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Catherine Farrelly

Call 1999

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Practice Profile

Catherine Farrelly is one of the foremost leading juniors in the South Eastern Circuit, a sought after and highly regarded criminal advocate with a busy and successful practice and extensive expertise in leading serious and complex litigation.

Catherine has extensive experience in all forms of homicide and has been instructed in some of the most complex and sensitive cases involving sexual offending of recent years, including some of the UK's most prolific offenders. She is an accredited advocacy facilitator (trainer) of other advocates in relation to young and vulnerable witnesses and has received a commendation from the Assistant Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police in recognition of the way in which she dealt with a very young complainant in a case involving very serious sexual allegations.

Catherine is also a first choice for cases with a true international dimension. She has a wide experience of assisting in drafting ILORs; arguing the admissibility of foreign evidence and mutual legal assistance more generally. She is to receive a commendation from the Assistant Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police and Europol in recognition of her role as leading counsel in the prosecution of 14 defendants in the “Feltham Book Heist” case.

Catherine is praised for her tenacious commitment to her cases and her meticulous attention to detail. Her sensitivity and emotional intelligence make her ideal for cases involving vulnerable witnesses and defendants, earning their confidence in the criminal process and maximising the quality of their evidence.

Catherine is always willing to discuss a case before instructions are sent. To do this, please contact the clerks room.

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

Areas of Practice

- Fraud & Financial Crime
- General Crime
- Homicide & Corporate Manslaughter
- Prosecution
- Serious & Organised Crime
- Sexual Offences
- Appellate
- Regulatory & Professional Discipline

- Terrorism

Advocate Panels:

- Counter Terrorism - Grade 4
- Fraud - Grade 4
- General Crime - Grade 4
- Serious Crime - Grade 4
- RASSO - Grade 4

Other Languages:

Italian

News

Commendations by Met for 5KBW Barristers

10 May 2022

Catherine Farrelly and Charlotte Hole of 5KBW are to be commended by the Assistant Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police and Europol for their exemplary work in the prosecution of 14 defendants in the “Feltham Book Heist” case.

Three jailed for killing that led to mistaken identity murder

25 January 2022

Three men jailed for killing that led to mistaken identity murder

Prosecuted by Anthony Orchard QC & Catherine Farrelly.

BBC News Report

Two found guilty of killing that sparked gang feud

25 October 2021

Prosecuted by Anthony Orchard QC & Catherine Farrelly.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-london-59012621>

Teacher found guilty of preying on teenage pupils

2 August 2021

Catherine Farrelly successfully prosecutes teacher of a series of serious sexual offences upon his pupils. Instructed by Kate Shilton at CPS RASSO.

<https://www.standard.co.uk/news/crime/teacher-ben-breakwell-grooming-sex-pupils-isleworth-b948839.html>

Catherine Farrelly prosecutes double murder

14 July 2021

Catherine Farrelly successfully prosecutes two defendants convicted of a double murder that took place in north London. Led by Jane Bickerstaff QC, instructed by CPS Homicide.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-beds-bucks-herts-57785200>

One of Britain's most prolific paedophiles has been jailed for 25 years

10 February 2021

Catherine Farrelly prosecutes one of the UK's most prolific child sex offenders who was today given a 33 year extended sentence for a total of 96 child sex offences. Instructed by Anja Hohmeyer of CPS IJOC.

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/david-wilson-paedophile-jailed-facebook-b1800391.html>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-norfolk-55979555>

Catherine Farrelly successfully prosecutes Ivy League graduate of rapes

28 January 2021

Catherine Farrelly successfully prosecutes double rapist.

<https://www.standard.co.uk/news/crime/ivy-league-raped-women-london-convicted-b908342.html>

Successful prosecution of 12 defendants in high value burglaries

21 September 2020

Catherine Farrelly and Charlotte Hole successfully prosecute twelve defendants in relation to a string of high value commercial burglaries involving the theft of rare and precious books.

News Reports:

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/sep/18/rare-books-stolen-london-heist-found-floor-romania>

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/09/18/rare-books-stolen-romanian-gang-recovered-joint-uk-eu-police/>

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8747023/2-5million-trove-books-stolen-London-warehouse-Romania.html>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-54209366>

Wandsworth stabbing killer, 21, guilty of murder

15 January 2020

Catherine Farrelly instructed by CPS Homicide Unit and led by Crispin Aylett QC prosecuted Fernando Pope (21) for the murder of Cheyon Evans (18). News article here.

Stranger rapist conviction

26 November 2019

Catherine Farrelly secures conviction of stranger rapist who attacked two women earlier this year.

News article here

Tory MP's aide sexually assaulted young Parliamentary staffer

29 October 2019

A Conservative MP's aide sexually assaulted a young Parliamentary staffer in his Westminster office after she had "turned him down" and rebuffed his attempts to kiss her, a court heard.

Callum Warren, 27, is accused of repeatedly trying to kiss and grope the woman in spite of the rejection, including pursuing her into a ladies toilet on the Westminster estate.

News article here

Recent Cases

- **R v DO & Ors [Central Criminal Court] 2022**

Murder

Catherine Farrelly, led by John Price QC, prosecutes two males convicted of murder.

Press Report

- **R v MK [Bristol Crown Court] 2022**

Large Scale Frauds

Catherine Farrelly prosecuted male convicted of large-scale frauds.

Press Report

- **R v TK [Kingston Crown Court] 2022**

Rape

Catherine Farrelly prosecutes male convicted of rape.

Press report

- **R v PK [Isleworth Crown Court] 2021**

Double Rapist

The prosecution of a male for two separate rapes involving significant violence. It involved contested, and successful, application for joinder and complex issues in relation to character evidence.

<https://www.standard.co.uk/news/crime/ivy-league-raped-women-london-convicted-b908342.html>

- **R v DW [Ipswich Court Court] 2021**

Sexual Abuse of Children

The prosecution of one of the most prolific offenders investigated by the NCA who was responsible for the on-line sexual abuse of 52 children. The case concerned complex issues in relation to the indictment, given the significant number of complainants involved.

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/11/23/paedophile-would-not-have-caught-facebooks-encryption-plans/>

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8978441/One-Britains-worst-paedophiles-admits-96-sex-offences-against-51-boys.html>

- **R v CU & others [Kingston] 2020**

Commercial Burglary

Prosecution of twelve defendants in relation to a string of high value commercial burglaries involving the theft of rare and precious books. Led by Catherine Farrelly.

News reports:

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/sep/18/rare-books-stolen-london-heist-found-floor-romania>

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/09/18/rare-books-stolen-romanian-gang-recovered-joint-uk-eu-police/>

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8747023/2-5million-trove-books-stolen-London-warehouse-Romania.html>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-54209366>

- **R v CU & Ors [Kingston] 2020**

The Feltham Book Heist

Leading Charlotte Hole. The prosecution of 12 defendants for a number of high-value commercial burglaries, including the theft of rare books by Isaac Newton & Francisco Goya. The prosecution arose out of a JIT (Joint Investigation Team) with Romanian and Italian law enforcement and concerned legal issues in relation to the admissibility of extraterritorial evidence and the presentation of a significant amount of telephone and cell-site evidence. The case attracted considerable interest in the national and international press.

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2020/dec/13/tome-raiders-solving-the-great-book-heist>

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/heist-isaac-newton-galileo-romania-clamparu-b748240.html>

- **R v SF & Ors [CCC] 2020**

Homicide

Led by John Price QC. The prosecution of four men for murder. The case involved a significant amount of telephone and cell-site evidence.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-london-54986153>

- **R v FP [CCC] 2020**

Homicide

Led by Crispin Aylett QC. The prosecution of three men for murder.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-london-51010380>

- **R v BH & 3 others [Blackfriars] 2018**

Internet Banking Fraud

£500k internet banking fraud against elderly victims by bank employees. Catherine Farrelly led Charlotte Hole, instructed by the CPS International Justice and Organised Crime unit, prosecuting 4 defendants following an investigation by the National Crime Agency Cyber Crime Unit . The case centred around the activities of two men who worked at high street banks who assisted another in creating a significant number of sham bank account for the use in a transfer fraud, raising legal issues about the definition of ‘criminal property’ under s.340 POCA 2002.

- **R v. Rekaya [Isleworth] 2018**

Prosecution of £90,000 Grenfell fraudster

Catherine Farrelly successfully prosecuted a man who ran up nearly £90,000 in accommodation and travel costs, after pretending to be a victim of the Grenfell Tower tragedy.

He was sentenced to four years and six months imprisonment.

The news report may be found **here**.

- **R v. Glenn [ILCC] 2018**

Rape of 13 year old school girl

Catherine Farrelly prosecuted this matter in which the defendant grabbed a 13-year-old schoolgirl off the street and filmed himself raping her. He was jailed for 11 years.

News report here.

- **R v. Hussain [Snaresbrook] 2017**

Series of Sex Attacks by Uber Driver

Catherine Farrelly prosecuted this Uber driver whom was sentenced to 12 years for rapes and sexual assaults. Hussain lay in wait outside popular London bars looking for drunken women to rape, preying on women leaving pubs in Shoreditch, in the east of the capital before attacking them as they slept.

Daily Mail report here.

- **R v. Defontaine [Croydon] 2017**

Sexual Assaults on own family members

Catherine Farrelly prosecuted this "persistent and manipulative" paedophile who carried out a series of sexual assaults on 6 of his own family members. He was sentenced to 18 years.

Evening Standard report here.

- **R v. Khan & Barclay [C.C.C.] 2017**

Revenge Stabbing

Catherine Farrelly was prosecution Counsel in this trial of two defendants for the pre-meditated revenge stabbing of another in connection with a drug-deal gone awry. The case involved the analysis of a significant amount of telephone evidence in addition to expert cell site and voice recognition evidence.

Guardian News report here.

- **R v. Rehman [Snaresbrook] 2017**

Rape & False imprisonment of 16 year old girl

Catherine Farrelly was instructed for the Prosecution of this defendant for false imprisonment and three counts of rape involving a daytime attack on a 16 year old girl.

Evening Standard Report here.

- **R v. Leppard [Maidstone] 2016**

Rape

Catherine Farrelly was instructed in the defence a young man charged with two counts of rape.

News Report here.

- **R v. Beveridge [I.L.C.C.] 2016**

Historic Sexual Assaults

Catherine Farrelly led Paul Jackson in the prosecution of a defendant who, over the course of a number of years, had sexually abused five very young children who suffered from various learning disabilities. The case involved the review of a significant amount of social services and educational material and close liaison with the appointed intermediary. The defendant was sentenced to 22 years' imprisonment with an extended licence of 6 years.

- **R v. N.A. [Snaresbrook] 2016**

Rape of daughter

Catherine Farrelly was instructed for the Prosecution of a defendant who had raped his daughter from the ages of 13 to 15 years, using sex toys and other implements during the course of the abuse. The case involved very sensitive handling of the complainant. The defendant was subsequently sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment.

- **R v. Rahman [Snaresbrook] 2016**

Rape & Kidnap of 15 year old girl

Catherine Farrelly was instructed for the Prosecution of a defendant who kidnapped a 15 year old girl off the street and then repeatedly raped her.

- **R v. Anwar & ors [C.C.C.] 2016**

Attempted Murder

Catherine Farrelly leading Senghin Kong in this prosecution of 6 defendants on charges including attempted murder, possession of a firearm with intent to commit robbery and conspiracy to rob. At the close of the prosecution case the learned Judge upheld submissions of no case to answer on the charges of attempted murder and possession of a firearm with intent to commit robbery. As a result the prosecution appealed this at an expedited hearing. The Court of Appeal allowed the prosecution appeal and the trial continued on all charges. Leveson LJ gave the judgment of the court reported here. The 6 defendants were eventually convicted of possession of a firearm with intent to commit robbery and conspiracy to rob. The case involved complex cell site evidence and legal argument. Guardian report here.

- **Operation Tineid [Blackfriars] 2015**

Fraud

Catherine Farrelly led Ben Holt for the Crown. Defendants were charged with arranging co-defendants to take driving test on behalf of other people. NCA investigation, instructed by the Organised Crime Group at the CPS.

News report here.

- **R v. Alasow [Snaresbrook] 2015**

Possession of loaded firearm with intent

Catherine Farrelly was instructed in this Prosecution of a defendant who was charged with possession of a firearm with intent to endanger life and possession of ammunition. He had been stopped by police shortly after climbing over garden fences in east London and then disposing of a loaded firearm, fitted with a "silencer". The case involved protracted legal argument over the admissibility of DNA and GSR expert evidence, all of which was ruled admissible.

News Report here.

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R v. Castano & ors [Snaresbrook] 2015

Supply of Cocaine

Catherine Farrelly was instructed for Prosecution in this cases involving four defendants in relation to the supply of 1 kilogram of cocaine with an estimated street value of £100,000.

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R v. MN & ors [Wood Green] 2015

Gangland stabbing

Catherine Farrelly led Valeria Swift instructed by the prosecution, in this 6 handed conspiracy to commit GBH, which included a premeditated attack on another youth, his stab wounds close to his heart which were very nearly life ending. This case required expert analysis of telephone evidence which equated to over 20,000 pages. Defendants convicted of conspiracy.

News report here.