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Gareth Weetman

Call: 1999

Practice Areas: Business Crime, Crime, Personal Injury, Public Law & Inquiries

Gareth specialises in crime and personal injury. He has more than eight years of trial experience during which time he has built up a particularly busy practice. His criminal work spans defence and prosecution of the most serious offences including murder, manslaughter, rape, child abuse, class A drug supply, business crime, money laundering and fraud.

In addition to his court work, he also performs advisory work as to issues of public interest immunity, proceeds of crime, legal professional privilege and case preparation.

In relation to personal injury, he advises and represents claimants, cefendants and insurers in all aspects of civil litigation. His work has involved cases of brain injury, permanent disability, fatal accidents and psychological trauma. He has experience of a wide range of issues including employer's and occupier's liability, local authority liability, road traffic collisions, clinical negligence and breach of duty.

Business Crime

Gareth's experience encompasses a variety of business crime, including:

- Companies Act, Insolvency Act and directorial misconduct cases
- Fraudulent trading
- A very large number of cases under the Proceeds of Crime Act and associated confiscation hearings
- Appearing in a number of 'civil' POCA applications concerning large seizures of cash.

Crime

Gareth has a busy criminal practice in which he prosecutes and defends in equal measure. He has the benefit of more than eight years' experience of jury trials and daily court appearances.

His experience includes:

- Instruction in a number of high profile cases. Recent examples are:
  - *R v Gunn & Ors* (2006): Junior Counsel for the prosecution. Successful prosecution of three defendants for their conspiracy to murder a retired couple in their own home as a 'revenge' killing
  - *R v Lambert & Ors* [2006] EWCA Crim 827: Juncior Counsel for the prosecution in the successful prsoectuin of

20 defendants arising from a riot at HMP Lincoln - the largest prison disorder since Strangeways riot. r.
    - *R v Mallard & Watson* (2007): child cruelty case reported in national press. Father deliberately burnt his child in a hoax car crash in order to cover up previous non-accidental injuries
    - *R v Butterwick & Others* (2007): Class A drugs conspiracy
    - *R v Szopa* (2007): Manslaughter of 87 year old following robbery.
- Prosecuting cases involving large numbers of defendants, such as a case involving nine football hooligans, and a violence case involving 24 defendants separated into three trials
- He has been specifically selected to deal with cases requiring particularly sensitive handling, e.g. the case of a mother who caused the death of her own daughter and a friend as a result of her dangerous driving, cases involving allegations of child sex abuse, and cases featuring witnesses suffering from mental health disorders
- Serious sexual offences, including rape, allegations of historic abuse and child abuse. He has undertaken advanced training in the handling of rape cases
- Mental health issues, such as fitness to plead, capacity, expert witnesses and the cross-examination of individuals suffering from a psychiatric condition
- Advising on issues of public interest immunity and legal professional privilege
- Cross-border co-operation to investigate foreign defendants/witnesses, in addition to proving convictions from non-UK Courts
- Computer based crime, including fraud and child pornography
- Obtaining, analysing and presenting evidence from mobile phone use and movement.

Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence

Gareth has built up a wide-ranging personal injury practice. He advises and represents both claimants and defendants. His experience includes the following:

- Mental health and neurological injuries, involving complex issues of causation and quantum
- Fatal Accident claims, including those with added complications such as remarried partners and multiple dependants
- All aspects of health and safety at work and employers' liability claims
- Occupiers' Liability – he is frequently instructed by a number of major high street chains to defend 'slip and trip' cases
- Cases involving local authority liability
- Road traffic collision cases, including those resulting in serious and disabling injury. He has also advised on issues relating to the Motor Insurers' Bureau
- Successfully defending insurers against fraudulent claims brought by claimants
- Drafting appeals to the Compensation Recovery Unit, and appearing before the Tribunal on numerous occasions
- Appearing before the Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority
- Many appearances before Coroners Inquests
- Advising in cases relating to clinical negligence, and professional negligence.

Memberships

- Criminal Bar Association
- Personal Injury Bar Association
- Midland Circuit

Contact Gareth Weetman

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