



Simon Kealey KC

Year of call 1991 Silk 2017



teresa.pugh@newparkcourt.co.uk



+44 (0)113 203 5504

Simon Kealey KC is an extremely popular and personable barrister who enjoys a busy practice concentrating on serious crime and regulatory law offences.

Simon's criminal expertise, for both the prosecution and the defence, extends across the range of the most serious cases from homicide to terrorism, serious fraud, and sexual offences. His homicide practice ranges from multi-defendant gangland murders to cases involving complex medical evidence including psychology and toxicology. These areas of work frequently involve either representing or the questioning of very vulnerable people in a sensitive and appropriate manner.

In his Regulatory Health & Safety work, Simon has been instructed in investigations and prosecutions involving deaths in the workplace. His serious fraud work includes trials involving HMRC and government departments as well as complex confiscation hearings.

Many of Simon's cases have been high profile and covered by the national media including Crimewatch and the BBC. His cases include gangland murders in both Sheffield and Manchester, the murder of a baby returned to parents by Social Services, a complex murder involving infanticide and representing a Kurdish man accused of plotting to bomb Christmas markets.

Those instructing him describe him as 'absolutely meticulous', 'thorough calm and persuasive' and 'a top player in silk'. Simon is experienced in assimilating large volumes of material requiring careful analysis of complex expert evidence and distilling that for the court or tribunal in an easily digestible manner. His work predominantly involves a team of other counsel, solicitors or police officers and he is accustomed to being part of a team and taking the lead in presenting a case.

Simon also undertakes private cases both at trial and on appeal post-conviction, particularly involving allegations of sexual misconduct.

Leeds

16 Park Place
Leeds
LS1 2SJ
Leeds Park Square

T: +44 (0)113 243 3277
E: clerks@newparkcourt.co.uk
DX: 26401

Newcastle

3 Broad Chare
Newcastle Upon Tyne
NE1 3DQ

T: +44 (0)191 232 1980
E: clerks@newparkcourt.co.uk



Expertise

Murder & Manslaughter

Notable Murder & Manslaughter cases

R v Johnson

Murder involving mutilation in a flat where the sole evidence was hearsay evidence from a dead witness

R v Bruns

Murder involving two defendants who were very young and vulnerable and which attracted considerable media attention at a time when knife crime by young people was frequently in the news

R v Cook & Houghton

Murder in a town centre involving multiple teenage defendants

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-lancashire-68574031>

R v L

Representing 17 year old boy accused of involvement in gangland drugs murder & torture

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-south-yorkshire-66452962>

R v Boden

High profile murder of a baby returned to parents by Social Services

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-derbyshire-65697782>

R v Castle

Representing father accused of involvement in the death of adopted child

R v Walters & others

Gangland drugs murder involving young defendants.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-manchester-56777124>

R v Redmond, Metcalfe & Crutchley

Leeds

16 Park Place
Leeds
LS1 2SJ
Leeds Park Square

T: +44 (0)113 243 3277
E: clerks@newparkcourt.co.uk
DX: 26401

Newcastle

3 Broad Chare
Newcastle Upon Tyne
NE1 3DQ

T: +44 (0)191 232 1980
E: clerks@newparkcourt.co.uk



Multi defendant murder of man involving extensive torture of the victim .

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-leeds-51588781>

R v Barker, Gray, Walker & Foster

Multi defendant murder of drug dealer in a gangland feud.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-south-yorkshire-48613715>

R v Tunstill

Murder of new born baby by her mother in the immediate period after birth. Extensive psychiatric and psychological evidence.

R v Scott

Attempted murder of four children by their father who took his children from their mother, drove around the UK before hitting each of them around the head with a hammer and deliberately driving into a stone wall.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-south-yorkshire-43072412>

R v Procter

Murder of Defendant's own son by throwing him out of 6th floor window in a block of flats.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-leeds-44500042>

R v Coughlin

Gangland murder in drugs war in Manchester.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-manchester-42707675>

R v Westland

Prison murder of baby killer. Trial involved expert toxicological evidence relating to the ingestion of 'spice'.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-leeds-45044604>

R v Cranston

Gross negligence manslaughter trial involving starvation of family member.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-leeds-44800390>

R v Crane

Leeds

16 Park Place
Leeds
LS1 2SJ
Leeds Park Square

T: +44 (0)113 243 3277
E: clerks@newparkcourt.co.uk
DX: 26401

Newcastle

3 Broad Chare
Newcastle Upon Tyne
NE1 3DQ

T: +44 (0)191 232 1980
E: clerks@newparkcourt.co.uk



Prosecution for manslaughter by gross negligence involving fatal accident on a farm.

Serious Crime

Notable Serious Crime cases

R v Wood

Trial involving a man with Cerebral Palsy, hearing and speech impairment charged with sexual offences involving multiple complainants over many decades.

<https://www.yorkshireeveningpost.co.uk/news/crime/sadistic-paedophile-abused-and-tortured-children-for-decades-5472198>

R v Williams

Defendant who was a serving police officer charged with assault and strangulation of man during an arrest

<https://www.northwaleschronicle.co.uk/news/25148375.gwynedd-policeman-cleared-assaulting-strangling-man/>

R v Kirk & others

Misconduct in public office involving prison officers at HMP Nottingham

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-nottinghamshire-54364993>

R v Star

Defendant charged with preparing acts of terrorism involving the use of explosives in a driverless car.

R v Butlin

Defendant charged with a firearms conspiracy following the shooting by police of a man on M62

R v Matthews & Donovan

Acting for the prosecution as Junior to Julian Goose KC in the case concerning the kidnap of the 9-year old Shannon Matthews by her mother Karen.

R v Skidmore

Highly unusual case involving conspiracy to prevent a lawful burial by two undertakers. The only modern reported case in this area cited in Archbold and raises important issues about the scope of the offence.

Leeds

16 Park Place
Leeds
LS1 2SJ
Leeds Park Square

T: +44 (0)113 243 3277
E: clerks@newparkcourt.co.uk
DX: 26401

Newcastle

3 Broad Chare
Newcastle Upon Tyne
NE1 3DQ

T: +44 (0)191 232 1980
E: clerks@newparkcourt.co.uk



Fraud & Money Laundering

Notable Fraud & Money Laundering cases

Operation Dimple

Lead prosecutor in large multi defendant fraud and money laundering across different jurisdictions and involving credit card fraud and the 'dark web'.

R v Heath

Representing director accused of involvement in fraudulent sales of estate planning products

Director of 'scam' will writing firm finally set to appear in court

R v Wheelhouse

Fraud trial involving directors of solar energy companies

R v Ayub & Others

Leading counsel in a multi handed conspiracy to defraud the Legal Aid Agency by a firm of Solicitors in Bradford.

Operation Oldham

Leading counsel in multi handed conspiracy to defraud the Government of monies obtained by grants to fund a Bradford Free School.

R v UI Haq & Others

Lead advocate in multi handed people trafficking trial.

R v Hussain & Others

Acted for lead Defendant in multi handed people trafficking & fraud trial.

Operation Jamesford

International fraud and money laundering trial involving 'cuckoo smurfing' to transfer money out of the UK.

Leeds

16 Park Place
Leeds
LS1 2SJ
Leeds Park Square

T: +44 (0)113 243 3277
E: clerks@newparkcourt.co.uk
DX: 26401

Newcastle

3 Broad Chare
Newcastle Upon Tyne
NE1 3DQ

T: +44 (0)191 232 1980
E: clerks@newparkcourt.co.uk



R v Ali

Commercial fraud involving £10m land transfers.

Regulatory Cases

Notable Regulatory Cases cases

Ward Brothers - Inquest

Inquest into workplace death involving multiple expert evidence.

R v Ward Brothers Health and Safety Executive prosecution of the workplace death

Health and Safety Executive prosecution of the workplace death.

UKCP v Haddon

Presenting officer for the UK Council of Psychotherapists in respect of complex disciplinary offences involving sexual misconduct with a former patient

Private Client

Notable Private Client cases

R v Hoggard

Representing a director of series of care homes accused of involvement in deaths of residents

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-humber-69052962>

R v Howarth

Historic sexual allegations within the family.

R v Cunningham

Appeal against conviction and sentence for multiple sexual offences.

Leeds

16 Park Place
Leeds
LS1 2SJ
Leeds Park Square

T: +44 (0)113 243 3277
E: clerks@newparkcourt.co.uk
DX: 26401

Newcastle

3 Broad Chare
Newcastle Upon Tyne
NE1 3DQ

T: +44 (0)191 232 1980
E: clerks@newparkcourt.co.uk



R v Mills

HGV driver charged with death by dangerous driving where potential issue over state of vehicle & funded by employer's insurance. Negotiated plea with prosecution to offence of death by careless driving.

R v Vaughan

Senior NHS manager charged with historic child sex offences & child cruelty. After trial, defendant was acquitted of all charges save one.

Reported Cases

Notable Reported Cases cases

R v Tunstill [2019] 1 WLR 416

Successful appeal against conviction for murder of new born baby. Issues raised in respect of infanticide as alternative verdict to murder where the Accused relies upon pre-existing mental condition.

R v W [2013] EWCA Crim 861.

Appeal against conviction involving fresh evidence and expert evidence relating to the effects of Autism on offending behaviour.

R v Friesner [2012] Crim 962

Appeal against sentence involving theft by a barrister from his Chambers.

R v Kazantsis [2010] EWCA Crim 712

Appeal relating to pressure of time upon a jury in the lead up to a public holiday.

R v Skidmore [2009] Crim L.R. 42

Highly unusual case involving conspiracy to prevent a lawful burial by two undertakers. The only modern reported case in this area cited in Archbold and raises important issues about the scope of the offence.

R v Roys [2009] 1 Cr App R (S) 91

Appeal against sentence involving fatal accident at a power station.

R v Potts [2008] EWCA Crim 962

Appeal involving sexual offences.

Leeds

16 Park Place
Leeds
LS1 2SJ
Leeds Park Square

T: +44 (0)113 243 3277
E: clerks@newparkcourt.co.uk
DX: 26401

Newcastle

3 Broad Chare
Newcastle Upon Tyne
NE1 3DQ

T: +44 (0)191 232 1980
E: clerks@newparkcourt.co.uk



R v TW [2005] EWCA Crim 2684

Appeal involving propriety of questions asked by Judge during trial.

R (on application of DPP) v Kipling [2005] EWHC 854 (Admin)

Case stated in respect of alibi evidence.

R v Martin [2005] EWCA Crim 801

Appeal against refusal to discharge a jury following plea of co-accused.

R v Downes [2005] EWCA Crim 457

Appeal involving refusal to disclose sensitive material.

R v Khan [2004] EWCA Crim 1982

Appeal against sentence involving indication of sentence by Judge in chambers.

R v H [2004] EWCA Crim 1016

Appeal against inconsistent verdicts of jury.

R v Whiteley [2001] 2 Cr App R (S) 99

Appeal against life sentence for second s18 offence.

Appointments

- Recorder (2012)
- Member of Restricted Patient Panel & Mental Health Tribunal Judge
- Head of Criminal Team at New Park Court Chambers
- Bencher at Inner Temple

Memberships

- Criminal Bar Association
- North Eastern Circuit

Leeds

16 Park Place
Leeds
LS1 2SJ
Leeds Park Square

T: +44 (0)113 243 3277
E: clerks@newparkcourt.co.uk
DX: 26401

Newcastle

3 Broad Chare
Newcastle Upon Tyne
NE1 3DQ

T: +44 (0)191 232 1980
E: clerks@newparkcourt.co.uk



Speaking

- Infanticide Reconsidered
- SGC Guidelines for Sexual Offences
- Bad Character Update
- Rape: Preparing the case for trial

Directory Quotes

“Simon has a lovely, soothing manner in court and is a superb operator...He is robust but mild-mannered and he takes good points. His advocacy is effective and clear, not showy.”

Chambers and Partners 2026 (Crime)

“He is well prepared and has an advocacy style that appeals to a jury. He is a strong, capable advocate.”

Chambers and Partners 2025 [Crime]

“He is able to present complex issues effectively and persuasively with a confidence achieved through solid preparation and mastery of the evidence.”

Chambers and Partners 2025 [Crime]

“He is robust but mild-mannered, and he takes good points. His advocacy is effective and clear, not showy.”

Chambers & Partners 2026 (Crime)

“Simon is an impressive and polished advocate.”

Chambers and Partners 2025 [Crime]

“Simon's advocacy is first class - a smiling assassin.”

Legal 500 2025 [Crime]

“Simon Kealey was well prepared, knew the case inside out and has an advocacy style that appeals to a jury. He is a strong, capable advocate.”

Chambers & Partners 2024

“Simon is an impressive and polished advocate.”

Chambers & Partners 2023

Leeds

16 Park Place
Leeds
LS1 2SJ
Leeds Park Square

T: +44 (0)113 243 3277
E: clerks@newparkcourt.co.uk
DX: 26401

Newcastle

3 Broad Chare
Newcastle Upon Tyne
NE1 3DQ

T: +44 (0)191 232 1980
E: clerks@newparkcourt.co.uk



“He is able to present complex issues effectively and persuasively with a confidence achieved through solid preparation and mastery of the evidence.”

Chambers & Partners 2023

“A respected practitioner who is highly regarded for his advocacy in serious criminal cases. He is especially familiar with cases involving drugs conspiracy and people trafficking.”

Chambers & Partners 2022

“Simon prepares thoroughly, and has a manner that puts the clients and their families at ease. His advocacy is of the highest standard, commanding respect from opponents and the judiciary.”

Legal 500 2022

“Respected and liked by the judiciary.”

Chambers & Partners 2021 (Crime)

“He is absolutely meticulous and really gets his points across.”

Chambers & Partners 2020 (Crime)

“Very hard working and a great barrister.”

Legal 500 2019 (Crime)

“Respected practitioner who is highly regarded for his advocacy in serious criminal cases. He is especially familiar with cases involving drugs conspiracy and people trafficking.”

Chambers & Partners 2019

“He will be a top player in silk - he is the complete package.”

Chambers & Partners 2019

“A very thorough, calm and persuasive advocate.”

Chambers & Partners 2019

“His practice includes multi-defendant heavyweight criminal cases.”

Legal 500 2018

Leeds

16 Park Place
Leeds
LS1 2SJ
Leeds Park Square

T: +44 (0)113 243 3277
E: clerks@newparkcourt.co.uk
DX: 26401

Newcastle

3 Broad Chare
Newcastle Upon Tyne
NE1 3DQ

T: +44 (0)191 232 1980
E: clerks@newparkcourt.co.uk