David Burgess

Junior Counsel - Above 15 Years
CALLED 1975



David has 40 years' experience defending cases of serious crime including homicide, kidnapping, firearms, drug and people trafficking, slavery, sexual offences, complex fraud and confiscation.

He also represents medical professionals in regulatory matters.

Notable Cases

Drugs

R v C, 2022

Importation of 2 tonnes of cocaine.

Plymouth Crown Court

R v SS, 2021

Class A county line drugs supply.

Taunton Crown Court

R v S, 2018

Successfully defended one of a number of people alleged to be involved in the large scale supply of class A drugs.

Harrow Crown Court

R v Q, 2017

Defended a member of a gang accused of the largest ever conspiracy to smuggle drugs and other contraband into HM Prisons throughout the Midlands and the North of England by the use of drones.

Birmingham Crown Court

R v G, 2017

Defending in a drugs related kidnap and false imprisonment.

Isleworth Crown Court

Drugs

Financial Crime

R v HA 2023

Defended an Advanced Orthopaedic Theatre Practitioner from St Albans City Hospital facing multiple counts of fraud, bribery and theft in relation to his activities in the procurement of implants and equipment The trial lasted 6 weeks. David was Leading Counsel and was instructed by JD Spicer

Press coverage can be found here

R v G, 2018

Defended a former professional footballer accused of money laundering.

St. Albans Crown Court

R v B and others, 2017

Successfully defended the manager of a money change business tried for conspiracy to launder £50 million three week trial at

Kingston Crown Court

R v M, 2017

Defended one of a number of 'travellers' alleged to have conspired to defraud in relation to over half a million pounds worth of unnecessary and defective building works.

Harrow Crown Court

Financial Crime

Firearms

R v K, 2021

Supplying assault rifles and ammunition.

Manchester Crown Court

Firearms

General Crime

R v M, 2021

Modern slavery, GBH with intent, kidnapping, false imprisonment and the supply of class A drugs.

Isleworth Crown Court

R v W, 2020

Represented BBC project manager caught watching child abuse on a Zoom call. The defendant claimed he joined the chatroom to find "like-minded gay men" and was "surprised" by the images of child abuse being streamed. He received a suspended sentence.

Kingston Crown Court

Read news report here

R v G and others, 2019

Represented one of four defendants charged with conspiracy to rob a jewellery salesman of £4.1m worth of “chocolate diamond” items. The robbery took place after the retailer, Ernest Jones, advertised his location online.

Kingston Crown Court

Read news report here

R v P and others, 2019

Defending in a conspiracy to rob with the use of a firearm and a knife where the victim was attacked in his own home in front of his wife and young children and sustained life-threatening injuries. Following a five week trial and an eight week retrial the defendant was acquitted of robbery, possession of an imitation firearm and causing GBH with intent.

Maidstone Crown Court

R v B and others, 2018

Defended in a conspiracy to steal from William Hill bookmakers by means of an inside man and a fake robbery where the prosecution case was heavily reliant upon telephone evidence. Three week trial.

Kingston Crown Court

R v A and others, 2017

Successfully defended a shop manager alleged to have conspired to steal.

Inner London Crown Court

R v S and others, 2017

Successfully defended one of a group of Albanians alleged to have driven from Sheffield to London in order to kidnap the victim from the street before returning to a stronghold in Sheffield. The three week trial was substantially based upon circumstantial ANPR and telephone evidence.

Harrow Crown Court

R v S and others, 2017

Successfully defended one of four defendants accused of kidnap, false imprisonment and blackmail.

Central Criminal Court

Crime

Murder and Manslaughter

R v D, 2018

Resisting the A-G's referral of a sentence said to be unduly lenient for conspiracy to murder.

Court of Appeal

R v D and others, 2017

Leading counsel for one of three defendants in five week conspiracy to murder trial in a case almost entirely dependent upon telephone and cell-site evidence.

Chelmsford Crown Court

Murder and Manslaughter

Rape and Sexual Offences

R v T, 2022

73 year old client acquitted of historic indecent assault on step-sister.

Maidstone Crown Court

R v R, 2021

Rape of niece.

St Albans Crown Court

R v A, 2021

Sexual assault, threats to kill and controlling & coercive behaviour in relation to wife and child cruelty.

Kingston Crown Court

R v M, 2018

Defended an asylum seeker accused of attempted rape.

Lincoln Crown Court

R v A, 2018

Successfully defended one of two twin brothers accused of raping their nephew.

Wolverhampton Crown Court

R v D, 2018

Defended a former Radio 1 DJ in relation to historic sexual offences where the prosecution eventually offered no evidence.

Southwark Crown Court

Rape and Sexual Offences

Violence

R v G & The General Dental Council, 2021

Controlling and coercive behaviour towards wife by Harley St dentist.

Southwark Crown Court

Read news report here

Violence