

ANDREW WHEELER KC

Year of call 1988 Silk 2017



Andrew Wheeler KC is joint head of the Financial Crime and Offshore and International Dispute Resolution Teams at 7BR Chambers, London, and is ranked in financial crime/fraud by the Legal 500 and by Chambers & Partners.

Andrew has extensive experience in relation to offshore & international criminal investigations, and in the UK of the defence and prosecution of serious fraud, associated money laundering and proceeds of crime restraint/confiscation, and compliance/regulatory matters – and has a detailed knowledge of evidence gathering from, and asset tracing through, multiple jurisdictions. Andrew is regularly instructed by leading defence firms, both offshore/internationally and in the UK, and by the UK Serious Fraud Office (SFO), Insolvency Service & Financial Conduct Authority (FCA).

His experience extends in particular to Bribery & Corruption, Sanctions, Company Investigations, Insolvency and Tax fraud, and to issues of Insider Dealing. He regularly advises the UK and offshore & International sectors in respect of financial crime including sanctions, anti-money laundering and associated regulatory & compliance issues.

Andrew has also conducted seminars in respect of Money Laundering/AML – in the UK, including specifically for the UK Serious Fraud Office & UK Insolvency Service – and also for a number of offshore and international jurisdictions, including the Caribbean, Hong Kong, Cyprus, the Channel Islands & the Isle of Man. He has also conducted seminars in a number of jurisdictions in respect of key aspects of digital fraud investigations, cyber – crime and cryptocurrency, and internal/corporate investigations.

In addition to his financial crime work, Andrew has had significant involvement in general crime, and has been instructed as leading counsel to defend in cases involving, in particular, complex murder/homicide investigations.

Andrew is qualified to accept instructions direct from clients under the Bar Council's Public Access Scheme. This means that members of the public who seek specialist advice can come direct to him. In addition, he welcomes instructions from solicitors, in-house law departments, qualified foreign lawyers, and clients

licensed by the Bar Council to give instructions direct to barristers under the Bar Council's Licensed Access Scheme.

LEGAL EXPERTISE

Financial Crime & AML

Selected Cases

R v A

Appearing in the Court of Appeal in respect of the constituent elements of offences under the Fraud Act 2006.

X Ltd

Advising Corporate in respect of issues relating to Sanctions and Money Laundering.

R v W

Representing defendant charged with \$ multi-million international Cryptocurrency Fraud.

S

Advising Offshore Corporate re potential Private Prosecution.

C

Advising Hong Kong private client re ongoing proceedings.

S

Advising offshore private client re ongoing financial proceedings re trust structure/s.

T

Advising offshore private client in the regulated sector re ongoing proceedings relating to alleged money laundering & terrorist financing.

S

Advising offshore corporate in relation to AML, Internal Investigation, Privilege and associated.

R v A

£1bn offshore investment investigation conducted by the SFO.

R v AB

Representing former Company CFO charged with £multi-million fraud in a private prosecution.

R v JF

£multi-million Insolvency Fraud & Money Laundering Investigation.

R v H & Others

Proceeds of \$billion overseas bribery and corruption investigation traced through complex multi-jurisdiction offshore trust structures.

Operation P

£multi-bn offshore corruption Investigation conducted by the NCA.

Operation S

Systematic abuse of charities and shell companies for the purposes of high value tax evasion.

Operation J

£multi million VAT investigation conducted by HMRC, involving 25 defendants.

R v P & others

£multi-million Investigation into tax fraud, mortgage fraud and money laundering relating to a faith healer and associates

Operation R: £25m Tax fraud/s and associated money laundering/Perverting Course of Justice.

Operation L

Co-ordinating investigations nationwide arising from the £280 million collapse of the DfES individual learning account scheme.

Operation D

The largest investigation by HMRC into tax fraud in the construction industry.

Operation Dgn

£multi-million Income Tax Pension Fraud devised and implemented by accountants acting as Trustees and Administrators of pension schemes – investigated by HMRC, FCA & tPR.

Offshore & International Disputes

Selected Cases

Re W

Representing defendant charged with \$ multi-million international Cryptocurrency Fraud.

Re S

Re S – Advising Offshore Corporate re potential Private Prosecution.

Re C

Advising Hong Kong private client re ongoing commercial proceedings.

Re S

Advising offshore private client re ongoing financial proceedings re trust structure/s.

Re T

Advising offshore private client in the regulated sector re ongoing proceedings relating to alleged money laundering and terrorist financing.

Re S

Advising offshore corporate in relation to AML, Internal Investigation, Privilege and associated.

Re L

Advising Hong Kong Private Client re Hong Kong SFC investigation.

Operation P

£multi-bn offshore corruption Investigation conducted by NCA.

H & Ors

\$Billion Overseas Corruption investigation conducted by the SFO, involving defining parameters of the

defence of Principal's Consent, and jurisdiction/extended-jurisdiction issues.

C & Others

Proceeds of substantial predicate £multi-million conspiracy to defraud laundered through corporate structures & properties in Eastern Europe.

S & Others

Proceeds of substantial £multi-million conspiracy to Cheat through offshore structures in Far East & IOM.

F & Others

Proceeds of £multi-million predicate tax & mortgage frauds, through India & UK.

Re T

Substantial Banking Fraud. Proceeds routed through offshore shell companies & repatriated to UK registered companies/entities.

Advising Offshore & international businesses generally re AML, compliance, internal investigations, privilege and funding issues.

Advising generally re tracing of assets through offshore & international company, trust & related structures – & through multiple jurisdictions.

Asset Recovery

Selected Cases

Re R

Advising private client in respect of £ multi-million restraint proceedings arising from complex property structures.

Re S

Advising Offshore Corporate re potential Private Prosecution & Asset Recovery.

D & Ors

Multi-million Conspiracy to Defraud UK investors based offshore. Assets traced through accounts in multiple offshore jurisdictions during substantial financial investigation.

S & Others

Evidence gathered from & assets traced through Vietnam, China, USA & Europe arising from £17 million education fraud.

H & Others

Proceeds of \$billion overseas bribery and corruption investigation traced through complex multi-jurisdiction offshore trust structures.

TS & Others

Proceeds of £multi-million series of tax frauds and money laundering traced through shell companies and offshore structures.

F & Others

Proceeds of £multi-million tax and property frauds & money laundering. Assets traced through corporate and personal accounts, and to Pakistan.

S & Others

Series of £multi-million payroll companies restrained, & appointment of supervising accountants to review and report upon the restraint orders. Regular reporting. Advising upon nature and scope of potential breaches. Piercing corporate veil. Assets removed from jurisdiction through complex offshore structures. Advising accordingly re potential contempt/PCJ.

K & Ors

Systematic breaches of restraints by use of corporate & offshore structures, including through the Caribbean, to remove assets from administrators. Advising on scope of potential breaches and liability thereof. Advising upon and appearing before the Court of appeal re authority for scope of Contempt and/or perverting the course of justice in respect of alleged breach of restraint orders.

B & Ors

Asset tracing through multiple jurisdictions following collapse of Plc company. Piercing corporate veil. Tainted gifts to third parties in, inter alia, Morocco & Middle East.

O & Ors

Systematic breach of restraint orders. Complex dissipation of assets through companies and individuals by means of diversion of proceeds of businesses. Advising upon nature and extent of breaches, and in respect of individual and corporate contempt/PCJ.

Crime & Regulatory

Selected Cases

R v MC

Representing defendant charged with Murder of a parent. Guilty of Manslaughter by reason of diminished responsibility.

R v X

Representing defendant charged with Murder, with issues arising as to Loss of Control and Diminished Responsibility.

R v SG

Representing defendant charged with Neglect arising from the death of a baby.

R v RL

Representing defendant charged with Manslaughter of a baby.

R v SK

Representing defendant charged with attempted murder, complex psychiatric issues arising in respect of the Defence of Insanity.

R v LE

Representing defendant charged with attempted murder of psychiatric nurse.

R v KK

Representing main defendant charged with joint enterprise 'drill-rap' murder.

R v DS

Representing youth charged with attempted murder relating to turf war shooting & related incidents.

R v SK

Representing defendant charged with attempted murder, with psychiatric issues arising in relation to potential defence of insanity.

Memberships

- Member of the Queen's Counsel Panel of approved counsel for the Serious Fraud Office
- Member of the Fraud Lawyers Association
- Member of the International Bar Association
- Member of the Financial Services Lawyers Association
- Member of the Criminal Bar Association
- Member of the South Eastern and Midland Circuits