape, one count of strangulation and one count of assault by penetration.
- **R v DJ** (2025): Instructed to represent a defendant of good character charged with historical rapes.
- **R v MA** (2025): Instructed to represent a defendant of good character charged with rape of a stranger. Prosecution offered no evidence.
- **R v MM** (2025): Represented a defendant charged with two counts of rape, one count of attempted rape and a series of burglaries against the same complainant. The prosecution alleged the defendant "cuckooed" the complainant.
- **R v NN** (2024): Represented a defendant of good character charged with one count of rape and one count of attempted rape. The defence involved legal argument about the complainant's previous sexual conduct. The defendant was acquitted after a week-long trial.

Drugs Offences

Omran has considerable experience in drugs cases, whether substantive or conspiracies. He is regularly instructed in lengthy trials involving thousands of pages of phone and surveillance evidence.

- **R v AP** (2025): Instructed to represent a young defendant alleged to be involved in the supply of Class A and Class B drugs. He asserted a defence of modern slavery. Prosecution offered no evidence after Omran drafted and submitted an abuse of process application.
- **R v MK** (2025): Represented a young defendant with severe learning difficulties charged with conspiring to supply cocaine and heroin. He was assessed to have a significant role in a conspiracy which was between categories 2 and 3 in harm on the sentencing guideline. He pleaded guilty on the third day of trial. Following mitigation, he received a sentence of 3 years and 4 months. Omran also successfully resisted an application for forfeiture of over £4,000 found in his property on the basis the money was legitimate and belonged to his parents.
- **R v SH** (2025): Represented a young woman of good character charged with drug dealing offences. Omran raised concerns the police had failed to account for evidence her partner was placing her under pressure. Prosecution offered no evidence.
- **R v DA** (2025): Represented the first defendant in a conspiracy to supply over 80kgs of Class A drugs.
- **R v AT** (2024): Represented a defendant charged with money laundering. A few days before he was due to be tried, the police cracked his phone and served 20,000 pages of evidence. The indictment was amended to include counts of conspiracy to supply magic mushrooms and cannabis. He pleaded guilty to those counts on the first day of trial and received a suspended sentence. Omran made submissions on the nature of magic mushrooms and credit for guilty plea. The defendant was sentenced to a suspended sentence.

Criminal Appeals

Omran regularly advises on appeals against sentence and conviction. He accepts instructions from the Registrar of Criminal Appeals and from those seeking a second opinion on potential appeals. Omran has a growing practice in appeals against sentence of Imprisonment for Public Protection (“IPP”).

He has successfully appealed several sentences, including a reduction from 15 months to nine months for a bladed article offence subject to a mandatory minimum sentence (**R v AF**); reduction from seven to five years for two offences of robbery or attempted robbery (**R v Goodman** [2021] EWCA Crim 1466); and reduction from two years' to 18 months' custody for a Section 20 offence against an 81-year-old man (**R v BS**).

- **R v PAB** (2025): Instructed by the registrar for an applicant subject to an IPP sentence. Application for leave referred to the full court and representation order granted. Appeal dismissed.
- **R v Mohsin Ali Kamran** [2025] EWCA Crim 247: Appeal against conviction with leave on two grounds. The grounds related to whether the trial judge correctly decided a submission of no case to answer and whether he had unfairly prevented the defence from addressing the jury on an element of the offence. Appeal dismissed.
- **R v MS** (2025): Appeal against sentence for a sentence of arson reckless as to whether life is endangered, with leave on one ground. The ground of appeal related to whether the sentencing judge took sufficient account of the defendant's mental health difficulties. Appeal dismissed.

Crime-related matters

Omran advises and assists clients on matters related to criminal law. This includes deletion of personal data held by the police, filtering of criminal convictions, sexual risk orders, and stalking protection orders.

Omran has persuaded the police to delete youth conditional cautions (**WE v Police Force**); overturned a stalking protection order on appeal (**JF v Police Force**); and successfully opposed a sexual risk order (**Police Force v AB**). Omran was also successful in persuading the Disclosure and Barring Service from removing an individual from the Adult Barred List, following written submissions.