

Mustapha Rashid

Year of Call: 2017
Email Address: mustapha.rashid@3pb.co.uk

Overview

Mustapha Rashid is a crime, regulatory crime and public law barrister with a busy prosecution and defence practice.

A Level 2 CPS Prosecutor, Mustapha is regularly prosecuting a wide variety of offences across the country. He also defends in both the Magistrates and Crown Courts and is developing a heavy defence practice in the Crown Court, as a led-junior and instructed junior alone in lengthy trials.

Mustapha also has built strong specialist practices in both defending motoring offences, and handling appeals against revocation of taxi licences.

Mustapha enjoys a strong public law practice focused on inquiry work and has substantial experience acting both as Counsel to the Inquiry and for core participants. Since 2019, Mustapha has been instructed as counsel to the Undercover Policing Inquiry and on behalf of a core participant in respect of the Independent Inquiry relating to Afghanistan.

Renowned for his ability to undertake complex and demanding work while maintaining a calm, thorough and pragmatic approach, Mustapha's practice in crime and public inquiries has developed strong advocacy, analytical and case-management skills. He is comfortable taking responsibility for substantial cases, analysing complex evidence and presenting arguments clearly and persuasively.

Academic qualifications

- BPTC, Very Competent, University of the West of England (2016-2017)
- LLM, Merit, Brunel University (2015-2016)
- LLB, Upper Second Class Honours, Brunel University (2012-2015)

Professional qualifications & appointments

- ADR-ODR International Civil Commercial Mediation Training Programme, University of the West of England (2016-2017)

Professional bodies

- Criminal Bar Association

- Honourable Society of Middle Temple

Expertise

Crime and Regulatory Crime

Mustapha has an excellent practice prosecuting and defending criminal cases.

Currently a Level 2 CPS prosecutor, Mustapha also has experience on the defence side both as sole junior counsel and as led junior counsel in complex Crown Court work and in the Magistrates Courts. This has required him to exercise sound judgement under pressure, respond effectively to unexpected developments and work with a wide range of clients, witnesses and professional counterparts.

Mustapha has recently been instructed as disclosure counsel in the context of a complex criminal and regulatory investigation on behalf of a British Crown Dependency.

Notable cases

R v SI & Others (2025, Southwark Crown Court "Op. Deadline Day"): instructed to represent a Defendant accused of being involved in a £15 million mortgage fraud conspiracy.

R v MA (2024, Reading Magistrates Court): successful prosecution of a Defendant charged with two counts of Non-Domestic Burglary.

R v KS (2024, Reading Magistrates Court): successful prosecution of a Defendant charged with ABH in a domestic violence context.

R v GL (2023, Snaresbrook Crown Court): instructed to represent a youth charged with two separate counts of robbery, ABH and possession of an offensive weapon. Following careful review of the evidence and putting forward a basis of plea, Defendant was sentenced to a suspended sentence.

R v RM & Others (2022, Leicester Crown Court "Op. Gearbox"): led junior for the first Defendant charged with conspiracy to convert criminal property. Case involved in excess of 200,000 pages of disclosure. Following a 6-week trial, Defendant was acquitted in less than 3 hours.

R v EH (2022, Aldersgate House Nightingale Court): instructed to represent a Defendant charged with ABH; stabbing his neighbour in the face with a pair of secateurs. Defendant is acquitted following a majority direction.

Public and Administrative Law

Public Inquiries

Mustapha Rashid has considerable experience of Public Inquiries and is presently instructed on behalf of a core participant in the Afghan Inquiry, which was established to investigate matters arising from the deployment of British special forces in Afghanistan.

Currently instructed as Second Junior Counsel on the Undercover Policing Inquiry, Mustapha was appointed onto this Inquiry in 2019. Since then Mustapha has worked across Tranche 1, 2 and 3 of the Inquiry and is currently examining the role of senior Metropolitan Police Officers in relation to undercover policing.

Mustapha has undertaken work across the entire spectrum of Inquiry work, from document review to drafting Rule 9 requests to preparing and undertaking restriction order work.

Inquiry work has given Mustapha valuable experience of large-scale, sensitive and document-heavy proceedings, as well as working collaboratively as part of wider legal teams. The roles have required meticulous preparation, careful analysis, sound judgement and the ability to identify the important issues within extensive and complex material. For instance, Mustapha has progressed within the Undercover Policing Inquiry and been entrusted with very sensitive parts of the inquiry such as restriction order work.

Mustapha is keen to expand his practice in this area and to take on further work for Inquiries and for their core participants.

Motoring offences

Motoring/traffic offences

Mustapha Rashid has experience in defending individuals charged with motoring offences and has both prosecuted and defended a range of matters including:

- Failing to provide information related to the identity of a driver (s.172)
- Driving without due care and attention
- Dangerous driving
- Successful exceptional hardship/special reason arguments

Notable cases

R v GS (2025, City of London Magistrates Court): successful defence of a Defendant charged with s172 by relying on s7 Interpretation Act. Defence costs order granted.

R v FF (2024, Lavender Hill Magistrates Court): successful defence of a Defendant charged with s172 by relying on the statutory defence s172(7b). Defence costs order granted.

R v NA (2023, Snaresbrook Crown Court): successful appeal against sentence and conviction in relation to a s172 charge. Defence costs order granted.

R v MM (2022, Crawley Magistrates Court): successful exceptional hardship argument put forward.

R v AA (2021, Stratford Magistrates Court): successful defence of a Defendant charged with driving without due care and attention. Defence costs order granted.

Regulatory crime

Taxi Drivers' licensing appeals

Mustapha also represents taxi drivers in appeals against a licencing authority's decision to revoke/suspend an individual's licence.

Mustapha encourages early instructions in order to mitigate any unnecessary costs clients may incur in a very niche area of law.

Notable cases

JM & TFL (2024, Wimbledon Magistrates Court): instructed to represent the Appellant who had his PHV licence revoked following an allegation of a sexual assault.

AH & Buckinghamshire Council (2022, High Wycombe Magistrates Court): instructed to represent the Appellant who had his PHV licence revoked following an allegation of rape.

AH & TFL (2021, City of London Magistrates Court): instructed to represent the Appellant who had his PHV licence revoked following an upload of a fake document.