6KBW
COLLEGE HILL

Tom Williams



Tom is a sought-after practitioner ranked in the Legal 500 and in Chambers and Partners, specialising in criminal litigation, extradition, corporate crime and public law.

Criminal Litigation

Tom is an experienced advocate appearing both for the prosecution and the defence in homicide and other serious criminal cases. His recent experience includes a convicted murderer's ultimately unsuccessful attempt to mislead the Court of Appeal by fabricating an alibi long after his trial (R v Peter Jones & others, Basildon Crown Court, led by Kate Wilkinson); an armed robbery in Upminster which ended with the shooting of an eleven-year-old child (R v Antony Lascelles & others, Snaresbrook Crown Court, led by Alistair Richardson); a sophisticated conspiracy involving a corrupt police officer intercepting money paid to drug-dealers and cash-couriers, whilst he was wearing his police uniform and driving a marked police vehicle (R v Kashif Mahmood & others, Southwark Crown Court, led by Peter Ratliff); and a bomb hoax outside Downing Street during lockdown, shortly before the Health Secretary, Matt Hancock, arrived to deliver one of the televised national COVID-19 briefings (R v Toby Champeney, Southwark Crown Court).

Corporate Crime

Tom has provided advice to individuals and corporates facing charges for offences under the Fraud Act 2006, the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974, and arising out of a number of different regulations. Since 2017, he has been instructed to advise a large corporate in relation to potential criminal liability, led by David Perry KC and Miranda Hill KC. His previous experience includes a ten-week mortgage fraud (R v Darren Goulbourne & others, Hull Crown Court, led by Paul Jarvis) as well as defending prosecutions brought by the Serious Fraud Office and the Financial Conduct Authority.

Public Law and Inquiries

Tom has a real interest in public law work, particularly when there is a cross-over with criminal law. His judicial review experience includes acting for the Director of Public Prosecutions (led by Duncan Atkinson KC) in a crowd-funded challenge to what was characterised by the applicant as a decision not to refer the investigation of Dominic Cummings, the Prime Minister's Chief Adviser, to the police in relation to his alleged breaches of the Coronavirus Regulations (R (Redston) v Director of Public Prosecutions [2020] EWHC 2962 (Admin), [2021] ACD 50). Tom has been involved in a number of public inquiries, including being instructed in 2017 as second junior counsel acting for the Home Office in the Undercover Policing Inquiry (led by Nicholas Griffin KC and Rosemary Davidson).

Extradition

Tom regularly appears for both requesting judicial authorities and requested persons at extradition hearings at Westminster Magistrates' Court, and also has experience of applications for permission to appeal in the High Court. He is a Level 2 advocate on the CPS Extradition Panel. In addition to Part 1 cases, he is familiar with Part 2 requests: he is currently instructed on behalf of the government of the United States of America (led by Richard Evans) in relation to a cybercrime request.

Media Law and Contempt

Tom has an in-depth knowledge of reporting restrictions in the criminal courts, including orders made under ss. 4(2) and 11 of the Contempt of Court Act 1981 and injunctions; he is the author of the 'Open Justice' chapter in the most recent edition of Miller on Contempt (4th edn, 2017). He has appeared (led by Alistair Richardson) in an appeal against a finding of contempt in the Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) (R v Satvinder Singh [2021] EWCA Crim 1531). He has also previously been retained to provide pre-publication advice to two newspapers in relation to defamation, privacy, and contempt of court.

Prison Law

Tom has appeared a number of times before the Parole Board, representing prisoners serving life sentences or IPP sentences, and has advised on whether Parole Board decisions should be challenged by way of judicial review. He is also familiar with prison adjudications dealt with by an independent adjudicator.

Previous Experience

Before coming to the Bar, Tom was a paralegal at Kingsley Napley. Most of his year there was spent as part of the team representing Rebekah and Charlie Brooks in the phonehacking trial at the Central Criminal Court, conducting legal research, drafting submissions, and managing a large volume of evidence. He also worked on a number of extradition cases, and helped compose the European Criminal Bar Association's response to the draft Directive on the right to silence.

Legal500 TOP TIER SET UNITED KINGDOM 2027

2027 Chambers Top Ranked UK Bar 6KBW College Hill

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