Ben Wild

Junior Counsel - Under 15 Years
CALLED 2024



Ben accepts defence and prosecution briefs in the most serious criminal and international public law matters. He is on the following CPS Advocate Panels: Grade 3 General Crime, Grade 3 Counter Terrorism, Grade 2 Serious Crime, and RASSO.

He has 10 years of experience as a qualified Solicitor, Solicitor Advocate and then Barrister, presenting in the Court of Appeal, Crown Court, Magistrates' Court and Regulatory Tribunals.

He has a reputation for excellence, taking on cases at very short notice with calm tenacity under pressure, intellectual acumen and a likeable advocacy style. He is also known for his persuasive negotiation techniques, and his warmth of character with clients and colleagues.

Background and experience

As a CPS Crown Advocate, Ben prosecuted a series of Crown Court Grade 3 trials including violent and organised crime, child and adult sex offences, witness intimidation, fraud, domestic abuse matters, cross-border offences, and weapons offences, gaining plaudits from Judges, officers, defence and CPS colleagues alike. He has appeared as both sole and junior

advocate in the Court of Appeal, including in the leading 'small boats' sentencing case of R v Ginar 2023.

Prior to this, he was a Senior Crown Prosecutor with the International Justice and Organised Crime Division, prosecuting cases involving international firearms and drugs importation, human trafficking and money laundering. He also has extensive experience as Magistrates' Court advocate, being promoted quickly from Crown Prosecutor to Senior Crown Prosecutor.

Before joining the CPS, Ben was a Case Presenter for the Nursing and Midwifery Council, prosecuting highly complex regulatory cases such as abuse of patients, contribution to death cases and dishonesty offences. He has experience of providing written legal guidance on matters of international law to Government Ministers from his time as an Advisory Lawyer with the Government Legal Department.

As a Co-Editor of the New Journal of European Criminal Law with an MA in International Law, Ben takes a keen interest in international criminal law, international humanitarian law, human rights and extradition.

Notable Cases

Drugs

R v DJ, 2026

Defence – in a case involving over 4,000 pages of served evidence, DJ had initially been indicted with supplying Class A drugs, but the Crown had offered no evidence. They nonetheless continued to prosecute him for supplying cannabis. DJ contended that the messages on his phone apparently offering 'weed' were in fact on some occasions a reference to 'Guinea weed' (a lawful Jamaican herbal remedy) and at other times a suggestive comment to the receiver, indicating that DJ would smoke cannabis to be better at sex. Result: acquitted.

R v MM, 2026

Prosecuting – a Class A drugs importation case.

R v LB and DT, 2026

Prosecuting – a Class A drugs importation case involving a range of evidence including forensics, tachograph, expert witnesses and phone evidence.

R v IW, 2026

Defending – a conspiracy to import Class A controlled drugs involving a range of expert and technical evidence.

R v AB & Others, 2026

Prosecuting – a 5-handed PWITS Class A drugs case involving several county lines drugs holders and a cuckooed stash house.

Drugs

Financial Crime

R v DS and AK, 2026

Prosecuting – a prison blackmail case involving the defendants forcing the victim to get his parents to transfer thousands of pounds to avoid harm.

R v DK and MG, 2026

Prosecuting – a fraud case involving the acquiring of login details for a number of online accounts, and the cloning of SIMs, and using these for personal orders.

R v B, 2024

Defence - B was stopped at UK Border Control with £22,000 in his jacket, said to be savings for an operation, and £202,000 inside a jetwash, of which the defendant had no knowledge. He was charged with two counts of concealing criminal property. The case involved an International Letter of Request in respect of alleged forged documentation. Result - acquitted on both counts.

R v V, 2024

Prosecution counsel in a s328 POCA money laundering trial involving over £300,000 in fraudulent cheques. Result: conviction.

Financial Crime

General Crime

R v GC and JB, 2026

Prosecuting – a conspiracy to steal well over a dozen vehicles in the London and South East area.

R v AB, 2026

Prosecuting – an indecent images of children case with a successful hacking defence raised.

R v KM, 2026

Defending – a PWITS case involving use of the s45 modern slavery defence.

R v JB & Others, 2026

Prosecuting – a 4-handed feud between traveller communities resulting in s18-level injuries, and involving machetes and a sawn-off shotgun.

R v FF, 2026

Prosecuting – a case involving an 18-year old repeatedly ramming their car into the Dolphin Inn in Broadstairs, injuring several people including knocking one unconscious with a flying fruit machine.

R v CJ, 2026

Prosecuting – a voyeur case in which CJ, a Thai national, would place his bag with phone under the curtains of female changing rooms.

R v HS, BB and DB, 2025

Prosecuting – this case involved BB and HS attending another individuals' property for a 'fair fight'. However, both sides emerged equipped with bladed articles and the result was a large s18 injury to the victim, as well as cuts to BB and HS. BB then returned home and was hidden in his father DB's attic, even as police searched for him. BB was eventually found when DB's phone was seized and messages instructing him to hide when forensics teams and other offences attended were found.

R v AM, KC and DN, 2025

Ben prosecuted this multi-handed PWITS Class A case, picking it up as a late instruction the day before. The Crown's was that all three men were involved as a group of drug dealers. DN and KC had previously pleaded guilty. AM was convicted after just 20 minutes of deliberation.

R v RM, 2026

Prosecuting – a sad case of causing serious injury by dangerous driving.

R v LD, 2025

Prosecution, contested indecent images trial – The National Crime Agency partnered with the New Zealand Police in an international investigation into indecent images of children. LD, a self-representing autistic man, was accused of being one of a number of users to access these images using the online file sharing platform Mega.nz. No images were found on LD's devices. Instead, investigators linked LD to five different IP addresses and their corresponding physical addresses. This involved cell site evidence, IP address evidence, and call data records, but also more traditional evidence such as handwritten diary entries and benefit claims. The jury convicted on all four counts. Ben Wild prosecuted and was called a "tour de force" by the lead NCA officer.

R v JD, AM, LCG and SS, 2025

Prosecution – An aggravated burglary trial in which three defendants (aided by their getaway driver) broke into the victim's home wearing balaclavas and carrying Rambo knives, tied his hands, and stole various items. The victim managed to jump from the first-floor balcony to escape. Three of the four defendants were convicted using a combination of forensics, cell site and ANPR evidence.

R v SA and DH, 2025

Prosecution – An assisting unlawful immigration trial in which the defendants attempted to bring three Albanian males into the UK in a hired campervan. Guilty pleas were entered mid-trial, with the evidence consisting of phone content, bank statements and journey maps.

R v GD and MB, 2025

Prosecution - Kidnapping with intent to commit a sexual offence, 6-day media interest trial. The defendants kidnapped the intoxicated victim from a bar in the early hours. They carried her to their home and unbuttoned her trousers, before she managed to flee and call the police. She was found hiding next to a nearby car.

Result: both defendants convicted on both counts

R v SI, 2024

Child Cruelty and ABH – Prosecution – the defendant was a mental health nurse and professional carer accused of repeated incidents of child cruelty including assault, against his step-son who had vulnerabilities. After a 7 day trial involving ABE and s28 evidence, the defendant was convicted.

R v H, 2024

Defence counsel on two racially aggravated public order offences at Woolwich Crown Court.

Result: acquittal on both counts

R v Y, 2024

S4A stalking, robbery x2 and threatening to disclose private sexual photos – Crown Court trial, prosecuting. Instructed on PM of Day 1. After all previous counsel had agreed no plea deal possible, negotiated acceptable pleas and a lengthy restraining order, to the delight of the victim.

R v T [2024] EWCA Crim 62

Sole counsel for the Respondent in this media interest appeal against sentence. The appeal was allowed.

R v C and M, 2023

Robbery – Two-handed. Victim had no memory due to intoxication and being attacked from behind. ID case involving a chain of police ID evidence usingCCTV stills andtriangulatingstills with post-robbery financial transactions. Successfully adduced a defendant's bad character.

Result: conviction

Crime

Immigration, Nationality and Asylum

R v Ginar [2023] EWCA Crim 1121

Junior counsel for the Respondent in this leading ‘small boats’ sentencing case, also drafting the Respondent’s Notice. The appeal was dismissed.

Immigration, Nationality and Asylum

Inquests

Ben worked as part of a team of 9BR barristers on the inquests into the deaths of the patients of former consultant breast surgeon, Ian Paterson.

Investigations and Inquiries

R v IH, 2026

Prosecuting – a child sex case, the victim being the daughter of the defendant's partner. Involved an intermediary and s28 evidence.

R v MD, 2026

Prosecuting – rape and sexual assault of a child under 13, the defendant's young daughter. Involved s28 evidence of two child witnesses.

R v RB, 2026

Prosecution – BR attempted to rape a lone, drunk woman as she was walking home in the early hours through St James' Park. Her friend overheard much of the incident as she was on the phone to the victim during the walk. BR dragged the victim to the floor, got on top of her, got between her legs and pinned her hands to the ground as she fought against him. However, three young soldiers were also walking through the park: they heard her screams and ran to help. They fought with and subdued BR. BR initially claimed he could not remember the incident. However, he then claimed that he had only been trying to rob the victim, and had only fought with the soldiers out of self-defence. Result: conviction.

R v BA, 2026

Prosecuting – a child sex case involving online grooming and the taking of sexual images. Involved s28 evidence.

R v CH, 2026

Prosecuting – CH contacted around 8 young girls, likely more, and elicited sexual photographs from them including via threats and blackmail.

R v CW, 2026

Prosecuting – a rape in the context of a controlling coercive behaviour, including assaults committed in front of the victim's children.

R v AA, 2026

Prosecuting – an actus reus matter involving sexual assault of a child under 13.

R v MS, 2026

Prosecuting – a serving police officer sexually assaulting five different women on a night out.

R v MH, 2025

Prosecution - MH faced a 10-Count indictment involving vaginal and oral rapes, s18 wounding, threats to kill and controlling or coercive behaviour, alleged by two separate ex-partners. Ben was instructed at short notice. The case involved legal argument on section 41 material, bad character, special measures and hearsay. After 12 days, MH was convicted of 9 of the 10 Counts, including all but one of the rapes.

MH was sentenced to life imprisonment with a minimum term of 14 years and 8 months.

R v H, 2025

Prosecution, Historic child sex offence. H was a family friend of the victim's parents. In the mid-2000s, he sexually assaulted the 7 year old victim twice and exposed himself to them. The victim, now in his late 20s, suffered from learning disabilities; he required an intermediary at trial, livelink and pre-recorded evidence. Ben managed to adduce relevant bad character evidence. Result – conviction on all counts.

R v G, 2025

Prosecution, Assault by penetration and sexual assault. G and the victim were both 18 years old at the time of the incidents. They met at a hotel after a JLS music concert, previously unknown to each other. During this time, the victim said she was digitally penetrated twice and sexually assaulted. Result – conviction on one count of assault by penetration.

R v NB, 2025

Prosecution, instructed the evening before trial – NB was accused of raping his 12-year-old cousin and sexually assaulting her some years before. He had attempted to get the morning after pill following the rape. NB had refused to provide the PIN to his phone, but the police gained access to it shortly before trial: on it, they found indecent images of children.

Ben advised that, instead of pursuing a bad character application as originally planned (due to the necessarily late service of the material), it would be better to add charges of indecent images to the indictment on Day 1 of trial and adduce the material that way.

This application was successful and led to NB pleading guilty to a full 5-Count indictment without any civilian witnesses needing to be called.

R v S, 2024

Sexual assault x2 and Threatening with an Offensive Weapon – Prosecution – S was accused of sexually assaulting two different lone women at bus stops in early hours. In one of the incidents, S put a broken glass bottle to the victim's face to ensure compliance. S was 17 at the time of the offences, and required both an interpreter and an intermediary.

Result: conviction on all counts

R v S, 2024

Defence counsel – S was accused of sexually assaulting three teenage girls on a packed train. Ben demonstrated collusion between the prosecution witnesses, acquired key defence evidence, and exposed contamination of the prosecution's ID procedure.

Result: Acquittal

R v H, 2024

Engaging in sexual activity in the presence of a child – Crown Court re-trial, prosecuting (not original trial counsel). Accepted as a late return against highly experienced defence counsel. The case involved two sets of ABE and section 28 cross-examination, as well as live evidence from Crown witnesses and the defendant.

Result: conviction

R v D, 2024

A sensitive media interest Crown Court sentencing case involving a convicted child sex offender grooming and attempting to molest a neighbourhood friend's child. Prosecuting. Total sentence 4 years 1 month.

R v H, 2023

Sexual assault x2 – Crown Court trial, prosecuting. Instructed on Day 1, having completed another trial that morning. No CCTV, forensic or eyewitness evidence. Successfully resisted a half-time submission, a bad character application against the complainant, and part of an application to adduce her full sexual history.

R v C, 2022

Sexual Assault and Possession of False ID – Crown Court trial, prosecuting. Involved groping ofvictim inEurotunnel queue andpossession of false Belgian ID.No CCTV, forensics, or eyewitnesses. Involved victim's evidence via videolink from the Netherlands using an International Letter of Request which I advised on, and expert evidencerethe ID.

Result: conviction

[Rape and Sexual Offences]

Violence

R v COS, 2026

Defending – a s18 pub fight case involving biting an ear off, biting of chest and biting a police officer's arm.

R v KNB & Others, 2026

Prosecuting – a 21-handed prison riot case. The matter involved a number of weapons (shanks, plugs in socks etc) being used, inmates hospitalised with stab wounds, as well as assaults on prison officers. All individuals involved were convicted.

R v CH & Others, 2026

Prosecuting – a 5-handed commercial robbery case. This involved a complex conspiracy involving an 'inside man' at the targeted premises.

R v HGF & Others, 2026

Prosecuting – an 8-handed prison riot case. This involved an inmate attacking others with scalding hot water before being attacked in turn with shanks, causing s18-level injuries.

R v JT, 2026

Prosecuting – a s181 Online Safety Act 2023 case wherein JT placed several handwritten notes around different shops and tourist attractions, containing material about harming an imaginary wife and her partner.

R v R, 2024

Prosecution counsel - a drunken attempted street robbery hinging on identification evidence. Result: conviction.

R v McC, 2024

Prosecution counsel - a 'honeytrap' robbery and ABH trial in which the victim was lured to a location, only to be violently assaulted and robbed. The case hinged primarily on recognition identification evidence. Result: conviction.

R v G, 2024

Malicious communications, ABH x2, perverting the course of justice, and theft – Crown Court trial, prosecuting. Negotiated acceptable pleas and a lengthy restraining order after succeeding in getting the victim, who had previously disengaged, to court. The victim was delighted and felt she could now move on with her life.

R v B, 2024

A highly complex media interest Crown Court sentencing across three separate matters involving firearms and other weapons offences, ABHs, racially aggravated offences, robbery and public order offences. Prosecuting. Total sentence of 7 years 6 months.

R v S, 2024

GBH, controlling and coercive behaviour and a further 7 separate assaults. Crown Court trial, prosecuting. Succeeded, despite the victim having disengaged, in securing acceptable pleas and a contested 15 year restraining order.

R v B, 2024

Controlling and coercive behaviour x2, stalking s4A x2, criminal damage x2, intentional strangulation and x7 batteries – Crown Court trial, prosecuting. Late return. Succeeded in negotiating acceptable pleas after former counsel's indication of no prospect of this.

R v D, 2023

ABH – Crown Court trial involving the assault of a young boy in front of his mother by a mentally challenged defendant. Prosecuting. Succeeded in agreeing the evidence of the victim and introducing the defendant's bad character at late notice.

Result: conviction

Violence

Achievements

Memberships

- Criminal Bar Association
- Inner Temple
- Lawyers' Christian Fellowship
- Justice Defenders
- Advocate (Bar Council Pro Bono Charity)
- Admitted as a solicitor in 2016

Appointments

- Co-Editor of the New Journal of European Criminal Law
- (former) Co-Chair of the CPS Prosecution Christian Fellowship
- CPS Counter Terrorism (Grade 3)
- CPS Serious Crime (Grade 2)

Publications

- Leaked Out – Julian Assange's Great Escape - CrimeLine - 9BR Extradition Hub - July 2024

How, after 14 years of efforts by the US, the UK and Sweden, did Julian Assange manage to walk away with just a single charge, a sentence of time served, and no more extradition proceedings? Why did the US find itself settling for this option?

- European Court of Human Rights Case Law Update - New Journal of European Criminal Law – Current, quarterly since 2016
- Justice: Why Bother? - SAGE Publishing - November 2020
- Eight key moments in International Criminal Court history - Global Justice - July 2016
- Yea Rights! - The Legal Impact of Repealing the Human Rights Act - European Criminal Bar Association - March 2016
- A Farewell to Private Arms?: The UN, the Law and the Private Military Companies - September 2012

Awards

- CPS Chief Crown Prosecutor (South East) Commendation Award 2022
- CPS Director of Public Prosecutions Commendation Award 2021
- Winner of the Kher Solicitors Award for Best Answer in an Advanced Criminal Law Exam 2015

- Winner of the BPP Innovation Award 2014

Education

- 2014 - Legal Practice Course - BPP Law School - Pass with Distinction
- 2013 - Graduate Diploma in Law - BPP Law School - Pass with Commendation
- 2011 - MA International Law - United Nations University for Peace - Grade: 9.5/10
- 2010 - BA(Joint Honours) Politics and Modern History - University of Manchester - First Class

Activities and Interests

- Poetry
- Boxing
- MMA
- Music
- Faith