



Simon Denison QC has over 30 years' experience at the Criminal Bar. After building a successful defence practice he moved increasingly into prosecution work. In 2001 he was appointed as Junior Treasury Counsel at the Central Criminal Court, in 2007 as Senior Treasury Counsel, and in 2009 as Queens Counsel. In 2018 he was appointed a Recorder of the Crown Court.

"Supremely effective."

(Chambers UK)

He has prosecuted and defended in the full range of serious criminal cases, including murder, manslaughter, firearms, gang related offences, robbery, kidnapping, human trafficking, serious sexual offences, drugs, fraud, corruption, cases involving issues of national security and terrorism, and cases involving highly sensitive issues of disclosure. He has advised and appeared on behalf of the Attorney General in the Court of Appeal in many cases of unduly lenient sentences and of discrete issues of law.

Examples of cases include:

R v John Henry Sayers and others (2018), the prosecution of a ride-by shooting of a doorman outside a nightclub in Newcastle that led to a two-and-a-half year police investigation and the most substantial disclosure exercise ever undertaken by Northumbria police. The ten-week trial of four defendants required a protected jury.

R v William Smith and others (2019), the prosecution for murder of a drugs related arson attack on a house in south London in which one victim was killed and two others were seriously injured. The eleven-week trial involved six defendants and cut-throat defences.

R v Kevin Leathers (2019), the prosecution for manslaughter and Health and Safety at Work Act offences of the owner of a scaffolding company whose employee fell from an unprotected roof and died.

R v Flanagan and Salmond (2019), the prosecution for murder, preventing a lawful burial and fraud of a drug-addicted couple who had befriended and then murdered a homeless woman, disposed of her body so that it was never found, and then claimed her benefit payments for themselves.

R v Brewster and others (2020), the prosecution for murder of four defendants in which the victim was attacked and stabbed at a drill music video shoot at a flat in Euston.

R v Joel Ellis (2020), the prosecution for murder and arson being reckless as to whether lives would be endangered of a man who was suffering from mental illness that led him to set fire to the flat in which he lived with his mother. His mother was killed and he suffered serious injuries.