

# Adam Davis KC

Call 1985 | Silk 2012



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Adam Davis KC has defended in high-profile cases throughout his career. He represented Matthew Simmons in the “Eric Cantona” case and Wayne Lineker in the Croydon Riot Furniture Fire Case, and prosecuted a £10m eBay counterfeit golf club case.

As a silk, he has successfully defended in a number of murder cases. The most significant trial involved the successful defence of Clayton Williams, charged with the murder of PC David Philips. The case attracted national press and TV coverage, and significant praise from William Davis J and Leveson LJ.

In 2019, he successfully defended a member of a proscribed right-wing terrorist organisation. In 2021, he undertook a high-profile private fraud prosecution, representing a company against a former managing director alleged to have fraudulently obtained in excess of £1m. He continues to be instructed in murder, complex fraud and conspiracy cases.

In 2020, he was appointed by England Golf to the Case Management Group, which deals with preliminary disciplinary actions.

He has been ranked in Chambers and Partners for 11 years, and has been ranked in The Legal 500 as a Leading Silk in Crime and Crime: Fraud for a similar period.

## Expertise

### Serious Crime

He has defended in serious criminal cases. A number of murder trials have involved gang murders throughout the country. He defended an 18-year-old charged with the murder of a police officer. He is due to defend in the largest ever

drug conspiracy to be prosecuted.

## Notable Serious Crime cases

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R v BG [2023] Manchester Crown Court

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Successfully defended BG who was accused of involvement in stabbing at the Manchester Carnival.

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R v NA [2023] Wood Green Crown Court

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Successfully defended NA accused of murdering drug dealer in robbery.

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R v ED [2020] Liverpool Crown Court

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Successfully defended a trained boxer and a student at Liverpool University against the charge of the murder and manslaughter of another student at the university.

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R v KN [2021] Central Criminal Court

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Client found not guilty of murder after an eight-week trial. The Prosecution alleged that he was a member of the Stone City Gang who carried out a shooting near Queensbury Circle, in which one man died and another was wounded. His client denied any involvement in the Murder and Attempted Murder.

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R v AA [2021] Central Criminal Court

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Client found not guilty of conspiracy to murder and conspiracy to possess firearms with intent to endanger life following an eight-week trial.

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R v TD [2021] Warwick Crown Court

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A 16-year-old defendant charged with Murder and Attempted Murder of two alleged victims. The case concerned County Drug lines, the Defendant coming from London to deal drugs in the Leamington Spa area. The defendant had been attacked by the deceased and another man who had sustained severe injuries. The knife used by the Defendant was suggested to have been almost the size of a sword. The defendant was found not guilty of Murder but guilty of Manslaughter and GBH with intent and was sentenced to a total of 10 years' Imprisonment.

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## Fraud

He defends in serious and complex cases. Instructed by many Solicitors, he has an outstanding reputation as a Fraud

Specialist. For the last 10 years as a Junior, he practised almost exclusively in the area of Serious Fraud and Sports Law.

He is an accredited lecturer on the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 (Confiscation and Money Laundering) and has lectured on Proceeds of Crime and Bribery. He is also a Non-Executive Director on a variety of boards.

As a silk, he has continued to defend in Serious Fraud cases as well as other Serious Crime. In the last 12 months, he continues to be instructed in a £1m fraud on Hackney Borough Council, and prosecuting a Managing Director on a £3m Fraud by Abuse of Position charge.

## Notable Fraud cases

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### R v MM [2023]

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Defended MM accused in major construction bribery case. Jury discharged during closing speeches after 6 weeks. Retrial in January 2025.

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### R v VD [2024], Manchester Crown Court

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This case is not a strict fraud but the volume of paperwork in the case means that it is tantamount to one of the largest frauds ever experienced by counsel. This is a massive drug conspiracy with 22 defendants charged on a 12-count Indictment alleging involving billions of pounds of cocaine, heroin and cannabis. It has been called the biggest ever UK drug conspiracy. The trial is scheduled to last five months. There are more than 150,000 pages of evidence currently served. The prosecution instructed three counsel.

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### R v RL [2021], Southwark Crown Court

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Instructed to prosecute RL with an offence of Fraud by Abuse of Position. The accused had systematically obtained in excess of £3m from the company by a variety of methods, including inflated personal expenditure and diversion of funds to his own bank account. The brand is well known in the shoe industry, supplying a number of the major department stores. The owner of the business is a trust which originates from the USA. Defendant pleaded guilty in the end and was sentenced to a term of four years three months Imprisonment and disqualified from being a director for seven years. The prosecution were awarded costs out of central funds.

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### R v AL [2021], Southwark Crown Court

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Allegation that the Defendant received bribes from three of the London Borough of Hackney sub-contractors mostly in the form of money transfers through a company called K and R consultants (set up by the Defendant and another, with the help of their domestic partners). The Crown's case was that it was a "sham" company designed to harvest the bribes from sub-contractors. More than £1m was involved in the Offence. The Defendant collapsed while in the middle of evidence and a retrial subject to his mental health was ordered. The case was dealt with by way of "trial of issue" as the defendant was still unfit to be tried.

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### R v AS [2019], Cardiff Crown Court

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The defendant was charged with five others, including members of his family, with a £7.5m fraud. The fraud took the form of grant payments from the Welsh Assembly and the European Union. This was a fraud perpetrated over many years, generating a vast amount of documentation. The case was a “Bespoke” Contract under the VHCC scheme, based on 150,000 pages of evidence. Anthony Smith was the lead defendant and said by the Crown to be the architect of the fraud. The case attracted significant publicity and was politically sensitive for the Welsh government, as it involved suggestions of negligent allocation of budget funds.

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## Sports Law

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Since his appointment by England Golf in October 2020, he has been involved in 30 disciplinary cases.

### Notable Sports Law cases

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FA v AA [2018]

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FA Tribunal on Safeguarding, representing Coach in FA investigation. Ultimately settled.

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XX v YY [2015]

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Rule K FA Tribunal. Defended an FA Licensed Agent in an action taken by a player to recover funds paid in fees.

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## Memberships

- Deputy Head of Chambers
- Inner Temple
- Criminal Bar Association

## Languages

- French and German

## Awards

