Kevin Donnelly

Call to the Bar: 1991

CONTACT DETAILS

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PRACTICE AREAS

Criminal Law
Inquests
Regulatory

EDUCATION/PROFESSIONAL

St Colman's Boys Grammar School
Trinity College, Cambridge.
Member of the Criminal Bar Association

Overview

"...Can be trusted to deliver a first-class job, every time" Legal 500, 2010

Kevin's principal area of practice is crime, including prosecution and defence work at all levels in the Crown Court and above. Kevin has particular experience in the prosecution of rape and serious sexual offences, substantial drug importation and supply cases and in the regulatory sector (health and safety / care sector / fraud and corporate mismanagement).

Defence

Kevin maintains a substantial defence practice, commonly at the Crown Courts at Preston and Manchester, regularly instructed by a number of major Lancashire criminal defence firms. In the last 5 years, he has been instructed in some of the most high profile criminal trials on circuit involving gangland murder, organised drug importation and supply, fraud, rape and other serious sexual offending. He spent much of 2012/ 2013 defending in a major FSA-prosecuted market manipulation fraud at Southwark Crown Court and in 2017 defended one of the largest drugs conspiracies to be investigated by the NCA, a case involving international drug dealing via the "Silk Road" website on the "Dark Web".

Notable Cases

R v Joyce, Amos and Others (Liverpool Crown Court - 2009) *– Major murder/firearms/drugs case arising from conflict between two notorious South Manchester gangs. (Instructed by Farleys Solicitors)*

R v Ivan Hue and Others (Liverpool Crown Court – 2009) *– Conspiracy to import Class A drugs and firearms from the Netherlands into the UK. (Instructed by Farleys Solicitors)*

R v Anthony Diprose and Others (Preston Crown Court – 2011) – *Substantial organised crime conspiracy to supply Class A and B drugs throughout the Fylde coast area. (Instructed by JGT Solicitors)*

R v John Whelan & Others (Southwark Crown Court – 2012/2013) – *Major market-manipulation fraud. (Instructed by Olliers Solicitors)*

R v Shaya Halpern & Others (Southwark Crown Court – 2014) – *Substantial commercial mortgage fraud. (Instructed by LHS Solicitors)*

R v Tribelnig & Others (Central Criminal Court – 2015) – *Gross negligence manslaughter involving alleged "unlawful restraint" by G4S officers (Instructed by Olliers Solicitors)*

R v James Roden & Others (Manchester Crown Court – ongoing 2017) – *One of the largest ever NCA enquiries into "web-based" international drug dealing. (Instructed by Olliers Solicitors)*

R v Amjad and Amer Latif – (Liverpool Magistrates Court - 2017) *– CQC prosecution of negligent care-home owners. (Instructed by Stephensons Solicitors)*

Prosecution

As a Category 4 prosecutor and on the Attorney-General's Unified List as a List A advocate, Kevin prosecutes serious crime and regulatory offences at the highest level. He has a history of instruction from the CPS Special Casework Directorate in York, having acted for them in a complex medical negligence manslaughter case as well as a series of trials involving the prosecution of corrupt police officers in the Greater Manchester, Merseyside and Humberside forces, the latter requiring consideration of issues such as covert intelligence gathering, disclosure and public interest immunity. In recent years, he has also prosecuted (with leading counsel) multi-handed gangland, kidnap, and conspiracy to murder trials and a substantial multi-handed waste industry fraud.

Over the last 10 years, he has developed a growing profile in the regulatory sector. He is instructed by Revenue and Customs, Dept of Business, Innovation and Skills, Trading Standards, the Office of Rail Regulation and the Environment Agency. He has built a particular reputation and expertise prosecuting for the Health and Safety Executive. He advises and acts for local authority environmental health departments and HSE solicitor agents and is also instructed by the HSE's central Legal Advisors' Office (now based in Bootle, Merseyside) on cases of particular complexity. He has acted for the HSE in proceedings before Magistrates' Courts, Crown Courts, the Court of Appeal, Employment Tribunals and Coroner's Courts. In recent years he has been involved in cases arising from fatal accidents in areas as diverse as the public transport sector, schools, the National Health Service, charitable mental health services, waste management, racetrack and railway safety and diving – as well as numerous cases involving deaths in industrial workplaces.

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He has a growing practice as an inquest advocate, having appeared in a number of lengthy and high-profile Article 2 inquests in Staffordshire and Shropshire in the last two years, instructed by Alex Preston of Olliers Solicitors, acting for private custodial agencies including G4S and Geo-Amey in cases involving deaths in custody.

In 2015, he appeared at the Old Bailey to defend a G4S officer accused of the "unlawful restraint" manslaughter of a deportee on a flight from Heathrow.

Notable Cases

R v. Rose Aru (Liverpool Crown Court – 2005) – *Alder Hey nurse charged with the gross negligence manslaughter of a child patient. (Instructed by CPS Special Casework Directorate – York)*

R v. Babar Qasam and Others (Preston Crown Court – 2008) – *10-handed conspiracy to murder. (Instructed by CPS Preston).*

R v. David Armer and Others (Carlisle Crown Court – 2009) – Complex multi-handed waste management / weighbridge fraud. (Instructed by CPS Cumbria)

R v. Bernard White (Manchester Crown Court - 2009) – Gross negligence manslaughter arising from fatality on building site. (Instructed by CPS Manchester)

R v. Andrew Bird and Others (Liverpool Crown Court - 2010) – *Team of Merseyside police officers charged with selling seized cannabis back to local drug dealer. (Instructed by CPS Special Casework Directorate – York)*

R v. Mental Health Matters (Newcastle Crown Court – 2010) – *Mental health charity prosecuted for H&S offences after murder of employee by mentally ill service-user. (Instructed by HSE Legal Advisers' Office – Bootle)*

R v. Building Chemical Research (Bolton Crown Court – 2010) – *H&S prosecution after death of employee in industrial ribbon blender. (Instructed by HSE / Hill Dickinson)*

R v. John Summerfield (Liverpool Crown Court -2010) – *H&S prosecution of Merseyside head teacher after pupil sustained injuries in fall from school roof. (Instructed by HSE / Hill Dickinson)*

R v. Innovia Films Ltd. (Carlisle Crown Court – 2011) – *H&S prosecution following fatal electrocution of employees in industrial premises. (Instructed by Fieldings Porter / HSE)*

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