6KBW
COLLEGE HILL

Paul Humpherson



Paul's practice has incorporated both courtroom advocacy in the Crown Court and Court of Appeal, and more academic engagement with the law through his work as a university law tutor and Law Commission lawyer. Paul is also a founding director of Tap Social, an award-winning social enterprise established to create training and employment opportunities to people serving and recently released from prison sentences.

Alongside his practice at the bar and his work in academic law and with Tap Social, Paul sits as a Chair of the Police Appeals Tribunal, determining appeals brought by serving and former police officers against disciplinary sanctions imposed by police misconduct panels. Paul is also qualified to sit as a Chair/Legal Adviser to those first instance police misconduct panels, for various police forces across the South of England.

Paul has diverse experience of financial crime and regulation, having undertaken secondments with the Financial Conduct Authority, Serious Fraud Office, Stephen Platt Associates LLP (a financial regulation and compliance consultancy based in the Channel Islands), WilmerHale (a City law firm), and the Welfare, Rural and Health Division of the Crown Prosecution Service (where he prosecuted high value benefit fraud and regulatory offences).

Paul also worked for several years as a project lead lawyer at the Law Commission, leading projects into the reform of the law of Contempt of Court and Sentencing. These reform projects both led to changes to the law through new legislation, most notably the first ever codification of the law of sentencing in England and Wales through the Sentencing Act 2020.

Criminal Litigation

Paul prosecutes and defends in the Crown, Magistrates' and Youth Courts and has acted for the Defence in numerous trials spanning offences of serious violence, sexual misconduct, harassment, drugs and road traffic.

Paul is regularly instructed to prosecute in the Crown Court on behalf of the Crown Prosecution Service, National Probation Service and Transport for London in contested trials and other preliminary hearings.

Academic Law

Paul is a visiting fellow at the University of Oxford where he teaches undergraduates and graduate students criminology and substantive criminal law. Between 2013 and 2017 Paul was seconded to the Law Commission where he was responsible (along with the Criminal Law Commissioner Prof. David Ormerod QC) for the Commission's ongoing project to codify the law of sentencing.

Paul is regularly invited to lecture and present on the criminal law at academic symposia.

Fraud and Restraint, Confiscation and Asset Forfeiture

Paul has significant experience of financial crime and fraud. In 2013 he was seconded to the Financial Conduct Authority, where he was involved in the criminal and regulatory prosecution of a large scale eight-handed 'land-banking' fraud, with particular responsibility for the handling of material from the asset restraint proceedings.

In 2012 Paul was seconded to the Serious Fraud Office and the Crown Prosecution Service, and has subsequently been instructed to defend and prosecute in a number of contested fraud cases in the Crown Court. Paul recently secured an acquittal in a six-handed will fraud, R v Griffin and Others.

Public and Administrative Law and Prison Law and the Parole Board

Paul has been involved with the research and preparation of a number of judicial reviews, relating in particular to Article 6, Article 3 and Article 8 rights under the European Convention on Human Rights. Paul has also conducted cases concerning the Prison Rules and statutory provisions on early release. He has also been instructed by the Treasury Solicitor to assist with the preparation of Judicial Review proceedings in the context of Immigration law.

Corporate Crime and Investigations

Paul has recent and diverse experience of international financial regulation, from his secondments at Stephen Platt Associates LLP and WilmerHale (instructed on behalf of a major US bank).

Regulatory

Paul was also involved in the preparation and courtroom prosecution of a variety of regulatory offences during his secondment at the newly created Welfare, Rural & Health Division of the Crown Prosecution Service, which undertakes criminal and regulatory prosecutions in a number of specialist fields previously dealt with by external government departments.

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