



Practice Profile

Pieter is a skilful and highly experienced barrister, specialising in the defence of serious crime, ranging from murder to fraud. Pieter is instructed as Lead Advocate in appropriate cases and is known for his fastidious preparation and calm yet robust advocacy.

His practice includes offences prosecuted by the Organised Crime Division and the Central Fraud and Welfare Division and covers cases involving homicide, the supply of Class A drugs, armed robberies, large scale conspiracies generally as well as the full range of the most serious sexual allegations.

Pieter's fraud work encompasses alleged conspiracies related to VAT, mortgage and ghost employee frauds and the facilitation of breaches of immigration controls and also money laundering as well as cases involving Trading Standards prosecutions by local authorities. Pieter also regularly undertakes matters relating to confiscation, asset forfeiture and restraint.

He has extensive experience of representing and advising clients on the mental health aspects of criminal work, relating not only to insanity and fitness to plead and fitness to stand trial, but also the ramifications of Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Recent Case Examples include:

- R v B (2021) Instructed in an eight-defendant case involving allegations of charity fraud.
- R v R (2020) Instructed in an eight defendant violent disorder.
- R v K (2020) Trial on three counts of causing serious injury by dangerous driving.
- R v R (2019) Instructed to represent a prison visitor accused of conveying an article (drugs) into a prison. Proceedings discontinued following service of the Defence Statement.
- R v D (2019) Instructed in case involving the seizure of £630,000 drugs and possession of a firearm.

Pieter's Privacy Policy can be downloaded [here](#).

Areas of Practice

- Confiscation, Civil Recovery & Asset Forfeiture
- General Crime
- Homicide
- Serious & Organised Crime
- Sexual Offences
- Military Law
- Inquests
- Road Traffic

News

Criminal Appeals Seminar

22 April 2024

5KBW Criminal Appeals Unit is delighted to present the first in a series of seminars on appellate matters:

The Criminal Appeal Office and Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) [CACD]

A practical approach to CACD procedure: **Master Alix Beldam KC**, Registrar of Criminal Appeals

Fresh evidence as a ground of appeal (now and in the future): **Paul Taylor KC**, General Editor of Taylor on Criminal Appeals

Wednesday 22nd May 2024 at 6pm

Inner Temple Lecture Theatre

Master Beldam KC will discuss the work of the Criminal Appeal Office and the CACD, the procedural framework for launching and pursuing an appeal and the practical issues that often arise.

Paul Taylor KC will analyse the CACD's current approach to grounds of appeal based on fresh evidence. He will also consider potential changes in this area that may follow the recommendations of the Law Commission's Criminal Appeal Project (expected in 2025.)

Please [click here](#) to register your interest in attending this seminar.

Attempted Rape Acquittal

30 January 2024

Pieter Briegel, instructed by Lisa Sawyer of VHS Fletchers Solicitors, represented a man accused of attempted rape. After a 4 day trial at Nottingham Crown Court, our client was acquitted of all charges.

Recent Cases

R v. C & ors [Kingston] 2016

Post Office Fraud

Pieter Briegel defended in this 8 week trial of a Post Office worker, accused with 5 others of a complex high value fraud against his employers. Instructed by Thomas Boyd Whyte.

R v. N & ors [Bristol] 2015

Conspiracy to produce crystal methamphetamine, amphetamine and MDMA

Pieter Briegel led Hannah Wyatt in this 12 week Bristol trial, defending a senior member of a conspiracy to produce crystal methamphetamine, amphetamine and MDMA. An unusual case due to the lack of knowledge about crystal methamphetamine in the UK and involving over 500 hours of covert audio recordings. Instructed by Blackfords LLP.

R v. B & ors [Basildon] 2014

Conspiracy to Supply Class A drugs

Pieter Briegel led Danny Robinson in this 12 week drugs conspiracy trial in which an undercover Police officer was subjected to attack and had to jump from a first floor window to flee his assailants. Instructed by Thomas Boyd Whyte.