



Paul W Reid

MA in Law, Cambridge

Year of Call: 1975

Recorder of the Crown Court (Crime and Civil) (2002)
Crown Prosecution Service Grade 4 prosecutor
Attorney General's 'A' List of prosecuting counsel.

Associate tenant at 13 King's Bench Walk, London and Oxford.

Over 30 years' experience, covering all aspects of common law, criminal and civil, including personal injury, contract, sale of goods, matrimonial, finance, child care and professional negligence.

Now practises entirely in serious crime, with some advisory work in Club Law.

Has appeared in all divisions of the High Court; the Court of Appeal, Criminal and Civil Divisions and the House of Lords.

Scope of Practice

Varied professional practice has covered:

Practical experience of a broad range of common law and commercial litigation. From 1977 until 2008 practised in London and the Thames Valley initially in crime, family and general common law, concentrating exclusively on crime from about 1996. Experience in family and matrimonial law, covering adoption, ancillary relief and separation agreements, domestic violence, public and private child cases. Has advised on and appeared in professional negligence and nuisance cases.

Extensive criminal experience, both prosecution and defence, in serious criminal cases, including drugs, fraud, RASSO (Rape & Serious Sexual Offences) cases, historic child abuse and murder; has led for the prosecution in murder, drugs and fraud cases.

Has been involved in criminal and disciplinary proceedings against police officers. Considerable experience of proceedings under the Proceeds of Crime Act.

Important cases have included:

- *R v Massey* (1999), Crown Court and Court of Appeal, unreported, but see *Massey v UK* The Times 24th November 2004. Prosecuted practising barrister for historic buggery and indecent assaults.
- *R v Burstow* [1998] AC 147. Prosecution Counsel in Crown Court and Court of Appeal, junior Counsel in the House of Lords in “stalking” case; (“Britain’s most notorious stalker”) the case which was to a certain extent responsible for the passing of the Protection from Harassment Act 1997 and which is the leading case on inflicting grievous bodily harm without the use of violence.
- *R v James* [1996] Crim.L.R. 650 (CA) Reading Crown Court. Junior prosecution Counsel in “bodyless” murder case, reported on point relating to cautioning suspect.
- *R v Shaukat Nawaz Khan* [1993] unreported. Birmingham Crown Court. Junior prosecution Counsel in a fraud case brought against a former Sheriff of Nottingham.

RECENT SIGNIFICANT CASES

- *R v Adams* (2010, Bradford Crown Court). Murder prosecution (alone).
- *R v Sharp* (2010, Leeds Crown Court). Defending in case of disqualified director running care homes.
- *R v Hookway and Noakes* (2010, Leeds Crown Court). Prosecution of armed robberies, cash in transit from security guards.
- *R v Grant & others* (2010, Hull Crown Court). Murder prosecution (alone), use of knives in public place.
- *R v Thompson* (2009, Oxford Crown Court). Attempted murder prosecution. Case now in Court of Appeal on issue of jury sending note to judge after conviction, and jurors writing to the defendant in prison.
- *R v Barrie Jones* (2009, Leeds Crown Court). Prosecution, male rape.
- *R v Littlewood & others* (2009, Sheffield Crown Court). Defending in conspiracy to kidnap and rob driver of lorry load of mobile telephones. Police led to one defendant by DNA inside glove discarded at scene of burn-out of a car used by the conspirators, and to the rest by cell-site analysis and mobile ‘phone attribution.

- *R v Bunu* (2008, Hull Crown Court) prosecuting one of gang involved in bank card “skimming” and cloning; potential loss to banks in excess of £1m.
- *R v Woelki and Jilbert* (2008, Oxford Crown Court). Gross negligence manslaughter, gas fitters allegedly responsible for carbon monoxide poisoning of owner of a flat in the new development of the former Littlemore psychiatric hospital outside Oxford.
- *R v Johnson and others* (Operation Haul) [2009] EWCA Crim 649. Bristol and Reading Crown Courts. Leading for the prosecution in a series of burglary conspiracies, case brought by a total of five police authorities following a lengthy investigation into well over one hundred country house burglaries. The defendants were ‘travellers’ (the ‘Johnson family’) who lived on a site near Evesham. The BBC had in 2005 broadcast a documentary entitled ‘*Country Strife: a Summer with the Johnsons*’.
 The first trial involved fourteen defendants who burgled commercial premises for valuable metals.
 The second was of five defendants in a conspiracy to burgle country houses. This included a separate trial of the burglary of Waddesdon Manor, the former Rothschild country house near Aylesbury (now owned by the National Trust); £5 – 8m of 18th century trinket boxes and *objets d’art* stolen. The case was the subject of a prosecution appeal to the Court of Appeal on a “terminating ruling”.
 The conspiracy included the burglaries of the homes of Lord Sandys in Worcestershire and Paddy McNally in Wiltshire, and of Harry Hyams’ mansion: estimated £50m + of antiques stolen, this being the largest domestic theft to date in this country. The case was presented to the jury electronically by means of numerous screens, including six on the jury’s benches: all CCTV, police video, maps, diagrams and photographs had been stored on a DVD. The defence comprised five silks and five senior juniors who mounted a sustained attack on the prosecution.
 A significant quantity of stolen goods was recovered from an underground bunker in the middle of a field in Warwickshire. The case gave rise to a further BBC documentary ‘*Catching Britain’s Biggest Thieves*’ (2008). It was reported (citation above) on the issue of the admission of evidence of previous convictions for substantive offences in trial of allegation of conspiracy.
 Received Commendation from the Chief Constables of the five forces involved.
- *R v Hadley and Others* (Operation Power) (2007, Bradford Crown Court) leading for the prosecution in re-trial of drugs conspiracy which went to the House of Lords in the course of the first trial as *R v H & C* [2004] 2 A.C. 134, HL, the leading case on disclosure.

- *R v Mboya* (2007, Oxford Crown Court) leading for the prosecution in murder trial. Case involved the use of 'Return2Scene' DVD presentation of area and scene of crime film. Victim found in course of trial to have made telephone call in her last moments: recipient traced to Tanzania and a video link was organised for her to give her evidence from an hotel in Dar-es-Salaam.
- *R v Sharma* (2007, Winchester Crown Court) leading for the prosecution of an accountant, who was also a magistrate, for defrauding clients of about £35,000. Confiscation order made (2010) of over £4m: appeal underway.
- *R v Duncan and Others* (Operation Holah) (2005, Reading Crown Court) prosecuted conspiracy to supply largest ever seizure of cocaine by Thames Valley Police (28.5 kilos): sentences imposed 17-24 years; Proceeds of Crime Act proceedings, over £400,000 recovered.
- *R v Goldstone and Others* (Operation Decency) (2005, Blackfriars Crown Court) leading for the prosecution (HM Customs & Excise) in £4m VAT fraud.
- *R v Whitcombe* (2004, Luton Crown Court) leading for the prosecution in murder trial.
- *R v Noble* (2004, Reading Crown Court) led in murder prosecution where defendant killed former lover in multiple stabbing, then washed and dressed body and lay beside it for two days until arrested. Unsuccessful defence of diminished responsibility.
- *R v DiFrancesco* (2004, Shrewsbury Crown Court) Rural Payments Agency subsidy fraud prosecution for DEFRA.
- *R v Peel and Corbidge* (2003, Reading Crown Court). Leading in fraud prosecution.
- *R v DeFazio and Others* (Operation Vichy) (2002, Reading Crown Court) senior junior counsel in prosecution of conspiracy to produce amphetamine sulphate; linked case of *R v White and Others* (Operation Varsity) (2002, Reading Crown Court) conspiracy to produce counterfeit currency.

Additional information

Appeared as junior Counsel in the House of Lords in *Re D (A minor) v Berkshire County Council* [1987] AC 317. Also has considerable experience in personal injury cases.

Has particular expertise in Club Law and Licensing. Standing Counsel to the National Golf Clubs' Advisory Association since 1989, advising on all aspects of law, including Employment, Landlord & Tenant, Negligence and Nuisance, Taxation, Contract & Licensing.

Co-author, '*Ashton and Reid on Club Law*' (Jordans, 2005, second edition in preparation).

Experienced in the use of electronic presentation of evidence.

Member of Criminal Bar Association, Family Law Bar Association.
Member of the Midland, South Eastern and North Eastern Circuits.