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Simon Taylor

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Area of expertise

Criminal Law

Licensing

Regulatory & Competition

Professional memberships

Criminal Bar Association

Kent Bar Mess

South Eastern Circuit

## Profile

### Recommendations

"He's user-friendly for defendants, juries and judges, and his preparation is among the best I've seen from anyone."

"He's very organised, very user-friendly and incredibly efficient."

Chambers UK Bar Guide [2017]

☐Experienced acting as lead counsel in homicide and serious sexual offences cases☐

☐Efficient, effective and liked by juries and judges☐

Legal 500 [2016]

"He is noted for his expertise in sexual offences and offences against the person, and also undertakes fraud and money laundering cases".

"He has an excellent client manner that bears dividends with difficult and vulnerable clients." "He provides detailed timely advice, with clear and realistic instructions."

Chambers UK Bar Guide [2015]

"Takes ownership of a case so that solicitors feel fully supported at all times".

Legal 500 [2015]

Appointments

Grade 4 CPS Counter Terrorism Panel

Grade 4 CPS Panel Advocate (London and South East) and CPS Rape Specialist

Attorney General's Specialist Regulatory Advocates Panel for Health and Safety and Environmental Law (List C)

Accredited pupil supervisor

Education

LLB (Hons) (Middlesex)

Overview

### Homicide and Fatalities

R v Kray [2018] Counsel for the Crown in this case where the defendant was alleged to have murdered his daughter. Plea to manslaughter accepted on the basis of diminished responsibility.

[Click here](#) for article in The Daily Mail

[Click here](#) for article in The Sun and [here](#)

[Click here](#) for article in The Mirror

[Click here](#) for BBC News Report and [here](#)

[Click here](#) for report on MSN

[Click here](#) for report on AOL

R v Latter [2018] Counsel for the Crown in this ongoing case involving an attempted murder in a care home for the elderly.

[Click here](#) for article in Kent Online

R v King [2018] Counsel for the Crown. Originally charged as murder. Case involved one punch thrown by a 16-year-old boy. Plea to manslaughter accepted.

[Click here](#) for article in The Daily Mail

R v PP & W [2018] Counsel for the Crown. Ongoing conspiracy to murder case which involved a shooting at Sandwich Marina.

[Click here](#) for Local News Report

R v Philpot [2018] Counsel for the Crown. Ongoing "one punch" manslaughter case.

[Click here](#) for Local News Report

R v F [2018] Counsel for the Crown. Ongoing case alleging attempted murder in HMP Swaleside

R v A [2018] Counsel for the Crown. Attempted Murder of multiple victims by driving motor vehicle into nightclub (ongoing case).

[Click here](#) for BBC News Report

[Click here](#) for article in The Mirror

[Click here](#) for report on BuzzFeed

R v Keogh [2017] Counsel for the Crown. Attempted Murder trial.

R v McKenzie [2017] Counsel for the Crown. Attempted Murder trial.

[Click here](#) for article in The Metro

R v Smith and Bourdon-Pierre [2017] Counsel for the Crown. Manslaughter trial following altercation at a taxi rank.

[Click here](#) for article in The Daily Mail

R v Grant [2017] Counsel for the Crown in this case involving double attempted murder allegations.

[Click here](#) for Local News Report

R v Bowditch [2017] Counsel for the Crown in this case of gross-negligence manslaughter in which the defendant was originally charged with murder.

[Click here](#) for article in The Times

[Click here](#) for article in The Daily Telegraph

R v Traylor [2016] Insanity trial of schizophrenic who was shot by police whilst attempting to murder his daughter. This case was notable for the fact that, due to the injuries sustained following the police intervention, the defendant participated in the trial from his hospital bed via video link.

[Click here](#) for article in The Daily Mail

R v Love [2016] Leading Counsel for the Crown in this Murder trial at Maidstone Crown Court involving the beating of an elderly gentleman to death in his own home by a gang of prolific offenders.

[Click here](#) for Local News Report

[Click here](#) for article in The Evening Standard

[Click here](#) for article in The Daily Mail

[Click here](#) for ITV News Report

[Click here](#) for BBC News Report

R v Tomlin and Barham [2016] Murder trial at the Maidstone Crown Court, complicated by the state of decomposition of the deceased at the time his body was found.

R v Egonu [2015] This was a case whereby the defendant, who had been subject to a Hospital Order

since the mid 1980s, attempted to murder a fellow inpatient.

R v Barringer and Knight [2015] This was a trial of an allegation of attempted murder by stabbing during a "street robbery gone wrong".

R v Jenns [2015] This was a trial on an allegation of causing Death by Dangerous Driving. The case was heavily publicised by the defence advocate's assertion in mitigation that his client was "too fat to go prison".

### Serious Sexual Offences & Related Cases of Sensitivity

Mr Taylor is often instructed to provide pre-charge advice in difficult, complex or unusual cases. In particular he has recently been instructed to advise by the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions on a case relating to "Female Genital Mutilation".

Mr Taylor also has a keen interest in the manner in which the courts deal with "vulnerable witnesses" (whether they be vulnerable by virtue of their age or health and whether they be defence or prosecution witnesses). As a consequence he has been involved in the training of practitioners and police officers on this topic.

R v Muslimyar & Others [2017] Leading Counsel for the Crown in this 4-handed rape of a 16-year-old girl above a kebab shop.

[Click here](#) for article in The Daily Telegraph

[Click here](#) for article in The Independent

[Click here](#) for article in The Mirror

[Click here](#) for article in The Metro

R v Nyafli [2015] This case involved a former professional footballer being acquitted of raping a female in the club Chairman's penthouse flat. It was alleged that whilst the attack was being perpetrated a current first team player was observing and masturbating. Mr Taylor defended in this matter and his thorough review of nightclub CCTV resulted in the discovery of material that undermined the complainant's account of the events of the earlier part of the evening.

R v J [2015] This case involved defending a father of 3 being accused of by two male relatives of historic sexual abuse. At the first trial the jury acquitted the defendant of the allegations relating to one of the accusers but could not reach a verdict on the other accusations. At the re-trial (in which Mr Taylor also appeared for the defence) the defendant was acquitted of all remaining counts.

R v P [2015] This case involved defending a man who was accused of sexually assaulting his sister when they were growing up in the 1980s. The preparation of the case uncovered a significant amount of medical/mental health records which were placed before the jury in an effort to show why the complainant may have been unreliable. Acquitted.

R v H [2015] This case involved the prosecution of a complex multi-complainant, historic rape case against an 84 year old man who had raped and buggered 3 of his own children from the age of 5 onwards over 3 decades. The abuse included facilitating the rape of his own 8 year old daughter by the family's "coalman" in the 1970s. Convicted.

R v R [2015] This case involved prosecuting a profoundly deaf Nepalese man for sexually abusing a

schoolgirl on a bus. The complexities of the case were heightened by the fact that the defendant did not use British Sign Language and could not communicate verbally. As a consequence the questioning of the defendant had to go through no fewer than 6 interpreters in order to ensure the accuracy of the answers.

R v Aldridge [2015] This case involved the successful prosecution of a houseguest who had sexually abused his hosts' granddaughter whilst she slept at night. Convicted.

R v L [2015] Prosecution of a school teacher who sexually groomed a vulnerable pupil in order to satisfy his own sock fetish. Convicted.

## General Practice

### Criminal Defence

The focus of Mr Taylor's work is now on defending in cases ranging from complex money laundering and drugs matters to the most serious offences of violence and sexual offences. He is increasingly instructed to defend complex, high profile cases involving rape, most notably the Gillingham Football Club rape case (R-v-Nyafli).

In recent times Mr Taylor has regularly appeared in large, multi-handed money laundering and drugs conspiracies and also cases involving explosives. For example:

- R v W [2018] 5-week trial involving guns and drugs being imported into the United Kingdom.
- R v Else [2017] Case involving Possession of Explosive Substances with Intent to Endanger Life.

Due to the nature of his work, Mr Taylor has also developed considerable expertise in matters relating to the confiscation and deprivation of assets under the Proceeds of Crime Act, the Drug Trafficking Act and the Criminal Justice Act. His experience in these matters extends beyond the remit of the Crown Court and encompasses the Court of Appeal, the High Court and civil forfeiture actions.

Mr Taylor's experience of money laundering, professional regulation and financial matters is augmented by his previous employment at the Financial Services Authority, where he gained extensive knowledge of the workings of the financial services industry both in terms of the money laundering regulations and wider financial and regulatory practice. He also holds the FPC I & II qualifications issued by the Chartered Insurance Institute.

Mr Taylor's ability to prepare "paper heavy" cases is recognised in the form of the increased volume of instructions received in fraud cases. From 2009 until 2012 Mr Taylor was instructed by the defence in the highly publicised case of an international "cyber-fraud gang" who engaged in a multi-million-pound conspiracy to defraud banks by selling fake identities. Such was the complex nature of this fraud that the evidence relied upon by the prosecution exceeded half a million pages of statements and exhibits.

### Criminal Prosecution

Mr Taylor is instructed by the prosecution in increasingly complex and serious matters. Again, the focus is on prosecution murder and serious sexual offences.

Mr Taylor is also Grade 4 CPS Rape Specialist. As such, his prosecution work has tended to focus on difficult, complex, historical allegations of sexual abuse of children. Mr Taylor frequently appears in trials of this nature and has regularly received judicial praise for both his thorough preparation and the sensitive manner in which his cases are presented.

Being a Grade 4 prosecution advocate has also enabled Mr Taylor to prosecute cases of attempted murder and serious drugs conspiracies. As a consequence he is well-versed with dealing with sensitive issues of disclosure, including the application of principles relating to Public Interest Immunity.

### Regulatory

Mr Taylor conducts prosecutions on behalf of the Environment Agency and the Health and Safety Executive. In particular his extensive experience of confiscation and deprivation matters has been utilised successfully in the context the prosecution of environmental offences.

### Notable Cases

#### Criminal Defence

- R v Dubey (2016) Defending historical sexual abuse case where the defendant had experienced a car accident that left him "without memory".
- R v Bowen (2016) Defending in multi-complainant familial sexual abuse case.
- R v Nyafli (2015) Defended former Gillingham FC striker, Nathan Nyafli, who was accused of raping a female in the penthouse apartment owned by the chairman of Gillingham Football Club in May 2014.  
[Click here](#) for article in The Daily Mail
- R v Hamilton and Others (2013) - Defence counsel in multi-handed drugs conspiracy.  
[Click here](#) for Local News Report
- R v Place and Others (2012) - Defence case involving a multinational gang of criminals who defrauded the central clearing banks of £millions by utilising fake identities to raise credit.  
[Click here](#) for BBC News Report  
[Click here](#) for National News Report  
[Click here](#) for National News Report
- R v Charles Flatman & Others (2012) - Defence counsel for a woman acquitted of laundering the proceeds of a huge cocaine smuggling operation.  
[Click here](#) for Local News Report
- R v Khan & others (2010) - Defence in case involving the seizure of 330.7kg of heroin in Kent, with a street value of some £30million, believed to constitute the largest quantity of heroin seized by police in the UK.  
[Click here](#) for National News Report  
[Click here](#) for BBC News Report
- R v Wells & others (2010) - Junior Counsel in case involving 1.5 metric tonnes of cocaine with a street value of £235million, which was washed up on the coast of the Republic of Ireland. At the time, the seizure was the largest ever discovery of drugs in Europe and remains a record

seizure for the UK and Eire authorities.

[Click here](#) for BBC News Report

- R v. Pettitt (2010) - Defence in case of nursery manager who was cleared of abusing 10 babies in her care. [Click here](#) for National News Report
- [Click here](#) for Further News Report

## Criminal Prosecution

- R v Guy (2016) □ Successful prosecution of historic sexual abuse
- R v Thorpe (2016) □ Successful prosecution of Facebook blackmail rape
- R v Curtis (2016) □ Successful prosecution of historic sexual assault  
[Click here](#) for Local News Report
- R v Davey & King (2016) □ Successful prosecution of this attempted stranger rape□  
[Click here](#) for Local News Report
- R v Rai (2016) □ Prosecution of a deaf, illiterate non-speaking man accused of sexual assault on a schoolgirl
- R v T (2016) □ Successful prosecution of a father for sexually assaulting his own daughter
- R v Wood (2016) □ Successful prosecution of an allegation of sexual assault against two children under the age of 10
- R v Turner (2016) □ Successful prosecution of former scout master accused of abusing and raping 6 complainants over the course of 40 years  
[Click here](#) for Local News Report
- R v Levett (2015) □ Successful prosecution of a teacher accused of sexually grooming a pupil  
[Click here](#) for Local News Report
- R v Jenns (2015) - Successful prosecution of a woman for causing death by dangerous driving  
[Click here](#) for National News Report
- R v H [2015] □ Historic rapes  
[Click here](#) for Local News Report
- Rv Barringer and Knight [2015] □ Attempted Murder  
[Click here](#) for Local News Report
- R v Gallacher (2014) □ Leading Counsel for the Crown (leading Tom Dunn of 6 Pump Court) in a 7 week □Institutional Abuse□ case. The trial involved allegations of historic abuse by a worker at Barnardos and other boy□s homes in the 1980□s and 1990□s.
- R v R & R (2014) □ Prosecution of stepfather for historic child abuse and, unusually, the child□s mother for allowing the abuse to continue over a period of time after she became aware of it.
- R v P & H (2013) - Leading Counsel for the Crown in 5 week murder trial  
[Click here](#) for Local News Report
- R v E (2013) - Rape of stepchildren.
- R v L (2013) - Rape of 3 year old girl.  
[Click here](#) for Local News Report
- R v A (2013) - Rape of 7 and 9 year old girls.
- R v Chatfield (2012) - Head of Southampton's Federation of Small Businesses jailed for historic sex crimes.  
[Click here](#) for Local News Report
- R v Pratt (2012) - UK Border Agency Officer jailed for one of Kent's largest seizures of child pornography.  
[Click here](#) for Local News Report

- [Click here](#) for Local News Report
- R v Hunt (2012) - Defendant jailed for 30 year old sex crimes.  
[Click here](#) for Local News Report
- R v Dundas (2012) - Cannabis Factory Prosecution.  
[Click here](#) for Local News Report  
[Click here](#) for Local News Report
- R v Carlisle (2011) - Teacher behaving inappropriately with pupil.  
[Click here](#) for Local News Report
- R v Rigby (2011) - Defendant jailed for sexually abusing two girls.  
[Click here](#) for Local News Report

## Regulatory

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- R v Habitat Construction LLP (2014) □ Instructed by Tuckers on behalf of the Health and Safety Executive. The Defendant Company (a □High End□ London Property Developer) was fined £110,000 by the judge at Southwark Crown Court for a series of safety failings that led to an employee sustaining catastrophic spinal injury.
- R v □G□ Scaffolding Limited (2014) □ Instructed by Hextalls Ltd. Successfully defended a scaffolding company accused of breaching Health and Safety Regulations. Through advice and written representations the HSE were persuaded to accept a caution as an appropriate means of disposal despite their initial refusal to adopt this course of action.
- R v Pank □ (2013) - Instructed by the Environment Agency. The Norwich Crown Court made a confiscation order of £108,000 against a man who ran an illegal waste site. The defendant was also ordered to complete 120 hours of unpaid work and pay £7,842 court costs after he was convicted of treating, storing and disposing of waste without an environmental permit.
- R v Davies (2012) □ Instructed by the Environment Agency. Prosecution for treating, storing and disposing of waste without an environmental permit.
- R v Horrey (2012) - Instructed by the Health & Safety Executive in a case at Southwark Crown Court concerning a breach of the Control of Asbestos Regulations 2006
- R v Hood & Wells - Defence in case relating to the sale and manufacture of counterfeit goods. This case involved complex legal and technical issues relating to the registration and construction of the term 'badges of origin' under the Trade Marks Act 1994.
- R v Hussain (2010) - Defence in case relating to the sale of counterfeit goods.
- R v Simpson (2010) - Defence in case relating to the sale of counterfeit goods.
- R v Wadwhani (2009) - Acting for local authority in Housing Benefit Fraud.
- R v Singh & Singh (2006) - Instructed on behalf of the NHS Counter Fraud Team in a conspiracy to defraud the NHS using forged food tokens.

## Publications

Co-Author of the □Case Management Chapter□ of the practitioner text □Vulnerable People in the Criminal Justice System: A Guide to Law and Practice□ published by the Oxford University Press.