



Umar Ali

Call 2015

✉ clerks@drystone.com

☎ 020 7404 1881

Umar Ali has a strong criminal and regulatory law practice. He accepts instructions on behalf of both the defence and prosecution.

Umar offers substantial experience across the full range of criminal matters and regulatory crime, from attempted murder, GBH, aggravated burglary, drug offences, weapons, fraud offences, and other serious offences. He has been instructed as both a led junior and junior alone and is instructed on paper heavy cases involving large amounts of disclosure.

Instructing solicitors often comment that Umar's ability to form a strong rapport with lay clients coupled with an honest and down to earth approach to giving advice make him a popular choice. He is described as a tenacious barrister who is meticulous in his preparation and presentation of cases.

Umar previously worked in-house within a busy criminal law firm and is accustomed to the realities of criminal practice. Whilst working in-house he worked on a number of high-profile cases, including Terrorism, Murder, Child Sexual Exploitation and White-Collar Crime. He is assiduous in his efforts to represent the clients' best interests, often in difficult and sensitive circumstances.

Umar has established a formidable reputation with a strong specialism in motoring law, showcasing an outstanding ability for strong legal arguments, and helping clients retain their driving licence by putting forward meticulous special reasons and exceptional hardship arguments. His expertise is frequently sought after by renowned sports figures and celebrities.

Umar also has experience in local authority prosecutions having been a local government councillor for several years. He has particular expertise on food safety, health and safety and environmental offences.

Umar is also qualified to accept instructions directly from members of the public under the Direct Access Scheme.

Expertise

Crime

Notable Crime cases

R v DR (Stafford Crown Court)

The defendant was charged with attempted murder after stabbing the complainant multiple times and left with life threatening injuries. Representations were made to the Crown and subsequently the charge was amended to S.18 GBH. The defendant received 8 years imprisonment after a guilty plea.

R v DS (Chelmsford Crown Court)

The defendant was charged with aggravated burglary, S.18 GBH and possessing an offensive weapon. The defendant was sentenced to 6.5 years imprisonment. This case was referred to the Attorney General for being unduly lenient. In the Court of Appeal the AG argued this was a case that fell into category 1 with a starting point of 10 years and should be uplifted to 13 years because of aggravating features of the offence and previous convictions.

R v AH (Snaresbrook Crown Court)

Possession with intent to supply large quantities of Class A Drugs and running of multiple supply lines (County Lines) operating across London and Bournemouth.

R v SN (Snaresbrook Crown Court)

Three co-defendants were charged as part of a joint enterprise to cause grievous bodily harm S.18.

R v AS (Luton Crown Court)

POCA Hearing involving large-scale drugs being imported from Pakistan. The defendant was pursued by the CPS to recover proceeds of crime of £6Million.

R V DS – (Snaresbrook Crown Court)

Successful defence of dangerous driving and assault despite having CCTV of the complainant being run over by the defendant.

R v HM – (Isleworth Crown Court)

Black Cab driver charged with stalking celebrity Jemima Khan over a period of 14 months. Having made successful representations to the Crown; which was persuaded to accept a guilty plea to S.2 Harassment, the defendant was given a suspended sentence.

R V KS (Snaresbrook Crown Court)

The defendant was charged with attempted arson for attempting to ignite a petrol station, having lifting the nozzle with

intention to ignite a lighter. After making successful representations to the Crown, the indictment was amended to threats to destroy and cause criminal damage.

Driving Offences

Umar is frequently instructed in driving matters and has built a formidable reputation successfully defending drink driving, drug driving, S.172 notices, failing to furnish information, driving without insurance, license, special reasons and exceptional hardship arguments. He is a persuasive advocate with a calm and reassuring out-of-court manner.

Regulatory

Umar is instructed by businesses and individuals who face prosecution by the local authority. He has extensive experience representing clients facing health and safety food hygiene offences such as Hygiene Emergency Prohibition Notices and representing shisha café owners being prosecuted under The Health Act 2006.

Memberships

- The Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn
- Criminal Bar Association
- Bar Representation Committee – Lincoln's Inn

Languages

- Urdu
- Punjabi
- Basic Arabic