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TOM ALLEN QC

Called to the Bar 1994

Queen's Counsel 2015

"Knowledgeable, approachable, technically gifted and a great jury advocate."
- Chambers Partners 2019

"Incredibly bright and a commanding presence in court"
- Legal 500 2019

BIOGRAPHY

Tom Allen is a leading silk specialising in commercial and business crime and financial regulatory offences. He acts for companies and individuals in domestic and international criminal law matters, including bribery, corruption, money laundering and fraud.

Consistently praised in the legal directories, he is a notably powerful jury advocate.

Tom also undertakes complex advisory work. He is an innovative strategic thinker with extensive experience of assisting in the early stages of investigation.

WHAT OTHERS SAY

Chambers and Partners 2019

Ranked as a leading practitioner in Financial Crime

"Possesses advocacy skills that draw the listener in"

"He is a very succinct and effective advocate who is able to really identify the important points in a case"

"Lots of presence and ability...He possesses excellent judgement and great client-care skills"

"He is able to draw the listener in and interact with clients to get a deeper understanding of the case"

"Excellent judgement. He gets to grips with the issues rapidly and is brilliant with clients. He's extremely hard-working and knows his stuff"

Legal 500

"A highly persuasive advocate, with brilliant judgement and a keen intellect"

"Extremely hardworking and excellent with clients"

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"Extraordinarily user-friendly"

RECENT & CURRENT CASES

In recent years, Tom has been instructed in numerous investigations and banking-related frauds, frequently with connections to Russia and the CIS. Recent instructions include multiple SFO investigations into cross-jurisdictional bribery and corruption offences.

- Successfully defended Benedikt Sobotka, the CEO of ERG (parent company of ENRC) in SFO proceedings for failing to comply with a requirement to attend a s.2 interview.
- Instructed to defend SFO prosecution of former CEO of GSL on corruption charges.
- Defended FH Bertling director on corruption charges
- Advising Premier League football club in relation to HMRC investigation.
- Advising individual re allegations of overseas corruption in conjunction with the SFO investigation into Rolls Royce PLC

PREVIOUS CASES

Other notable cases in recent years include;

- Advising company regarding FCA investigation
- Acting for individual in connection with a local government corruption investigation which includes a multinational telecommunications company.
- *R v Gherzi* – Defended a former trader at Otkritie bank charged with conspiring to defraud Threadneedle Asset Management of \$150m. Acquitted on all counts.
- Acting for company in connection with investigation into multi million-pound fraud on NHS Wales
- Advising Chinese corporation on Bribery Act implications of collaboration agreement with British company
- *R v Bevan*: Advising in relation to allegations of cheating the public revenue of £100m by using tax relief measures set up by the government to encourage investment in the British film industry
- Instructed to defend in respect of prosecution of £250 million film finance tax avoidance scheme.
- *R v Rumsey* – Allegation of share selling (boiler room) fraud involving losses of \$100m.
- *Re PWC* – Acted for the Accountancy and Actuarial Disciplinary Board in Disciplinary Proceedings against PWC, external auditors to JP Morgan; failure to notice up to \$23 Billion of client money unsegregated in accounts. Record fine imposed.
- *R v Mehmet*: Defended missing trader intra-Community fraud, whereby HMRC was cheated out of £25m of VAT.
- Defending in corruption case involving procurement contracts at the London Borough of Tower Hamlets and the Department of Constitutional Affairs.
- Instructed to defend high net worth individuals from Armenia and Kazakhstan in a series of criminal proceedings.
- Instructed to represent X, a suspect in the International Criminal Court investigation into the Situation in Darfur, Sudan.
- *R v N* [2010] EWCA Crim 2050 : International money laundering involving funds dispersed to or coming from Lebanon, South Africa, Denmark, Zimbabwe and Grenada.
- *R v Eiley, Savery and Polonio* [2009] UKPC 40. Privy Council appeal on behalf of three Appellants convicted of murder in Belize. Convictions of all appellants overturned as unsafe.

EDUCATION / EXPERIENCE

Winner: Screen international / Oscar Moore prize. Best Screenplay – 200