



## Bryan Cox Q.C.

1979 – Called to the Bar  
2000 - Recorder (authorised to try serious sexual cases)  
2000 – Appointed to Attorney-General's 'A' List  
2006 – Q.C.

### Fields of practice

- Crime, particularly homicide and fraud and serious sexual cases
- Health & Safety and Environmental Law
- Judicial Review
- Inquest Law

### Overview:

Bryan Cox is consistently highly recommended in the legal directories. The recommendations show that he is “very very good”, “highly rated for serious crime”, a “great choice for homicide, fraud or money laundering”, and “highly regarded” as a leading advocate in the field; he has an “enviable track record”, he is resourceful and commits himself wholeheartedly to his cases “no matter how hopeless”. He has the ability to empathise with clients from a wide range of backgrounds, he enjoys leading the legal team, and working with other members of the team to get the best result for the client.

Regularly prosecutes and defends major cases of homicide and fraud. Many of these have been widely reported in the media. He has wide experience of conducting cases involving complex scientific and medical issues, including a number of cases concerning “shaken baby syndrome”.

A number of the commendations in the legal directories refer specifically to his skill conducting health and safety cases, for example, he has been described as “outstanding” and “very very good”. One commentator has remarked, “he thrives because he never shirks the task no matter how weighty or hopeless it seems.” He has prosecuted and defended numerous high profile Health and safety cases. He was appointed to the Attorney Generals “A” list when a junior. He has wide experience of representing public bodies and corporate clients in relation to health and safety and environmental cases, and at inquests, He has represented teachers and other professionals who have been prosecuted in relation to fatal accidents on school trips and outdoor activities, for example, he represented the teachers concerned in the “Stainforth beck river walking tragedy”.

### **Some cases of Homicide illustrative of practice in the past 3 years**

- R v M and R v U - Defended youngsters involved in “gang attacks” in which there were difficult issues of joint enterprise. Scientific issues concerning blood distribution.
- R v Newton - Defended man charged with murder of prostitute. Complex scientific issues concerning rate of body decomposition.
- R v AM - Defended Somali who had limited language charged with a contract killing. Difficult client requiring sensitive handling.
- R v Cook - Prosecuted teenager charged with murder of young child whilst baby sitting. Complex medical issues including medical evidence relating to “shaking injuries”
- R v B - Defended 18 year old charged murder arising from a group attack on a mentally handicapped victim. Difficult medical issues as to causation of neurological injuries. Issues relating to blood distribution
- R v Hardacre - Defended man charged with sexual abuse and drowning baby in bath. Medical issues relating to causation of bruises and anal injury and complex issues as to length of time that child must have been held under water
- R v F - Young person charged with murder of sister’s boyfriend. Provocation by reason of boyfriend’s abuse of sister
- R v Beesley - Defended novel case in which prosecution sought to argue for unlawful act manslaughter where defendant had committed section 4 public order offence. Successfully argued dismissal.
- R v Daniel – Defended in high profile contract killing-cut throat defence – issues of joint enterprise- medical and blood distribution issues
- R v N - 16 year old charged with murder of relative. Diminished responsibility. Extremely damaged boy required careful handling
- R v R - Defended 14 year old charged with 3 counts of murder by setting fire to occupied house. Complex psychiatric issues.
- R v O Malley – prosecuted in high profile strangulation case. Medical issues.
- R v Lu Yao Jai – defended in high profile “2 bodies in 2 suitcases” case. Cut throat defence.
- R v B – prosecuted in high profile case in which defendant murdered 2 month old baby of woman he met on internet dating site. Complex medical issues concerning neurological damage to baby.
- R v Grant and others- prosecuted a major high profile multi-handed murder case.

- R v Hutchinson- prosecuted defendant charged with murder of 7 week baby. Complex medical issues. Case based almost entirely on medical evidence relating to the “triad” and a skull fracture. Leading medical experts gave evidence.
- R v Rana – defended one of the first cases prosecuted under the new” loss of control” provisions.

**Some recent cases of Fraud, money laundering, and major Drugs crime illustrative of other criminal work in recent years**

- R v Avetoom - defended solicitor charged with mortgage fraud
- Defended 2 solicitors charged with money laundering
- Defended in major international money laundering case involving proceeds from importation of vast quantities of heroin.
- Defended in large scale fraud concerning the evasion of VAT on ‘tied oils’.
- Defended in conspiracy trial concerning the importation and supply of class A drugs. This case involved issues concerning surveillance techniques, PII and the compatibility of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 with the ECHR.
- Defended in first General Election fraud in UK. A high profile prosecution in which a parliamentary candidate was prosecuted.
- Defended in major carousel fraud (car importation). This was a massive VAT fraud prosecuted by the SFO. 115,000 pages prosecution evidence, a case of considerable complexity.

**Health & Safety and Environmental Law**

Wide experience prosecuting and defending cases arising from fatalities in quarries, train derailments, by electrocution. Before taking silk, whilst on the Attorney Generals “A” list, regularly prosecuted high profile health and Safety cases. Both as a junior and in silk has defended public bodies and commercial organisations in relation to health and Safety prosecutions.

Experience of river pollution prosecutions brought by the Environmental Agency. Recently instructed to represent a major international company in relation to a prosecution arising from a massive acid spillage.

## **Inquest Law**

Wide experience of representing individuals and public bodies at inquests. In recent years has represented teachers at high profile inquests concerning deaths of school pupils in the course of outdoor activities and school trips. Has a particular interest in drowning cases, having appeared in a number of cases arising from drowning in pools and in the course of school trips/outdoor activities. Recently represented the Environment Agency at a high profile inquest.

Has represented public bodies at high profile inquests.

## **Other Information**

Bryan Cox is the Diversity Mentor on the North Eastern Circuit and a member of Amnesty. For many years before taking silk he was the bar representative on the management committee of the Harehills and Chapeltown Law Centre in Leeds. In recent years he has lectured widely on a variety of topics including disclosure, Public Interest Immunity, Freedom of Information, Hearsay, and abuse of Process. He is the author of "The Law relating to Special Educational Needs" published by Croom Helm (1989). He is often instructed to represent young defendants. He has appeared in a number of leading cases, for example, RvBaird (severance and joinder) R v Hand C (leading case on disclosure) and R v Hendry (jury management).