



Red Lion Chambers

Faras Baloch

Call: 2003

Introduction

Faras Baloch is an experienced advocate who acts for individuals and corporate clients facing criminal and regulatory proceedings and for specialist prosecutors such as the HSE, SFO, HMRC, SOCA, NHS Counter Fraud Group.

Expertise

Faras regularly acts for and against local authorities in prosecutions of companies and their directors. These cases often involve contested expert evidence on scientific or environmental issues. His work has required interpretation of EU Directives and arguments on technical areas of domestic legislation.

He is a CPS Grade 3 Prosecutor and has been appointed to the Serious Fraud Office Prosecution and Proceeds of Crime Panel. He is authorised to conduct prosecutions for the Health and Safety Executive, Environment Agency and Office of Rail Regulation.

Recent Regulatory Cases

BSG Ltd (2012) - Defended waste management company, the company's director and subsidiary following destruction of protected forest. The Employees of the company destroyed over a hundred trees protected by an area Tree Preservation Order. The case attracted political and media interest. Faras appeared at the County Court in contested injunction proceedings and throughout the criminal proceedings. The prosecution was brought under the Environmental Protection Act, Town and Country Planning Act and Forestry Act.

Zheng (2012) – Defended alleged mastermind of UK's largest counterfeit operation (valued at £20 million). The case was the subject of a BBC documentary. Faras defended the company director alleged to have used factories in China to produce fake watches and jewellery. The defendant was also prosecuted for breaches of the REACH Regulations arising out of the dangerously high level of nickel release from some items of jewellery. He also appeared in the forfeiture and confiscation proceedings.

Other Relevant Work

Baird & Others (2011-) – first junior for SFO in prosecution of a Spain based boiler room under FSMA.

Re: E (2012) – Advice to multi billion pound construction company following collapse of arbitration proceedings in Moscow.

R v Karimzada & Arora (2010-2011) – sole counsel for MLRO in proceedings brought by HMRC in 11 million pound money laundering operation. Defence involved cross examination of 'hawala expert' and preparation of money flows.

**Contact: Mark Bennett, Practice Director, on 020 7520 6002 or at
mark.bennett@18rlc.co.uk**