

SEAN SULLIVAN

CALL 2004



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 Nationwide

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Crime

- Crime
- Homicide
- Serious violence
- Firearms
- Financial crime
- Drugs
- Sexual offences
- Appeals
- Direct Access

PROFILE OVERVIEW

Sean is an experienced, calm and focused barrister who both prosecutes and defends allegations of serious crime. He prepares his cases with great care, gives insightful advice and is a convincing jury advocate.

Sean regularly handles allegations of murder, rape, serious organised organised crime (including drugs and firearms) and financial crime.

He is a grade 4 prosecutor (including RASSO).

As well as accepting private and publicly funded instructions, Sean is able to accept Direct Access work.

He is a tenant at 9BR Chambers, London.

Education

BA Jurisprudence, St Edmund Hall, University of Oxford.

Testimonials

"Sean is a brilliant tactician and a skilful advocate." Chambers UK 2024.

"Sean will turn his hand to any problem and find a solution. He remains a passionate advocate with a razor-sharp wit and intelligence that results in being highly persuasive in any legal setting." Legal 500 2024.

Appointments

Grade 4, CPS advocate panel, General Crime.

CPS RASSO panel.

Serious Fraud Office - Panel A prosecution counsel.

NOTABLE CASES

Homicide

R v M [2025]: murder prosecution where defendant unfit to stand trial due to mental health issues.

R v B [2024]: murder defence in drugs related shooting.

R v G [2023]: murder defence where defendant suffering from serious mental health issues.

R v R [2021]: murder defence representing alleged hitman.

Sexual offences

R v L [ongoing] leading junior prosecuting defendant accused of multiple sex offences against six different girls over a decade long period.

R v M [2024] defence of a 17 year old accused of gang rape, false imprisonment and a firearms offence. Sean's submission of no case to answer, based solely upon the credibility of the complainant after his cross-examination of her, was successful resulting in not guilty verdicts being entered in relation to all three defendants.

R v M [2023]: prosecution of a double rapist.

Serious organised crime

R v K & others [2022 - 2025]: prosecuting over twenty defendants alleged to be part of an organised crime group involved in the supply of drugs, possession of firearms and an attack on the police involving an attempt to retrieve seized drugs and firearms.

R v H [2023]: defending a man accused of being the equal partner of the ringleader of a conspiracy to import cocaine into the United Kingdom. The drugs weighed over 1.5 tonnes and had a street value of more than £100 million. The prosecution's case relied upon close personal and professional links to the ringleader, telephone communication and covert recordings. Sean attacked and undermined each aspect of the prosecution's case arguing that their interpretation of the evidence was simply incorrect. The defendant was found not guilty on all counts.

Appeals

R v N [2023]: Sean was successful in having a conviction for grievous bodily harm with intent quashed by the Court of Appeal. Sean was not involved in the original trial, but on reviewing the case advanced an appeal based upon disclosure failings by the police and prosecution counsel and errors made by the trial judge. The appellant was released from serving a custodial sentence.