



Oliver Sells QC

1972 (QC 1995)

Oliver Sells specialises in complex criminal cases (especially appellate work) involving fraud, extradition, money laundering and confiscation.

Since taking silk he has been involved in numerous high profile cases both at first instance and on appeal.

Revenue offences, asset forfeiture and confiscation proceedings form a significant part of his practice as he regularly represents prosecutors, receivers, and third parties in the Crown Court, High Court, Court of Appeal and House of Lords on matters relating to the restraint, receivership and confiscation of property.

His practice areas also include:

- Criminal law – specialising in commercial fraud, revenue and excise offences, money laundering, asset forfeiture
- Trade descriptions
- Licensing
- Statutory, regulatory and disciplinary inquiries
- Judicial Review
- Human Rights Law
- Extradition
- Money Laundering, asset forfeiture and confiscation

Notable Cases

- Blue Arrow (representing County Nat West director)
- BCCI (SFO prosecution)
- R v Riley (corrupt customs officer)
- Maxwell
- Operation Advice
- Operations Methusaleh, Jeroboam and Bottle

R v Dosanjh [1998] 1 CAR 371 Criminal Sentencing, Appeal Against Sentence, Fraudulent Evasion of Chargeable Duty, guideline case

R v Glatt [2006] EWCA Crim 605 Criminal law, criminal sentencing, fraud, confiscation, corrupt solicitor

R v Alfrey [2005] EWCA Crim 3288 Criminal law, appeal against conviction, cheating HM Revenue, being knowingly concerned in the fraudulent evasion of VAT, knowingly furnishing false documents or making false statements

R v May; House of Lords [2008] 1 AC 1028 Criminal law, criminal sentencing, appeal against conviction, appeal against sentence, conspiracy to cheat the Revenue [2008] 2WLR1113]

R v Francis [2004] EWCA Crim 3156 Criminal law, criminal sentencing, appeal against conviction, leave to appeal, rape, evidence, hearsay, jury warning

R v Ahmed (2007) [2007] EWCA Crim 460 Criminal Law, Appeal Against Conviction. Change of Law. CCRC reference

R v El-Kurd [2007] EWCA Crim 467 Criminal Law, Appeal Against Conviction, Change of Law

R v Rizvi [2007] EWCA Crim 467 Criminal Law, Appeal Against Conviction, CCRC Reference

R v Suchedina & Others [2006] EWCA Crim 2543 Criminal Law, Appeal Against Conviction, change of Law, CCRC reference

R v Ramzan & Others [2006] EWCA 1974 Crim Criminal Law, Money Laundering, conspiracy, consolidated appeals CCRC reference

R v Martin (Ellis Anthony) & Others [2005] EWCA Crim 3212 Criminal Law, Criminal Sentencing, Appeal Against Conviction, Multi Million pound, Diversion Fraud

R v Cox [2004] EWCA Crim 2467 Criminal Sentencing, Appeal Against Sentence, Conspiracy to defraud, Conspiracy to facilitate entry to the UK, Conspiracy to use false instruments

R v Lawrence (Steven) (2) Pullen (James William) [2003] EWCA Crim 2932 Criminal Law, Criminal Sentencing, Leave to Appeal, Conspiracy to Cheat

R v Oguz [2002] 16 CAR 429 Criminal Law, Drug Offences

R v Burns (Terence) [2006] EWCA Crim 617 Criminal Law, Appeal Against Conviction, murder

Attorney Generals Reference (No 1 of 1990) [1992] 208 630
Abuse of process guideline case

R v Liaquat Ali [2008] EWCA Crim 1466
Appeal against conviction, money laundering, conspiracy

R v Sooklal (Privy Council) 1999 [WLR] 2001

R v Quinn [1996] CLR 516
Hearsay evidence in terrorism cases

R v Barnes [1995] 2 CAR 491
Similar fact evidence

R v Cottree and others [2008] 1 CAR 7
CCRC jurisdiction in change of law cases.

R v Francis [2004] EWCA Crim 3156
Hearsay evidence in cases of serious sexual offences

R v Francis [2004] EWCA Crim 3156
Appeal against Conviction. Multiple Rape

Education/Professional

- Bencher of Inner Temple: Executive Committee 2009
- Recorder
- Queen's Counsel - 1995
- Member of Criminal Bar Association
- Member of International Bar Association
- Member of American Bar Association

Appointments

- Called to the Bar 1972
- Member of and Adviser to Commonwealth Law Association
- Queen's Counsel 1995
- Master of the Bench Inner Temple 1996: Executive Committee 2009
- Recorder of the Crown Court at the Central Criminal Court
- Member of the General Council of the Bar 1977-80 & 1986-91
- Executive Committee 1990-1
- Member of the International Bar Association
- Member and Lecturer of American Bar Association
- Supplementary Counsel to the Crown 1981-1986
- Member Proceeds of Crime Law Association 2009
- Chair of the Symposium on Economic Crime at Cambridge University