



Srikantharajah Nereshraaj

Called 2007

Areas of Practice

Crime

Neresh was invited to join Chambers in October 2009 and has rapidly built an impressive Crown Court practice.

His thorough preparation, tactical foresight and intelligent advocacy means that he is regularly instructed beyond his call. At the same time, his down-to-earth and approachable manner makes him a popular choice with lay clients and their families.

Prior to joining Tooks, Neresh completed his pupillage at a chambers with an emphasis on Revenue and Customs work. While he retains a specialist interest in this area, and is regularly instructed to defend in cases involving large scale drug importations and financial crime, he now undertakes a broad range of criminal work.

Civil liberties

Neresh has a strong commitment to the protection of civil liberties and specialises in law that surrounds protest, demonstrations and public order. He regularly advises groups and organisations in relation to their rights in this area, as well as providing on site assistance. He also has a proven track record in representing clients who have been accused of criminal offences arising out of protest and demonstrations, representing them at every stage from the Magistrates' Court through to the Court of Appeal.

Notable Case

Public order and public justice

R v SM (2009) Violent disorder arising out of running battles between Palestinian and white youths in east London.

R v Ashraf & others (2010) Violent disorder arising out of the anti-BNP protest in the Bury Park area of Luton.

R v Malik (2010) Blackmail and witness intimidation arising out of allegations about the use of ' heavies ' to collect on business debts.

tooks
chambers

81 Farringdon Street
London
EC4A 4BL
DX 68 Chancery Lane

Telephone
020 7842 7575

Facsimile
020 7842 7576

Emergency
07850 823676

E-mail
clerks@tooks.co.uk

Web
www.tooks.co.uk



Serious violence

R v ES & others (2009) Multiple robberies and ABH by the alleged leader of a teenage gang.

R v Hunt (2009) s.20 GBH arising out of a fight outside a nightclub

R v Seddon (2010) s.18 GBH arising out of a stabbing during a family dispute

R v Welch (2010) s.18 GBH, false imprisonment and threats to kill arising out of a domestic incident

R v Taylor (2010) 6 counts of ABH against prison officers, arising out allegations 'one man prison disturbance'

Sexual offences

R v Hussain (2010) Sexual assault of customer in dry cleaners after closing time.

Importation & supply of drugs

R -v- Miller (2009) Importation of 15kg herbal cannabis.

R -v- Oduyoye (2009) Importation of 1kg cocaine to UK via West Africa

R -v- Brinzila (2009) Commercial importation of cocaine from South America

R-v- Atta (2009) Importation of 35kg of testosterone-ethanate (a class C controlled steroid) from 'underground pharmacies' in South Asia.

R v Farah (2010) Supply of heroin to police test purchase officers.

R v Hussain (2010) Conspiracy to supply cannabis into a prison.

Fraud and Financial Crime

R -v- Cummings & others (2009) Fraud and money laundering, involving diversion of funds from credit unions.

R -v- Ariya & others (2009) Conspiracy to commit fraud involving the use of cloned credit cards.

R v Maynard (2010) Fraud involving fraudulent refunds totalling over £65,000 from a bookmaker by an employee

R v Baker (2010) £90,000 benefit fraud case, involving a failure to notify the DWP of Criminal Injuries Compensation Board payments.

Appellate Work

R v Carrington & others [2009] EWCA Crim 588. Guidance case on appeals against confiscation, resulting from the discovery of a Revenue and Customs Prosecution Office oversight that rendered a large number of confiscation orders unjustifiable. Confiscation order quashed.

R v El-Araj & Others [2010] EWCA Crim 1760. Leading authority on sentencing in relation to violent disorders arising out of the 'Gaza Protest' outside the Israeli Embassy in January 2009. Sentence of 2 year imprisonment reduced to 18 months. Led by Joel Bennathan QC. See www.bbc.co.uk/news/10616260

R v Jones [2010] awaiting citation. Successful appeal against imposition of an immediate sentence of imprisonment for a single mother convicted of ABH. Sentence of 1 year imprisonment quashed and a 9 month suspended sentence substituted.

R v Akthar & Others (2010). Appeal against sentence in relation to 16 year old involved in the violent disorder arising out of an anti-BNP protest in Bury Park area of Luton. 6 month DTO quashed and 18 month supervision order substituted.

Speaking Events and Training, Seminars

Neresh is actively involved with the issue of widening access to the Bar, and has regularly talked at student events in Chambers and colleges.

Membership and Societies

Criminal Bar Association
South Eastern Circuit
Lawyers for Liberty

Other Relevant Information

Given his own background, Neresh has an interest in immigration issues, particularly where they intersect with criminal law. He has in the past conducted appeals before the AIT in cases involving post-conviction deportation. Prior to coming to the Bar, Neresh worked with numerous Refugee organisations in the UK and South Asia. As an undergraduate student at Edinburgh University he was responsible for running Student Action for Refugees (STAR) and helped establish the Edinburgh's refugee drop in centre.

Neresh is committed encouraging participation in pro bono schemes. In addition to volunteering at his local legal centre, while at Law School, he was responsible for setting up the Department's pro bono scheme.

During his legal studies, Neresh was awarded City Law School's Academic Excellence Scholarship and the Routledge-Cavendish Prize for academic achievement, he was also awarded the Prince of Wales Scholarship from Gray's Inn.