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COLLEGE HILL

Louis Mably KC



"A superstar...a really talented individual."
(Chambers UK)

"He is in another league when it comes to legal argument... What a legend"
(Legal 500)

Louis is a recognised leader in the fields of criminal litigation, corporate investigations and human rights. He has an international reputation for providing expert strategic analysis, and frequently acts in cases with a multi-jurisdictional dimension.

Louis has acted in numerous cases in the Supreme Court and the European Court of Human Rights, and recently appeared for the Department of Justice in the High Court of Hong Kong in the territory's largest corruption trial.

Louis was appointed Senior Treasury Counsel in 2015, and Queen's Counsel in 2017.

Criminal Litigation

Louis's specialism in the field of criminal litigation is dealing with cases, at first instance and on appeal, that are complex, high profile and sensitive. Past cases include:

- HKSAR v Hui, Kwok & others (Court of First Instance, Hong Kong): Louis was admitted to the Hong Kong Bar and acted for the Department of Justice in the prosecution of the territory's former Chief Secretary for taking bribes from property developers.
- Parliamentary Expenses Scandal: Louis prosecuted the six Members of Parliament charged in connection with the Parliamentary expenses scandal. The litigation included the landmark constitutional case of R v Chaytor and others in the Supreme Court, on the scope of Parliamentary Privilege and Article IX of the Bill of Rights.
- Isle of Wight Council v Platt (Supreme Court): Louis represented the Secretary of State in the high-profile Supreme Court case concerning the prosecution of parents who take their children on holiday during the school term.

Corporate Crime and Investigations

Louis specialises in cases involving allegations of bribery, corruption, cartel activity and financial or corporate misconduct. He has recently advised on the coercive powers of the Hong Kong Securities and Futures Commission, and on the criminal and extradition exposure of UK corporate officers in connection with conduct in an Asian jurisdiction. Other recent cases include:

- Akcine Bendrove Bankas Snoras v Antonov: Louis acted for a major Lithuanian bank in the Commercial Court in proceedings concerning the application of the privilege against self-incrimination and Article 6 of the European Convention on Human Rights to disclosure in civil proceedings.
- London Whale Affair: Louis is acting for one of the involved in the London Whale affair, arising from JP Morgan's announcement of a US $2 billion trading loss in 2012. Litigation has taken place in Spain; there are ongoing criminal and civil proceedings in the US involving the US Department of Justice and the US Securities and Exchange Commission; and the UK litigation includes proceedings against the FCA in the Upper Tribunal, Tax and Chancery Chamber.
- Louis regularly advises individuals and Corporates on a wide variety of Criminal / Civil Law issues.

Human Rights & Public Law

Louis has represented the UK Government in numerous cases in the European Court of Human Rights, and regularly appears in the Supreme Court and High Court in human rights cases.

- Ibrahim v UK: Concerning whether the questioning of terrorist suspects under domestic legislation violated Article 6 of the Convention.
- Vinter v UK: Concerning whether the domestic scheme of whole life sentencing was compatible with Article 3 of the Convention.
- ABJ (Supreme Court) and PWR (Supreme Court): Terrorism offences and Article 10 of the Convention
- Ag Ref No1 of 2022 (High Court, Advocate to the Court): Criminal damage and Article 10 of the Convention

Health and Safety

Louis advises in sensitive and high-profile cases involving multiple deaths, in relation to the liability of public authorities, multi-national companies, and senior executives. His expertise covers:

- The ambit the offences covered by the HSWA 1974,
- The relationship between manslaughter and HSWA offences,
- Strategic considerations relating to case building, and the division of liability as between corporate entities and individuals,
- HSE and CPS policy in relation to investigations and charging decisions.

Public Inquiries

Louis acts extensive experience acting for Government departments in public inquiries:

- Covid Inquiry: the statutory inquiry into the UK's preparedness and response to the covid pandemic.
- Manston Inquiry: the non-statutory inquiry into the conditions at Manston detention facility.

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