

# Diana Cottrell LLB (Hons), Barrister

## PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

HMRC Special Commendation  
July 2017

HMRC Director's Award  
May 2017

HMRC Director's Award  
May 2015

National Crime Agency Keith Hughes Award  
Prosecutor of the Year 2013

Chief Constable of Leicestershire Commendation  
January 2011

## CAREER SUMMARY

Specialist Prosecutor – HMRC Embedded Lawyer, Permanent November 2012 – Present  
*Crown Prosecution Service, Proceeds of Crime, Central Unit*

- Based within HMRC Scotland and East Region with responsibility for restraint and confiscation in relation to complex, multi-million pound fraud investigations and prosecutions.
- Working directly with investigating officers from across the Scotland and East region and involving regular travel to offices across the east of England.
- Advice provided in relation to a range of asset recovery powers including restraint, confiscation, enforcement of confiscation and investigative orders.
- Submission of a paper to the Home Office suggesting legislative changes to the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002, some of which was adopted in the amendments contained within the Serious Crime Act 2015.
- Skeleton arguments prepared and submitted to the court on a number of occasions with praise from the judiciary.
- Caseload of complex fraud cases with restrained assets of £168m

Senior Crown Prosecutor, Permanent July 2008 – November 2012  
*Crown Prosecution Service, Leicester*

- Prosecutor in Crown Court section between July 2009 and November 2012
- Specialisms in Fraud, Proceeds of Crime and Organised Crime.
- Provided training to other lawyers on bad character and hearsay under the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
- Case lawyer for a 6 handed conspiracy to supply class A drugs resulting in convictions after trial and substantial sentences.
- Case lawyer for successful prosecution of a charge of conspiracy to rob against four defendants for multiple attacks on jewellers in Leicester and Aylesbury.
- Case lawyer for 4 homicide cases, all of which resulted in conviction.
- Successfully charged, case managed and prosecuted at trial a fox hunting charge against two defendants during a seven day trial (including one day legal argument) against a highly specialised defence team led by Philip Mott QC. The convictions were challenged in the Crown Court but upheld. Commended by the Chief Constable.

Barrister-at-Law, Self-employed April 2005 – July 2008  
*King Street Chambers, Leicester*

- Completed pupillage in April 2006 and obtained tenancy immediately
- Practice in Crime undertaking work in the Crown and Magistrates' Courts for prosecution and defence.
- Practice in Civil undertaking small claims, fast track and multi-track cases in personal injury and contract.

Law Lecturer, Part-time January 2004  
*De Montfort University, Leicester*

## **EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS**

University of London (2016 – present)

LLM Distance Learning

: Studying for Certificate in Tax Law

Gray's Inn (July 2004)

: Called to the Bar

Nottingham Law School (2003 – 2004)

Bar Vocational Course

: Very competent (75% average)

: Specialised modules in Advanced Civil (Judicial Review) and Commercial.

De Montfort University (2000 - 2003)

LLB (Hons)

: Upper Second Class Honours (2:1, 63% average)

: The Alan Ashley Environmental Law Prize

: The Leicester Law Society Cup for Mooting (2002 & 2003)

: OUP Blackstone National Mooting Competition Finalist (2002)

: ESU National Mooting Competition Semi-Finalist (2003)

St Peter's Comprehensive School (1993 - 1999)

A-Levels

: English Literature, History, Economics

GCSEs

: English Literature, English Language, Maths, Science (Double award), French, Business Studies, Home Economics, Religious Education

## **OTHER SKILLS AND MEMBERSHIPS**

- Member of Gray's Inn, London (2004 – present)
- Member of the Proceeds of Crime Lawyers Association
- Security Clearance check passed (2012)
- Full clean UK driving license
- British Passport
- Computer literate with Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Access.
- Intermediate spoken and written Spanish