



Sunyana Sharma

Year of Call: 2006

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Crime

Throughout her career at the Bar Sunyana has been instructed on a broad range of criminal work including murders, large cases involving conspiracy to supply drugs, sex offences including indecent images of a child and fraud as well as death by dangerous driving and causing death by an uninsured driver.

Parts of Sunyana's criminal practice dovetail naturally with her expertise in regulatory proceedings for which she regularly appears in the Magistrates' and the Crown Court (see specialist profile). She has also represented a number of government agencies, undertaking work for Local Authorities, Revenue and Customs, the Maritime and Coastguard Agency and the National Probation Service.

Sunyana has also appeared in the Court of Appeal on a number of occasions and has also assisted in advising on Appeals to the Privy Council from the Court of Appeal in Jamaica.

Sunyana is regularly invited to speak to both the Bar and solicitors on criminal/regulatory matters and is happy to provide specialist training if required.

Recent cases

R v. SB (2017)

Represented a well known fashion designer for the keeping for sale and the displaying of a number of endangered species contrary to regulation 8(1) of The Control of Trade in Endangered Species (Enforcement) Regulations 1997.

R v. x [2016]

Defended a youth who was found to be unfit to plead for an offence of sexual assault. Following a successful s.78 PACE application to exclude the Defendant's ROTI, the case was dropped.

EBC & DWP v. Louise Ellwood [2015]

Successfully prosecuted on behalf of the EBC and DWP a number of offences pursuant to the Social Security Administration Act 1982 for fraudulent benefit claims made over a period of 6 years. The overpayment of benefits was assessed at being over £75,000.

R v. Shiraz Hussain [2015]

Successfully represented the Crown for an offence contrary to article 137 and article 241(8) of the Air Navigation Order 2009 and section 60 of the Civil Aviation Act 1982 which related to the Defendant shining a laser pen at a police helicopter.

R v. Lisa Heffernan [2015]

Represented the Crown in a successful prosecution of assisting an offender under s.4(1) of the Criminal Law Act 1967 in a violent attack on a passer-by.

R v. MG [2015]

Successfully represented a member of police staff for a number of breaches under the Data Protection Act 1998.

R v. MW & others [2014]

Represented a football fan for violent offences at a Chelsea game. Avoided a football banning order.

R v. Santosh Gurung [2013]

Instructed by the Defendant on a s.18 GBH for a double knifing in a night club.

R v. CR & RST [2012]

Prosecuted on behalf of the Crown for the supply of Ecstasy at the Bestival music festival, in which one Defendant was found in possession of 120 tablets.

R v Watkins [2011] EWCA Crim 2833

Successfully appealed the sentence of the Defendant from an imprisonment for public protection to an extended sentence in the Court of Appeal for possession of over 20,000 indecent images and the making of indecent images of a child.

R v James Vaughan and others [2011]

Second junior to Christopher Parker QC (now HHJ C. Parker QC) for the Crown in a nine-handed conspiracy to supply drugs, manslaughter, s.18 GBH and arson with intent to endanger life.

R v Michael Kelly and others [2011]

Junior for the Department of Work and Pensions in a nine-handed conspiracy to defraud the DWP and North Cornwall District Council.

R v Ocran [2010] EWCA Crim 1209

Represented the Appellant in the Court of Appeal for an appeal against sentence on whether exceptional circumstances to disapply the mandatory minimum sentence of five years for the possession of firearms.

R v Passoni [2009] EWCA Crim 1217

Appeared for the Appellant in an appeal against sentence in the Court of Appeal for burglary and assault occasioning actual bodily harm on an elderly victim.

Recommendations

"Sunyana has conducted numerous prosecutions for us as a regulator over several years. Sunyana is a diligent hard-working barrister who provides clear advice with absolute clarity on a consistent basis.

A barrister who always appears to be pro-active, on the front foot and seemingly always one step ahead of the game. Sunyana serves us as a client timely and measured response in all instructions and is keen to work with us the regulator at an early stage in all matters.

In the court room is where you see the real deal with Sunyana, strong and robust advocacy, fast thinking and good on her feet, clearly respected by the bench and peers alike and consistently builds strong working relationships with all parties in every case we have worked on together.

In all Sunyana is hugely knowledgeable, highly effective whilst still being a delightful person to work with."

Head of UK Maritime Investigations Team, Maritime & Coastguard Agency

"I just wanted to say a big thank you for your hard work on our recent case. Considering you only received the papers at very late notice, your knowledge and understanding of the case was outstanding. I was so impressed by your meticulous preparation and would have no hesitation in instructing you again or recommending you to any of my colleagues. Thank you again".

Partner, Law firm

"Hardworking, intelligent, very approachable and a pleasure to work with. She is always available to speak to and bounce ideas

off and is very good both at advising clients and managing their expectations".

Senior Associate, Law firm

'She understands both sides of nursing and midwifery cases.'

Legal 500 2016/Professional Discipline and Regulatory Law (including police law) – Leading juniors

Academic qualifications

- LLB Law (Hons), London School of Economics
- LLM Public International Law (Merit), London School of Economics
- Bar Vocational Course, BPP Law School, London (2006, very competent).
- Jessup International Mooting Competition, (UK rounds) – Finalist, 2004 and Semi-Finalist, 2006

Professional qualifications & appointments

- Panel C list of Specialist Regulatory Advocates for The Health & Safety & Environmental Law Executive

Professional bodies

- Association of Regulatory and Disciplinary Lawyers (ARDL)
- Criminal Bar Association (CBA)
- Human Rights Lawyers' Association (HRLA)
- Constitutional and Administrative Law Bar Association (ALBA)
- Western Circuit