

Will Martin



Year of Call: 2010

020 7353 5324

An astute tactician and natural advocate, Will is a highly-regarded junior who advises and acts in matters across the criminal and regulatory spectrum. His practice focuses on business crime, fraud and financial misconduct, and serious organised crime.

A major part of Will's practice is defending and prosecuting individuals and companies across a range of complex regulatory matters, including breaches of consumer protection, health and safety, planning enforcement and environmental legislation.

Will is able to receive **direct access** instructions.

Business Crime & Financial Services

Will specialises in cases of business crime, including complex, high-value fraud and fraudulent trading, and other white collar work, including bankruptcy and insolvency offences. Will represents both individuals and businesses.

Will spent a year working with the financial regulator, the FCA, on Operation Tabernula, the largest ever insider trading prosecution brought by the regulator, and Operation Cotton, a multi-million pound land-banking fraud.

Will has particular niche expertise in the complex field of Legal Professional Privilege (LPP). He was instructed as independent counsel by the FCA in relation to an investigation into an alleged \$1bn tax fraud, and by Herbert Smith Freehills in relation to material held by a multinational bank during an investigation into a £200m fraud perpetrated by its employees. Will has also acted as on-site independent LPP counsel for the SFO during searches.

Location

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London
EC4Y 7BH

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Recent Cases:

SFO v Thomas & Ors

Led junior in successful defence of the CEO of an international fibre-optic / infrastructure company alleged by the SFO to have played a significant role in a fraud perpetrated against Barclays and KBC banks to the value of £160m. The trial, at Southwark Crown Court, lasted some five months.

R v SC & Ors

Led junior in defence of alleged architect of a complex pension liberation fraud involving some 800 investors and a value in excess of £9m.

DBEIS v JL

Defence of a businessman prosecuted by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy for failing to disclose material to the Official Receiver during the course of bankruptcy proceedings.

Investigation X

Following an investigation commenced by the US Department of Justice, assisted in the internal investigation of a large multinational company for alleged breaches of the Iranian sanction regime, following investigation by the US Department of Justice.

Criminal Defence

A fearless and agile defence advocate, Will defends in cases across the criminal spectrum, with his practice encompassing matters such as homicide and serious violence, public disorder including protests, and serious sexual offences. He has particular experience in representing professionals, from CEOs to police officers.

Recent Cases:

R v MCT

Defence of an individual charged with murder. Instructed as junior counsel.

R v RM

Defence of a businessman alleged to have blackmailed his business partner following a high-value telecommunications deal gone-wrong.

R v TDP & Ors

Defence of a 15 year old in a multi-handed rape case involving vulnerable young witnesses.

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R v TP & Ors

Defence of an individual charged with violent disorder following involvement in clashes with police and antifascist protesters. The incident was widely reported following the channel 4 documentary Angry, White & Proud.

Private Prosecution

Will frequently advises and represents clients who wish to bring or defend private prosecution proceedings.

Will has successfully conducted numerous prosecutions in the Magistrates' and Crown Courts on behalf of the following private bodies:

- the Royal Mail Group;
- the Post Office;
- Capita Plc; and
- the RSPCA

Will brings invaluable public prosecution experience to bear on the private sphere, having advised on investigation, restraint of assets, evidence, charging, disclosure, and confiscation for agencies as diverse as the CPS, SFO, FCA, UKBA and the Home Office.

Will has particular expertise managing issues of disclosure, a potential pitfall of private prosecution, and has drafted numerous disclosure management documents and protocols.

Will has also helped train private investigators to assist them in giving live evidence in court.

Public Prosecution

Will is a Grade 3 Prosecutor. He is frequently instructed as junior counsel, as well as acting alone.

Will's prosecution practice encompasses cases across the criminal spectrum, including matters such as homicide and serious violence, drug supply, and serious sexual offences. Will has particular experience prosecuting cases of human trafficking by organised crime networks.

Recent Cases:

R v ZN & Ors

Prosecution of ZN and six other individuals for conspiring to attack ZN's 3-year-old child using sulphuric acid. The attack took place in a busy shop in Worcester. Led by Jonathan Rees QC; instructed by CPS West Midlands Complex Casework Unit

R v EM

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Prosecution of EM for the murder of a young man at a butcher's shop in Wood Green. Led by Brian O'Neill QC; instructed by the CPS Homicide Unit,

R v DF

Prosecution of DF for the killing of his 11-year-old niece. Led by Jonathan Rees QC; instructed by CPS West Midlands Complex Casework Unit

R v SP & Ors

Prosecution of a network of Slovakian traffickers for bringing women from Eastern Europe to the UK for the purposes of sham marriage and prostitution. Led by Sarah Przybylska; instructed by the CPS Special Casework Unit,

R v KH & KH

Prosecution of two public officials at Broadmoor secure psychiatric unit in relation to payments made by the News of the World and Daily Mirror for stories. Led junior; Instructed by CPS Organised Crime Division.

Criminal Regulatory

A major part of Will's practice is advising and acting in matters related to business regulation, especially defending and prosecuting cases related to health and safety, trading standards, planning and environmental protection regulations:

HSE v MR

Defence of a business owner prosecuted by the Health and Safety Executive following an accident in which an employee's hand was amputated.

HSE v Company X

Defence of a company prosecuted by the Health and Safety Executive for allegedly dangerous excavation and building works at a residential property in London.

Trading Standards v SA & Ors

Defence of the company secretary of a London estate agency facing allegations of fraudulent trading.

Trading Standards v SK & Ors

Defence of the director of a car dealership charged with various offences under the Consumer Protection from Unfair Trading Regulations 2008.

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Sports Law

Will's Sports Law practice encompasses advice and representation of clients across a spectrum of different areas including professional discipline, player transfer regulations and safeguarding.

Will was recently seconded to the Football Association. He has appeared for the FA in proceedings related to breaches of intermediary regulations, appeals against safeguarding determinations and allegations of on-field and off-field misconduct against players and coaches. Will has appeared at both first instance and appellate level.

Recent Cases

The FA v West Ham United Football Club ('WHUFC')

Represented The FA in a case brought against WHUFC as a result of significant crowd disorder at a match against Burnley at the London Stadium in March 2018. The case was complicated by WHUFC's contract with the operators of the London Stadium. The FA successfully proved its case, and the Club was fined £100,000.

The FA v David Manasseh

Represented The FA in case brought against David Manasseh, a leading football intermediary and managing director and co-founder of the Stellar Group, for approaching an entering into a representation contract with a player aged under 16. Mr. Manasseh denied the charge, but The FA successfully proved its case. He was suspended from intermediary activity for three months and fined £50,000.

Professional Discipline

A growing part of Will's practice covers matters of Professional Discipline. He has strong experience dealing with all manner of professionals – such as CEOs, police staff and teachers – facing allegations of serious wrong-doing

Recent instructions include fitness to practice hearings before the Nursing and Midwifery Council, including allegations against a midwife of failing to attend a homebirth, and a Director of Nursing who coerced other nurses to source her prescription medication.

Inquests & Public Inquiries

Will also accepts instructions for Inquests & Public Inquiries. He is experienced in examining expert witnesses in a wide range of matters, including causation of injury, the potential effects of mental illness, and mechanical failure.

Will is adept at representing a range of different clients with different concerns, and has, throughout his practice, represented the interests of a number of professional persons.

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Appointments & Memberships

- CPS Advocate Panel Level 3
- CPS Serious Crime Group Specialist Panel Level 3
- CPS Fraud Specialist Panel Level 3
- SFO Proceeds of Crime Panel C
- London Boroughs Legal Alliance Panel B
- Young Fraud Lawyers Association
- Criminal Bar Association
- Private Prosecution Association

Education & Qualifications

- BA (Hons) (1st class) Politics, University of Nottingham
- David Karmel Entrance Award, Gray's Inn
- Steen Award, Gray's Inn
- Norman Tapp Memorial Prize, Gray's Inn
- Kalisher Archbold Award, Kalisher Trust

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