

OWEN EDWARDS KC

CALL 1992 | SILK 2023



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 Nationwide

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Crime

PROFILE OVERVIEW

Owen specialises in crime and regulatory law and is consistently ranked in Chambers UK and the Legal 500 as a leading criminal barrister. He was shortlisted as Criminal and Extradition Silk of the year in the Legal 500 Awards 2024.

Having established an exceptionally strong junior practice Owen soon became a level 4 prosecutor. His practice has gone from strength to strength since taking silk in 2023. Owen is instructed in several high profile and difficult cases including homicide, drugs conspiracies, serious sexual offences, frauds, regulatory matters, inquest, driving and health and safety fatalities. He also appears in family High Court Finding of Fact hearings in cases involving death and catastrophic injury.

Owen defends in insurance funded cases nationally and has experience of appearing in inquests. Owen has a significant private practice with clients praising his calm, approachable manner, and his Courtroom skills. Owen is a Welsh speaker and can conduct trials in Welsh. He is an advocacy trainer and is the Treasurer of the Wales and Chester Circuit.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Owen Edwards is ranked as a leading individual in both the Legal 500 (2019-2025) and Chambers and Partners UK (2020-2025).
- Owen is recognised as a Leading Silk in the Legal 500 2025 and 2026 rankings
- Owen is recognised as Band 2 KC in the 2025 and 2026 Chambers & Partners rankings
- Chambers & Partners 2026
- "Owen is considered one of the go-to silks in Cheshire and North Wales."
- Chambers & Partners 2025
- "He is extremely experienced in a vast area of criminal trials and is always prepared."
- "He has fantastic advocacy skills and has a good nature with clients, securing great results."
- "Owen is very hard-working and has excellent client skills."
- Legal 500 Owen Edwards KC – "Owen is an outstanding criminal barrister."
- "His advocacy is forceful and persuasive. Hard working, eloquent and loved by juries. A bright star."

- Chambers & Partners “Owen is a brilliant cross-examiner and keeps the attention of the courtroom. He is highly respected by judges, opponents and colleagues alike. I highly recommend him for any serious case.”
- Owen is recognised as a KC in the Legal 500 2025 rankings
- ‘Owen has an excellent grasp of the detail and is an excellent advocate able to put juries at ease in English or Welsh. As importantly, he has a very easy manner with defendants who are going through an incredibly stressful period. He puts them at ease, builds rapport and explains difficult concepts simply.’

NOTABLE CASES

Murder and Homicide

2025

- R v Kerry Ives – Defending in six-week trial involving murder of grandson at Mold Crown Court. High profile case involved significant expert medical evidence with participation at issue. Instructed by Gamlins Law.
- R v Higgins- Defending in multiple stabbing murder trial at Chester Crown Court with self-defence raised as the issue. Instructed by Stephens and Co.
- R v Hardy – Defending in murder trial at Mold Crown Court in case raising complex medical and forensic issues relating to the timing of fatal injuries. Instructed by Chris Clarke and Co.
- R v Aaron Blagg – Co-Defending in drive by shooting attempted murder trial with Nick Johnson KC at Teesside Crown Court. Issues related to admissibility and strength of DNA and identification evidence in a case involving identical twins. A submission of no case to answer succeeded at the end of the prosecution case resulting in acquittal. Instructed by Sean Grainger of Watson Woodhouse solicitors.
- R v Ruddock – Prosecuting at Chester Crown Court. Defendant convicted of manslaughter after four-week trial in which the issue had been self-defence

2024

- R v Whiteley – Defending in seven-week trial at Mold Crown Court involving the brutal murder of a man in his own house. Defendant had discarded his clothes and phone after the incident having claimed to be a victim of robbery. The issue was whether he had participated in the murder with his two co-defendants. Case involved detailed cross examination of the co-accused both of whom were convicted of murder. The defendant was acquitted. Instructed by JW Hughes and Co.
- R v Marlowe – Defending in murder at Teesside Crown Court in case involving the death of a drug user in a crack den. Following detailed investigations into the background of the main prosecution witness, a plea to the lesser count of manslaughter was accepted on the day of trial. Instructed by Watson Woodhouse and Co.

2023

- R v Thomas Dunn – Prosecuting sheltered home murder in which a retired former soldier had killed a fellow resident with a spade. Following a psychiatric investigation the defendant pleaded guilty at Chester Crown Court.
- R v McGann – Prosecuting son for the alleged murder of his father at their family home in Manchester in a trial in which self-defence was in issue.

Earlier Cases

- R v Burrows – Successful prosecution in gross negligence manslaughter trial involving home carer. Liverpool Crown.
- R v SM – Defending in trial of an issue in a murder committed by Polish builder prosecuted by Richard Pratt KC Chester Crown.
- Operation Tee – Prosecuting Hale Village Shooting based on circumstantial evidence. Chester Crown.
- R -v- Orlando Santos – Defending in double murder with diminished responsibility raised. Instructed by Gray and Co. Chester Crown.

Drugs and Gun Conspiracies

2022- 2024

- Operation Casino 1 and 2- Successful prosecution in drugs and guns conspiracy. The case involved several trials and Newton hearings and resulted in the conviction of over thirty defendants. Liverpool Crown.
- 2022 Operation Blue Fedora- Mold Crown Defence
- 2021 Operation Measure – Successful defence of young man of good character charged with involvement in major cocaine conspiracy Caernarfon Crown.
- Road Traffic Fatalities

NOTABLE CASES

Drugs and Gun Conspiracies

2025

- R v Field – Defending elderly driver of good character who received a suspended sentence when lesser plea of causing death by careless driving was accepted. Caernarfon Crown
- 2022
- R v Stephenson – Successful defence in death by careless driving case Swansea Crown followed by Inquest at Haverfordwest
- R v Thomas – Successful defence in death by careless driving trial (Mold Crown)
- R v Dr Ahmed Darwish – Successful defence in death by dangerous driving trial (Cardiff Crown)

Sexual Offences

2025

- R v Atkinson – Successful prosecution of historic sexual offences following trial at Preston Crown Court.
- 2024
- R v Godbold – Successful defence of company director facing historic sexual allegations following trial at Chester Crown Court.
- 2022
- R v Barry Bennell – Successful final prosecution of Barry Bennell the coach at the heart of the football abuse scandal. Chester Crown Court.
- Earlier Cases
- R v Ian Naude – Leading Prosecution Junior in the successful prosecution of a police officer who committed paedophile offences throughout England and Wales (Liverpool Crown)
- Operation Palliall – Defence Counsel for former Radio City DJ in high profile eight-week child abuse trial (Mold Crown)

Family Cases

2023

- Flintshire CC v P – Represented perpetrator in High Court finding of fact hearing at Wrexham relating to catastrophic injuries caused in baby shaking case. Leading Kate Anslow. Other parties represented by Ruth Henke KC and Hannah Markham KC.

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Major Scholarships (Wigglesworth) from Lincolns Inn for Bar School and Pupillage.

OTHER QUALIFICATIONS AND ACCREDITATIONS

Qualified Advocacy Trainer, Trainer of Ministry of Prosecution at Oman 2018.

APPOINTMENTS

- Category 4 Prosecutor 2002
- Joint Head of the Criminal Team at Linenhall Chambers.
- Treasurer of the Wales and Chester Circuit

MEMBERSHIPS AND ASSOCIATIONS

Circuit Representative of the Criminal Bar Association.

BEYOND THE BAR

Season ticket holder Wrexham FC