



# Clerks

- Kate Masher
- 0151 242 8841
- Suzanne Dutch
- 0151 242 8873
- Denise Sheen
- 0151 242 8874
- Graeme Hipkiss
- 0151 242 8868
- Alex Downing
- 0151 236 7747

# Education

Middle Temple Astbury Scholarship

College of Law, London – Bar Vocational Course, Very Competent

College of Law, Chester - Graduate Diploma in Law, Distinction

University of Cambridge - MA History 2:1

# Criminal

Stella is a highly regarded criminal practitioner who prosecutes and defends in equal measure. She is a member of the CPS Specialist Advocate Panel for Serious Crime. Recent instructions include prosecuting an allegation of manslaughter and defending an individual charged with terrorism offences.

Stella has prosecuted and defended in numerous multi-handed conspiracies and is alive to the particular strategic and legal issues that arise in cases of this kind. She regularly appears on behalf of those charged with sexual offences, including historic allegations. Aside from general crime, Stella has particular expertise defending in enforcement proceedings and advancing complex technical arguments on behalf of those charged with motor vehicle offences.

Stella is experienced in regulatory proceedings and has represented in cases od alleged misconduct, lack of competence or on health grounds. Recent examples include charges of contributing to a patient's death as well as cases concerning serious breaches of professional boundaries. She has also defended in cases brought by Trading Standards, the RSPCA and in proceedings before the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal.

Stella has a solid understanding of financial crime and regulation having been instructed by the Financial Conduct Authority in respect of their investigation into the Co-op Bank's £1.5bn capital shortfall. The investigation culminated in a censure for the firm and its CEO; the first occasion on which a CEO of any bank has been formally censured since the 2008 crisis.

Stella has been commended in court for the force and focus of her written and oral submissions. Those who instruct her rate her ability to quickly develop a rapport with lay clients and her commitment to advancing their case with rigour and determination.

### Cases

#### Prosecution

### R v Spackman & Others ("Operation Starlight")

https://www.liverpoolecho.co.uk/news/liverpool-news/inside-liverpool-drugs-gang-jailed-15289234

#### R v Purcell & Purcell

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-merseyside-44728236

#### **Defence**

### R v Adam Thomas ("Operation Harplike")

https://news.sky.com/story/suspected-neo-nazi-father-posed-with-baby-adolf-while-wearing-kkk-robes-11522952

### R v Buckland

https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/965047/glamour-model-drugs-smuggling-chloe-buckland-avoid-jail

### **Appeal**

R v McGarry - [2018] EWCA Crim 2519 - Historic child sexual abuse. Successful renewed application for leave to appeal sentence.

R v Edwards - [2018] EWCA Crim 245 - Kidnap and wounding with intent

*R v Franey* – *unreported* – Successful appeal of sentence imposed for a series of a burglaries and an armed robbery

R v Meade - [2013] EWCA Crim 1235 - Successful leave to appeal sentence for tenth and eleventh breach of ASBO

R v Clarke [2013] EWHC 366 (Admim) – Appeal by way of case stated raising arguments regarding corroboration of speed measuring equipment and the admissibility of hearsay evidence



# Beyond the Bar

Before joining Chambers, Stella gained extensive regulatory experience. At the General Dental Council where she assisted with the preparation of cases for prosecution in proceedings before regulatory tribunal and in the criminal courts. While at the Office of Fair Trading, Stella worked on a large price-fixing investigation, undertaking evidence review and conducting witness interviews. Stella enjoys horse-riding, running (running London Marathon 2017) and travel.