



FRANK DILLON

CALL 2014



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 Nationwide

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Crime

- Encrochat cases (defending);
- major drugs conspiracies;
- serious sexual offences (RASSO panel member);
- general crime.

NOTABLE CASES

R -v- B [2019] - County lines drugs conspiracy on a national scale, spanning several areas of England and Wales. 9-week trial. Junior alone (defence). Acquitted.

R -v- H [2020] - Multi-handed attempted murder with firearm. 13-year-old defendant. Joint enterprise. Junior alone (defence). Acquitted.

R -v- C [2020] - Murder of mother by son for gain. Led junior (prosecution).

R -v- H [2021] - Kneecapping with firearm in course of multi-handed robbery. Leading junior (defence). Submission of no case upheld.

R -v- W [2021] - Murder. Stabbing. joint enterprise. 14-year-old defendant. Led junior (defence). Acquitted.

R -v- M [2022] - Prosecution involving drugging and raping of 14-year-old complainant on multiple occasions. Complex investigation. D pleaded on morning of trial.

R -v- S [2024] - Major county lines case (defence) involving over 400,000 pages of evidence. Leading junior.

Reported Cases:

R -v- Meddlcott [2016] EWCA Crim 55 - Appeal against life sentence, multiple armed robberies.

R -v- B [2019] EWCA Crim 1547 - Historical offences. Inconsistent verdicts.

R -v- Durkin [2021] EWCA Crim 1866 - Issues relating to s.11(3), Criminal Appeal Act 1968 in context of unlawful sentences passed at first instance.

R-v-H: Murder by stabbing in the course of apparent horseplay. Issues of lack of intent. Reduced to Manslaughter.

R-v-N: Murder by a diagnosed schizophrenic. Issues of diminished responsibility.

R-v-A: Murder, with a blunt instrument, by a 19-year-old, of his abusive father. Issues of diminished responsibility and attachment disorder. Reduced to manslaughter.

NOTABLE CASES

- **R-v-M:** Murder, with a hammer, by a 15-year-old, of his father. Issues of diminished responsibility and attachment disorder. Reduced to manslaughter. Exceptionally, the defendant was sentenced to a Supervision Order.
- **R-v-O:** Large-scale drug trafficking and money laundering. Successful application for severance to leading to acquittal.

Magistrates' Court Advocacy

For many years Mr Dillon defended individuals, from all walks of life, charged with a wide variety of offences, and conducted many, many trials, bail applications, sentencing hearings, committal proceedings and interim hearings. The experience of having to deal with a long list of cases on a daily basis, often with little time to prepare, has equipped him with the ability to think on his feet and to make quick decisions.

Crown Court Advocacy

Since acquiring the Higher Rights (Criminal) qualification in 2002 Mr Dillon has appeared for the Defence before the Crown Court on many occasions and has conducted numerous trials, plea hearings, sentences, bail applications and interim hearings. He has also appeared before the Court Of Appeal on occasions.

Amongst the more notable cases in which he has appeared as advocate are the following:

- **R-v-G:** Murder. Led Junior. Stabbing in the course of a street robbery. Issues of identification and forensic evidence
- **R-v-B:** Indecent assault and theft. Acquitted
- **R-v-D:** Historic penetrative sexual abuse upon a 4-year-old victim. Successful pre-trial application to adduce evidence from a memory expert.
- **R-v-J:** Historic sexual abuse of relatives involving two complainants, male and female, making complaints independently of one another. Acquitted.
- **R-v-W:** Rape and S.47 assault by male defendant upon long-term female partner. Issues of self-defence, bad character, corroboration, consent. Acquitted.
- **R-v-O:** Defendant charged with assault in context of an incident giving rise to charges of murder against co-defendants. Prosecuted by Queens Counsel. Acquitted.
- **R-v-D:** Lead defendant in large-scale drugs conspiracy involving an organised team of street dealers. Complex issues of hearsay evidence and telephone attribution.
- **R-v-C:** Operation Halstead. Large-scale drugs conspiracy. Acquitted.
- **R-v-O:** Lead Defendant in 12 – defendant trial involving bank fraud.
- **R-v-W:** Operation Sabine. Led Junior in large-scale drugs conspiracy- described as "biblical" by the sentencing judge- complex issues relating to disclosure and interpretation of evidence generally. Prosecution relented in face of disclosure application and withdrew most serious charge.
- **R-v J:** Operation Redstart: Led Junior. Conspiracy to supply drugs on a huge scale, also involving a large cache of firearms and large-scale money-laundering. Prosecution withdrew most serious charge in course of negotiation.
- **R-v-F:** Murder x 2 of elderly victims, in their own homes, by a taxi-driver in the course of robberies. Led Junior. Issues of diminished responsibility and whole life/30-year tariff.
- **R-v-B:** Schizophrenic patient at special hospital accused of assault upon staff. Acquitted.
- **R-v-E:** Lead defendant in serious firearms conspiracy involving the supply of sub-machine guns, silencers and ammunition.