

ANDREW FORD KC

CALL 1992



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 Nationwide

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Serious Crime

DIRECTORIES

(Legal 500 2025) Ranked Tier 3
(Crime, Leading Silks)

'Approachable and responsive, he gives every case his all.' Ranked:
Tier 2
(Legal 500 2021) (Crime Leading Juniors)

"He demonstrates excellent commitment to his clients" (Legal 500 2018) Ranked tier 1

NOTABLE CASES

Heavy Criminal Practice, Defending and Prosecuting:

Recent Defence Work as KC

R v JW Shrewsbury 2024

War Pensions; alleged Fraud upon the Ministry of Defence. Complex Accounting and medical evidence. Defendant found "Not Guilty" at close of the Prosecution case upon Judge's Direction, following Legal Argument advanced by Mr Ford KC

R v HT Teesside 2023

Murder; Appellant stabbed wife 78 times; convicted of Murder. Conviction Quashed, following successful legal argument advanced to the Court of Appeal by Mr.Ford KC. Retrial Ordered.

R v PW Leeds 2023

Murder / Pervert Course of Justice : defendant convicted of assisting with clandestine burial of deceased in a remote forest following Murder in 2011, including dousing the body in caustic soda to help it decompose; then mounted fake "missing person" campaign to cover up the Murder, until deceased's skeleton was unearthed in 2020 after a police tip-off; Sentenced to 6 years imprisonment.

R v MHJ Mold 2023

Murder; defendant convicted of stabbing best friend through the heart, whilst filming the same, and posting video of the killing on Snapchat; sentenced to 17 years' imprisonment

Recent Prosecution Work as KC

R v AW Chester 2024

Murder; very high profile killing of her fiancé, by intelligent female student, by running him down in her car and dragging him 500 feet under the chassis; following argument after a party. Conviction for Murder & Life Imprisonment;

R v FY & others Nottingham 2023

Murder; complex multi-handed Murder trial; presented methodically by Mr.Ford KC by the use of painstaking overlapping CCTV footage, and complex forensic evidence; plus Confession / Hearsay arguments as to admissibility; Conviction for Murder & Life Imprisonment;

NOTABLE CASES

R v NV & others Manchester 2023

Conspiracy to Possess Firearm & Ammunition with Intent to Endanger Life; Conspiracy to Cause GBH with Intent, Attempted Murder; prosecuted Mancunian gangster, and his gang, extradited from Netherlands, from where he ordered attacks and directed shootings via Encrophone; Conviction; Defence Encro Argument defeated; Determinative Sentence of 26 years imposed; Upheld on Appeal.

R v RM Liverpool 2022

- Murder, plus Attempt Murder x2; defendant murdered partner by stabbing her in stomach suspecting her of infidelity with two men, then defiled her body; lured the first man to the scene and attempted to Murder him; hunted down second man in his workplace where he attempted to Murder him – x3 stabbings on the same day. Convictions for Murder of deceased, Attempt Murder of first man & Attempt Murder of second man.

Defence work as a Leading Junior

- For over 20 years Mr Ford KC enjoyed a busy and varied practice as Defence Counsel in the Crown Court. He took on the full variety of criminal cases, including Murder, Drugs, Corruption, and very many Rape and Historic Sexual abuse trials.
- Mr Ford KC was a pioneer and a leader in what has now become the established method nationally in the cross-examination, and proper challenge, of vulnerable witnesses.
- Mr Ford KC also developed a niche practice in the defence of white-collar workers, and employees whom faced criminal allegations within the workplace, especially teachers and care workers.
- Mr Ford KC has extensive Appellate experience before the Court of Appeal (Criminal Division), for both sides. Many of his Appeals as a Junior were reported in the Law Reports from 2004 onwards.

Prosecution work as a Leading Junior

- For approximately ten years prior to Taking Silk, Mr Ford KC prosecuted the most serious and challenging multi-handed cases in Crown Courts throughout the North West.
- On behalf of several North West Constabularies, especially Greater Manchester Police, Lancashire Police, Merseyside Police & the Cumbria Constabulary, Mr Ford KC steered to conviction a large number of multi-handed Conspiracies, in which serious criminals were tried and imprisoned. These were frequently, but not exclusively, large scale urban drugs conspiracies. They included Conspiracies to attack and compromise ATMs (cashpoints), and other very serious Conspiracies.
- The trial Judge wrongly stopped one such Conspiracy at half time against 6 out of 7 drug traffickers. Mr Ford KC appealed this decision as a Terminating Ruling to the Court of Appeal Criminal Division, whom reversed the Judge and ordered the trial to resume. The jury returned 6 out of 7 convictions. <https://www.bailii.org/ew/cases/EWCA/Crim/2014/1521.html>
- Mr Ford KC was routinely retained by Senior Crown Prosecutors within various branches of the CPS to lead for the Crown in these large scale prosecutions. He developed a style and familiarity with their presentation, and the use of both multi-media presentation and paperwork – whether before a jury or Judge alone; and with or without a Junior. He now adopts this approach prosecuting multi-handed Murders.

NOTABLE CASES

Extra-Curricular

- Between 2016 and 2019 Mr Ford KC designed, delivered and led the Northern Circuit Vulnerable Witness Training Programme. This Training represented a sea-change for Advocates in how to cross-examine people who are vulnerable, whether by reason of age, disability or for other reasons.
- Mr Ford KC hand-picked and trained the Trainers at the outset of the 3-year Programme. He oversaw this Training to all barrister members of the Circuit throughout that period – involving Circuit Judges and counsel from other disciplines too. Mr Ford KC's Training Programme was accredited by the Bar Council. Its methods have become the established way to conduct cross-examination in such cases.
- Mr Ford KC is the Chambers Representative for Middle Temple. Before Taking Silk he was a Pupil-Supervisor. He is also a member of the Chambers Management Committee, and plays his part in the strategic management of what is a large and very successful Common Law Chambers.
- Mr Ford KC served on the Executive Committee of the Criminal Bar Association both as a Leading Junior (2018-2019) and in Silk (2022-2023).
- Mr Ford KC retains a keen interest in the care and development of new entrants to the profession. During 2025 he has both lectured and trained students in advocacy in Manchester, Liverpool and Chester.
- Outside of the criminal Courts, Mr Ford KC sits as a Tribunal Judge for *UK Athletics*, and he has a healthy number of other interests and pursuits nothing to do with the Law.