

BENJAMIN ISAACS

Year of call
2009



Benjamin Isaacs is instructed by individuals, businesses and various investigative and regulatory bodies to advise on complex financial crime cases.

He also maintains a busy Crown Court practice prosecuting and defending major organised crime, with a particular focus on fraud and money laundering allegations.

Benjamin has acted in a number of cases involving senior public officials with complex jurisdictional issues and has a particular interest in bribery and corruption. He has prosecuted cases requiring consent from the Director of Public Prosecutions and he has advised victims on applications for such consent. He also advises on matters to do with extradition and mutual legal assistance and appears on behalf of requested persons and foreign states at first instance and on appeal.

Benjamin is ranked in The Legal 500 2021 and Chambers UK Bar 2021 and is described as having “excellent analytical skills” and “a very articulate and bright individual and an extremely good barrister.”

Benjamin is qualified to accept instructions directly from clients and is registered under the Bar Council’s Public Access Scheme, meaning 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. For more information please visit our Direct Access page [here](#).

LEGAL EXPERTISE

Crime

Benjamin has achieved success in a number of high-profile cases involving allegations of fraud, bribery,

money laundering, multi-handed conspiracies. He has successfully prosecuted and defended a number of murder trials. He has particular experience advising on sensitive disclosure issues and in cases involving allegations of police misconduct and abuse of process.

He has also defended and prosecuted cases involving alleged sexual offending of the utmost seriousness, and has particular experience of cases involving s.41 applications.

Selected Cases

Operation Silentpool (ongoing)

Prosecution of 4 linked trials involving a murder, the supply of over a tonne of class A drugs, firearm offences and large-scale money laundering.

R v O (2019)

Successful abuse of process argument following disclosure failings by Prosecution leading to offer of no evidence in historic abuse case.

R v M (2019)

Acquittal on charge of Conspiracy to Murder.

R v Jervis & Others (2019)

Torture and murder of Leicester jeweller.

Operation Hector (ongoing)

Acting alone in 8 handed drugs conspiracy.

Financial Crime

Benjamin's experience of large-scale investigations and complex trials far exceeds that which would be expected for his year of call and he regularly advises authorities, individuals and businesses from the earliest stages of an investigation.

His advisory work is focused on multi-jurisdictional investigations into fraud, bribery and corporate offending. He is currently instructed as first junior for the SFO on a high profile multi-jurisdictional investigation into one of the UK's largest corporations in respect of bribery and corruption allegations.

Benjamin has also advised on civil proceedings, judicial reviews and arbitrations where fraud is alleged, including cases relating to search warrants, decisions to prosecute, production orders, Serious Crime Prevention Orders, Interpol notices and more. He has provided substantial advice on private prosecutions and applications for AG and DPP consent to prosecute.

Benjamin has provided seminars and training on a range of topics, most recently on the subject of privilege in the context of internal investigations following ENRC and Unexplained Wealth Orders.

Selected Cases

R v Singh (2019)

Successful prosecution under s.1 Bribery Act 2010 arising in banking sector.

R v Khan & Others (2018)

The 'crushed Ferrari' case. High profile fraud and money laundering case.

R v Davis & Others (2018)

Long running investigation involving a series of money-laundering conspiracies.

Operation Jade (2018)

Long-running property fraud involving large corporate loser and overlapping civil proceedings with complicated disclosure issues.

SFO investigation into one of the UK's largest companies in respect of bribery and corruption of foreign officials in multiple-jurisdictions (ongoing).

Advising a UK investment company in respect of possible regulatory breaches and applications for FCA permission.

Offshore & International

Benjamin has been instructed in cases in the UK, the Caribbean, the Channel Islands, the Gulf and South East Asia. He is experienced in international matters involving civil and commercial law (particularly fraud), arbitration, financial regulation and international crime.

Benjamin has particular experience in extradition law and regularly appears for both requesting states and requested persons at first instance and on appeal in Part 1 and Part 2 cases. He also advises on cases involving alleged abuse of the Interpol notification system and challenges thereto.

Selected Cases

USA v Fesenko

Defence of Requested Person facing extradition for wire fraud valued at \$137m in the US.

SFO investigation into one of the UK's largest companies in respect of bribery and corruption of foreign officials in multiple-jurisdictions (ongoing).

Advising an off-shore financial service provider in respect of an AML/CFT compliance investigation by the regulator.

Appointments

- SFO Panel (B)
- CPS Specialist Fraud Division
- CPS Serious Crime Panel
- CPS Counter Terrorism Panel
- Rape and Serious Sexual Offences Panel

Memberships

- Criminal Bar Association
- Extradition Lawyers Association
- Fraud Lawyers Association