



Danielle Cooper

Called 1999

Areas of Practice

Specialist criminal defence advocate, criminal appellate work including CCRC referrals, crime related judicial review.

What Others Say

Danielle has been mentioned in positive terms in the last two editions of Legal 500.

Notable cases

R v. Mounir Boufas and others. The defendant was acquitted in May 2011 of his alleged part in a conspiracy to rob the custodians of cash in transit. Following 4 weeks of defence submissions regarding disclosure and abuse of process concerning this 'flying squad' operation, the prosecution were forced to offer no evidence and the defendant was acquitted.

R v. Vernon Lee and others. The case involved an alleged 'hit team' firing at a moving car from two motorbikes. They were said to be taking revenge for a gang related murder in East London. The defendant was acquitted of attempted murder.

Simon Hall [January 2011] was convicted of murder in 2003 on the strength of fibres from the scene that were said to match fibres found at an address associated with him. Danielle became involved with efforts to persuade the CCRC to refer the case back to the Court of Appeal. Following extensive new scientific research the CCRC did refer the case. New evidence suggested that the scientific method used by the prosecution expert at the time of the trial had been unreliable. The appeal was dismissed.

R v. Anthony Davies and others [2010] EWCA Crim 2740. The case related to the abduction torture and murder of a suggested large scale drug dealer. At trial a defendant entered into a contract under the Serious and Organised Crime Act 2005 to reduce his sentence by co-operating with the police. On appeal the case concerned the unfairness of such a witness being permitted to continue to maintain legal professional privilege over previous inconsistent statements.

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R v. Munaim Khan and others. The defendant was acquitted of murder. Led by Stephen Kamlish QC the legal team for Munaim Khan uncovered what were described as systematic failures in the disclosure process and the misleading of the Court and the defence by the police and the CPS. The prosecution offered no evidence and Sweeney J stated that had they not done so the case would have been stayed as an abuse of process.

R v. M and others [2008] 2 WLR 1013. “Government Terrorist Legislation in Tatters” according to the front page of The Times in February 2008. Danielle was junior counsel for one of the 5 student appellants freed when this important judgement set a limit on the criminalisation of the possession of radical literature.

R v. Nicholson [2006] 2 Cr App R 30. Successful appeal against trial judge’s ruling effectively withdrawing the defence of reasonable excuse for a strict liability offence. The Court of Appeal held that it was a question of fact for a jury to decide.

R v. Bossino [2003]. The prosecution of a Gibraltar national said to have become involved in a £13 million international money laundering operation set up and run by the British police for a decade. The case was stayed as an abuse of process when the judge ruled that the police operation had been unlawful. Following a complaint to the IPCC the matter has been referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions for consideration of the prosecution of the undercover officers involved.

Background

University of Nottingham
Universite de Versailles/Saint Quentin

Languages French

Societies

Criminal Bar Association (CBA).