



Sultana Tafadar

Called 2005

Areas of Practice

Crime, Civil Actions Against the Police, International Law

A popular choice amongst lay and professional clients, Sultana's busy practice encompasses a wide range of serious offences including terrorism, homicide, serious violence, firearms, robberies, large-scale drugs and fraud. Whether as a led junior or experienced sole counsel in high profile and/or complex cases, she has a proven track record of achieving excellent outcomes. Combined with her exceptional background in human rights, international law and anti terror work, having worked for a number of leading NGOs prior to joining Chambers, she is well equipped to deal with cases which give rise to these issues. A dedicated defence advocate, she not only impresses with her skilful advocacy and sound legal judgement, but also provides unrivalled client care and is able to gain the trust and confidence of even the most the most difficult of lay clients.

Notable cases:

Terrorism & Homicide

R v Farley (2010) – Central CC. Led Junior in high profile case where defendant accused of the single punch manslaughter of Jade Defoe (the brother of Jermaine Defoe). The sole issue was causation, revolving around complex neurological/ medical evidence.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/london/8018192.stm>

R v Waris Ali & Another (2008) – Leeds CC. Led Junior where defendant accused of possessing 'bomb-making manuals' and chemicals for the purpose of terrorism contrary to section 57 of the Terrorism Act 2000. He, allegedly planned to 'blow up the BNP'. Unanimously acquitted of all three counts.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/bradford/7685636.stm>

R v Shakil & Others (2008) – Kingston CC. Led Junior where defendant alleged to have been involved in the conspiracy to cause explosions with intent to endanger life – the 7/7 bombings of the London transport system.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2008/aug/01/july7.uksecurity>

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Upcoming and Recent Cases:

Political/ Human Rights

- **R v El-Araj & Others [2010] EWCA Crim 1760.** Junior Counsel representing Sayed Al-Haddad who was involved in disturbances during the Gaza Protests in London in January 2009. Resulted in reduction in sentence. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/10616260>
- **R v Brian Haw; R v Barbara Tucker; R v Charity Sweet** - represented the renowned Parliament Square protestors for several years in relation to SOCPA, public order and other offences as their Counsel of choice.
- **R v Maya Evans & Milan Rai** – first person/s prosecuted under SOCPA for unauthorised demonstration. Represented them at contempt of Court proceedings for their refusal to declare their dates of birth in the dock.
- **R v Christine Johnson** – Represented defendant on behalf of Liberty for breaches of an ASBO after legal aid withdrawn.

Homicide, Serious Violence, Firearms, Robberies

- **R v Kalu & Others (Ongoing)** – Croydon CC. Junior Counsel in multi-handed trial involving offences relating to firearms, drugs and money laundering.
- **R v Simmons & Another (2010)** – Central CC. Junior Counsel for defendant charged with Assisting an Offender and Perverting the Course of Justice following a murder committed by her husband.
- **R v Akhtar & Others [2010]** - Violent disorder arising out of the anti-BNP protest in the Bury Park area of Luton.
- **R v Bennet [2010]** – Juvenile charged with grievous bodily harm with intent; robbery; firearms at the time of arrest.
- **R v Agostini [2010]** – Possession of sawn-off shotgun and ammunitions.
- **R v Wilcox [2010]** – Commercial robbery including use of firearm and the spraying of flammable liquid onto employees.
- **R v Sobeyina [2010]** - Child cruelty case involving defendant's three children.
- **R v Fowler & Others [2009]** – High profile multi-handed armed robbery that culminated in the death of a police officer. Complex case involving expert evidence relating to fingerprints, footprints and mobile telephones.
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/london/8005107.stm>
- **R v Ahad & Another [2009]** – Possession of firearms with intent to endanger life & other related offences; class A drugs with intent to supply.
- **R v Rizwan & Another [2009]** – Doorman in nightclub accused of grievous bodily harm & wounding with intent.

- **R v Riley (2008)** – Central CC. Junior Counsel in retrial for manslaughter following acquittal on murder in drugs ‘turf war’.

Large Scale Fraud and Drugs

- **R v Parminder Kullar & Others [2011] (Upcoming)** – Conspiracy to commit fraud of over £250,000 alleged by employee of bank.
- **R v Mann & Other [2009]** – Conspiracy to commit fraud of around £200,000 alleged by the Crown. Involved breach of trust.
- **R v McNamara [2009]** – Large-scale drugs offences. Included successful emergency judicial review during the trial of judge’s decision to remand the defendant ‘for his own protection’ for running a defence of duress.

Background

Sultana has a strong background in human rights, international law and anti terror work having worked for a number of leading NGOs prior to joining Chambers.

Sultana worked at the **International Secretariat of Amnesty International (AI)** on the Africa Program, the International Justice Project of the International Law and Organizations Program, and assisted the legal advisor of the Middle East Program. Her work covered such diverse areas as:

- Investigation and intervention in ‘urgent action’ cases of arbitrary arrests & detentions, disappearances, torture, extrajudicial killings;
- Working on projects relating to violence against women in domestic and conflict settings, children in armed conflict, issues pertaining to the War on Terror, and the Darfur Crisis;
- Analysing International Criminal Court implementing legislation of various states in terms of their compatibility with the Rome Statute;
- Working on law and order issues relating to post conflict Iraq; Shariah and international human rights law.

Sultana has had long experience of anti-terror work. As a researcher at the **Islamic Human Rights Commission (IHRC)** she:

- Produced reports & campaigning materials on wide range of issues including conflict and post-conflict Afghanistan; human rights and humanitarian law issues relating to tactics deployed in the War on Terror; and implications of US & UK domestic anti-terror measures.
- Was regularly instructed to provide **specialist/ expert reports** for immigration cases (including anti-terror/SIAC cases) on the human rights situations in particular countries and their treatment of members of ‘Islamist’ groups/organisations.

Sultana has also worked on a pro bono basis with other organisations on diverse issues. Her work with **Redress** included working on issues relating to International Criminal Court implementing legislation; universal jurisdiction provisions; amnesties and immunities. She has also worked for the **Forum Against Islamophobia and Racism (FAIR)** on issues pertaining to religious discrimination and has chaired local **YOT referral panels** dealing with first time young offenders.

Publications

- *‘Interview with Imran Khan’*, Socialist Lawyer, Dec 2007.

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- *Privacy in Public Life: The Case of Ken Livingstone*, NLJ, Jan 2007.
- *"I thought I was going to die,"* (The Forest Gate Raid), Socialist Lawyer, Aug 2006.
- *Stirring Speeches and Varied Verdicts* (The Trials of Nick Griffin and Abu Hamza), Socialist Lawyer, Mar 2006.
- *Hidden Victims of September 11*, IHRC, Sept 2002.
- *Internment and Military Tribunals*, IHRC, Feb 2002.
- *Prosecuting the Persecuted: Anti-terror Laws*, Q News, Dec 2001.

Languages

Bengali, Arabic (basic)