

Harry O'Sullivan

Call: 2016

Contact Harry Directly: 020 7353 6802 or
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Harry joined Goldsmith Chambers following completion of his pupillage in October 2018. He accepts instructions to both defend and prosecute in criminal cases and to appear in extradition, regulatory and inquest proceedings. He is authorised to conduct work on a direct access basis.

During pupillage he was supervised by Catherine Milsom, Roderick Johnson QC, Jerry Hayes and Grace Ong. Before coming to the Bar, Harry worked at the Law Commission of England and Wales as a research assistant assigned to the Sentencing Code project. Harry has worked for several years as a legal researcher for Blackstone's Criminal Practice and was a contributing author on the 2017 edition of Miller on Contempt of Court.

Harry is committed to improving access to justice. He previously volunteered with the Communities Empowerment Network, a charity offering pro bono representation to parents of school-excluded children and was President of King's College London Legal Clinic (2014-15). Harry was a mentor with the Vocalise programme and coached debating to young offenders at HM Prison Isis.

Harry has been appointed to take over the authorship of the textbook Banks on Sentence. This will involve him writing updates to the text for the next edition and also being the author and general editor for its contents and monthly updater alerts.

Crime

Harry is regularly instructed to appear in the magistrates' courts, youth courts and Crown Court in London and the South-Eastern circuit. He is appointed to the Crown Prosecution Service advocate panel scheme at grade 1 and is frequently instructed to represent the Crown in magistrates' court trials, on appeal to the Crown Court and for other matters, including representing the probation service. He has experience in private prosecutions.

Following work with the Law Commission as a research assistant, Harry has specialist knowledge of complex

Location

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sentencing legislation and procedure and is happy to accept instructions to advise on appeal against sentence on a direct access basis.

Harry's experience also extends to representing parties in regulatory appeals to the magistrates' court and in matters of prison law before the Parole Board.

He also has particular experience of road traffic matters, including drink and drug driving, careless driving and advancing exceptional hardship arguments for those facing disqualification under the 'totting-up' provisions.

Notable Cases

- *R v CH* – Basildon Crown Court – June 2019. Prosecution resulting in convictions for possession of machetes in a public place.
- *R v AM* – Woolwich Crown Court – April 2019. Trial for possession of bladed article.
- *R v LM* – Lewes Crown Court – April 2019. Successful appeal against sentence for breaches of restraining order resulting in the sentence length being significantly reduced.
- *R v S and others* – St Albans Crown Court – March 2019. Multi-handed conspiracy to supply class A drugs. CPS offered no evidence against client after serving an application to dismiss charges for lack of evidence.
- *Central Bedfordshire Council v M* – Luton magistrates' court – March 2019. Represented the local authority in appeal by a homeowner against a statutory nuisance abatement notice (smoke pollution), resulting in the appeal being dismissed and the notice upheld.
- *R v M* – St Albans Crown Court – January 2019. Negotiated a plea to assault PC being accepted by the Crown in circumstances where the defendant had been charged with attempted GBH.
- *R v D* – Chelmsford Crown Court – November 2018. Secured a suspended sentence following a guilty plea to high-value dwelling burglary.
- *R v Fusilier JT* – Bulford Military Court Centre – October 2018. Obtained a service supervision and punishment order following a plea to an Armed Forces Act offence at Court Martial.

Publications

- *R v D* [2019] Crim LR 436 – concerning the definition of a folding pocketknife for the purposes of s.139 Criminal Justice Act 1988.
- 'When is a residential address a dwelling for the purposes of sentencing?' (2017) 2 (Aug) Sentencing News 6-9.
- 'The Sentencing Code' (2017) 181 (29) Criminal Law & Justice Weekly
- 'Time For A Code: Reform of Sentencing Law in England and Wales' European Journal of Law Reform (2017) 19(4) – with Professor David Ormerod QC

Inquests

Harry is a member of Goldsmith Chambers inquest team and accepts instructions to represent and advise interested persons and represent before Coroners' inquests and public enquiries.

Notable Cases

In the matter of the inquest touching upon the death of AM – Berkshire Coroner's Court – May 2018. A pre-inquest

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review at which it was successfully argued that the state's Article 2 duty would only be discharged by a full 'Middleton' inquest.

Extradition

Harry is keen to develop a practice in the field of extradition law and is happy to accept instructions to advise and represent requested persons at extradition hearings and appeals, as well as to act on behalf of requesting states for the Crown Prosecution Service.

Memberships

- Criminal Bar Association
- South Eastern Circuit
- CPS Advocate Panel at Grade 1
- Gray's Inn

Awards

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- Francis Bacon Award, Gray's Inn (2015)
- Routledge Book Prize, King's College London (2015)
- University of Law Selection Event Award (2015)
- James Hunt Prize for Advocacy, Gray's Inn (2018)
- Ann Goddard Pupillage Scholarship, Gray's Inn (2018)

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