



James Mehigan

Called 2008

Areas of Practice

Crime, Prison Law, Extradition Law, International Law and Complaints Against the Police

Notable Cases

Crime

Livingston, Privy Council 2011 (ongoing)

Representing an applicant who was convicted in 2003 of murder in Jamaica.

Benalbaida, Court of Appeal 2010

Appeal against sentence for violent disorder at protests outside the Israeli Embassy against the invasion of Gaza.

Abdirahman, Blackfriars Crown Court 2011

Robbery.

Rahman and another, Inner London Crown Court 2011

2 handed section 18 GBH.



Sofronea, Wood Green Crown Court 2011

Money laundering arising out of internet fraud.



Dandy, Birmingham Crown Court 2011

Joint enterprise burglary.



S, Guildford Crown Court 2010

Led junior in case involving rape allegations dating back over 20 years. Case stayed as an abuse of process after extensive submissions relating to *doli incapax* and the presumption of imputence.



M, Isleworth Crown Court 2010

Palestinian torture victim accused of entering UK without a passport.



Miles, Guildford Crown Court 2010

Section 20 wounding.



Sears, Croydon Crown Court 2010

Conspiracy to supply 4 kg of cocaine.



Angol and another, Wood Green Crown Court 2010

2 handed burglary.



tooks
chambers

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Prison Law

James has repeatedly obtained successful outcomes before the Parole Board in applications for release and to move to open conditions. He has similarly successfully appeared at adjudications. He also acts for prisoners in judicial reviews and civil actions in prison cases.

Extradition Law

James regularly represents those facing pre- and post-conviction extradition from the UK.

International

Application for an Arrest Warrant for Ehud Barak, 2009

Application for a UK arrest warrant to be issued for Israeli Defence Minister alleged to have committed war crimes arising out of the invasion of Gaza known as 'Operation Cast Lead'.

Prosecutor v Sesay, Special Court for Sierra Leone, 2008

James was a legal assistant to the team defending RUF leader Issa Sesay who was accused of war crimes and crimes against humanity.

Complaints Against the Police

James has advised on complaints against the police, including those involving allegations of racism.

Publications

(with Alan DP Brady) 'Universal Jurisdiction for International Crimes in Irish Law', *Irish Jurist*, 2010.

(with Reece Walters and Louise Westmarland) 'Crime, Globalisation and Human Rights' in *Criminal Justice: Local and Global*, Cullompton: Willan, 2010.

(with Abigail Rowe): 'Problematizing Prison Privatization', in *Handbook of the Prison*, Cullompton: Willan, 2007.

'Bringing Cases Against War Criminals: Universal Jurisdiction in Ireland', *Law Society Gazette*, July 2006.

'The Australian Criminal Justice System and the Aboriginal Community', *Trinity College Social and Political Review*, 2001.

Speaking Events and Seminars

Neighbourhood Policing, Partnership and Problem Solving, *British Society of Criminology Conference*, London School of Economics, September 2007

Quality of Life Research and Policing, *British Society of Criminology Conference*, Glasgow Caledonian University, June 2006.

Bringing Cases Against War Criminals: Universal Jurisdiction in Ireland, Palestinian Centre for Human Rights, *Universal Jurisdiction Conference*, Malaga, March 2006.

Practical Approaches to Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, *Second Dublin Platform for Human Rights Defenders*, Dublin Castle, September 2003

What Others Say

James was nominated for the 2009 Bar Pro Bono Award for his contribution to the case of *Balaj et al.* before the UNMIK Human Rights Advisory Panel for Kosovo.

Membership and Societies

British Society of Criminology
Haldane Society
Criminal Bar Association

Other Relevant Information

Associate Lecturer in Crime and Justice, Open University

Trustee and Company Director of the UK Branch of Front Line – The International Foundation for Human Rights Defenders

Prior to coming to the Bar James worked as a researcher for three human rights organizations; Front Line – The International Foundation for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders in Dublin, the International Council on Human Rights Policy in Geneva and the Ethical Investment Research Service in London. He has provided advice to numerous other NGOs including Adallah and Fair Trials International.

James is a former member of the Independent Monitoring Board at Pentonville Prison. He has a PhD on policing and has lectured in law at the University of East London. James has a broad interest in criminal defence work and other work related to the criminal justice system.