

LINCOLN
HOUSE CHAMBERS

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TRADING STANDARDS
DEFENDING LARGE AND COMPLEX PROSECUTIONS



You are invited to a seminar on Thursday 15th April 2010 at Hotel Novotel, Manchester, commencing at 5.30pm, to be presented by Dennis Watson QC, Lisa Roberts and Mike Rainford

The landmark case of Regina -v- Vance Miller and others was the largest ever Trading Standards' prosecution. The three month trial was the result of a four year investigation in which 270,000 documents were seized. Following successful legal applications by the defence team the judge stayed the indictment against all four defendants at the close of the Prosecution's case. Counsel from Lincoln House Chambers (instructed by Burton Copeland LLP) represented three of the defendants.

Burton Copeland LLP, winners of the award for Crime and Regulatory Team of the Year 2010, have now set up a dedicated Trading Standards' Unit to assist businesses in such prosecutions. Together they will outline how to properly defend a large and complex Trading Standards' investigation.

The seminar/presentation will cover a variety of topics including

- ❖ The importance of the prosecutor's own policy on prosecutions
- ❖ The Home Authority principle and its responsibilities
- ❖ Alternative resolution
- ❖ The importance of time limits
- ❖ The overlap between civil and criminal cases
- ❖ Principles of good regulation and proportionality
- ❖ The role of other regulators
- ❖ The disclosure minefield

THE SPEAKERS

Dennis Watson QC



Dennis Watson QC was counsel for Nicola Brodie, Vance Miller's advertising manager, in the Miller trial. He was called in 1985 and took silk in 2009. As a junior he was involved in prosecuting or defending a number of high profile frauds including the Nigel Hudson/Home Improvement Advisory Service damp-proofing fraud. His first case in silk involved the successful prosecution of a waste disposal fraud where he was instructed jointly by Cumbria Trading Standards and the CPS.

He has been a Recorder since 2003.

Lisa Roberts



Lisa Roberts was junior counsel for Alan Ford, Vance Miller's 'right-hand man' and managing director, in the recent Miller trial. She played an active role in pre-trial legal submissions and those which ultimately led to the staying of the indictment. She was called to the Bar in 1993. She has prosecuted and defended in a number of frauds and has a broad experience in regulatory work, including Trading Standards prosecutions.

Mike Rainford



Mike Rainford heads up Burton Copeland's business crime department. He has been a solicitor for nearly 30 years in which time he has handled many substantial and high profile cases covering serious crime, commercial fraud, money laundering, and prosecutions by the Inland Revenue, Customs and the DTI (now BERR). He possesses an enviable reputation amongst the northern judiciary, prosecution service, barristers and other defence lawyers. His uncompromising and tenacious approach

was highlighted in a BBC documentary which led to the title 'the silver fox'.

The seminar carries 2 hours CPD and is presented free of charge.

To reserve a seat please contact:

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