

Oliver Kelham

Call 2018



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Oliver Kelham has a broad practice, defending and prosecuting in cases across the range of criminal offences, from matters of serious violence, drugs, and organised crime, to allegations of sexual, financial, and dishonesty offences.

Oliver receives both privately and publicly funded instructions. He is a CPS Level 3 prosecutor and a member of the RASSO panel.

Oliver joined 3TG in April 2020, following successful completion of his pupillage in Chambers. He maintains a busy practice, both as a led junior and as a junior alone. He has been instructed as Independent Counsel for the Serious Fraud Office and for the Home Office, advising upon issues of legal professional privilege in ongoing investigations. Oliver is also a case presenter for the Nursing and Midwifery Council.

Oliver is thorough and diligent in his case preparation and client care. He has particular experience defending young and vulnerable clients and is adept at identifying issues surrounding possible exploitation at an early stage.

Expertise

Violence

Oliver is frequently instructed in cases involving allegations of violence and public order.

Notable Violence cases

R v CG [2024]

CG was acquitted of an allegation of wounding with a metal bar, successfully establishing self-defence

R v C [2024]

C was originally charged with attempted aggravated burglary involving a firearm but was eventually handed a suspended sentence, following careful negotiation of pleas to lesser offences

R v S [2022]

Acquittal of a Defendant charged with robbery and ABH

R v A [2020]

Represented A, a youth accused of armed kidnap. The case involved complex issues, including the instruction of an intermediary for the complainant

R v K [2019]

K was acquitted of attempted knifepoint robbery following a three-handed, Youth Court trial.

Organised Crime

Oliver regularly defends and prosecutes matters of serious organised crime, particularly relating to drugs.

Notable Organised Crime cases

Operation Spin [2025]

Led junior defending in a firearms conspiracy trial lasting more than 4 months, where D was acquitted of all counts.

Operation Soros [2024]

Led junior in a large-scale, Encrochat drugs conspiracy, representing the only Defendant to be acquitted

R v M, M & S [2024]

Successful prosecution of an organised, three-handed armed robbery

Operation Elite [2024]

Led junior, defending in a case concerning a conspiracy to import multiple kilos of cocaine

Operation Arbus [2022]

Led junior, defending in a multi-Defendant kidnap, false imprisonment, and blackmail trial

R v B [2021]

Led junior in a case arising from Operation Gilt. B was acquitted of all matters.

Sexual Offences

Oliver is a member of the CPS specialist RASSO panel

Notable Sexual Offences cases

R v N [2024]

Defended N, who was acquitted of sexual assault, following a trial involving pre-recorded cross-examination of a young complainant

R v D [2024]

Successful prosecution of a Defendant charged with various offences of attempted sexual communication with children

Road Traffic & Motoring Offences

Oliver is regularly instructed in respect of road traffic matters. He has a broad knowledge of the technical aspects of this area of law.

Notable Road Traffic & Motoring Offences cases

R v T [2021]

Careful and detailed mitigation led to the imposition of a community order for two consecutive offences of driving whilst disqualified.

R v D [2020]

D was acquitted, after trial, of alleged offences including driving whilst disqualified and failing to stop for police. The defence of duress of circumstances was successfully established.

Professional Discipline

Oliver has trained as a case presenter for the Nursing and Midwifery Council.

Memberships

- Gray's Inn.
- Criminal Bar Association.
- Young Legal Aid Lawyers.