



Timothy Thomas

YEAR OF CALL: England and Wales 2002

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Tim began practice at the Bar in general crime before moving to Lombard Chambers in order to undertake more specialist work. Although Tim's original general criminal practice encompassed both prosecution and defence work, he now defends exclusively.

Tim has established an excellent fraud practice encompassing Missing Trader Intra Community and VAT frauds as well as the connected civil litigation, including VAT Tribunals and pre-charge POCA restraint applications. A hard working junior who is able to think on his feet, Tim appreciates the value of electronic presentation of cases as well as the importance of rapport with client and lay-client. Currently Tim is instructed in a £2m Land Bank Fraud and a large Missing Trader Intra Community Fraud.

Tim is a direct access barrister and has rights of audience and can accept instructions in the Dubai International Financial Centre Courts (DIFC)

Tim is a member of the Criminal Bar Association and a contributor to the confiscation chapter of the forthcoming revised edition of Butterworths Money Laundering Law.

Tim was educated at Hampton School and Durham University before studying for his PGDL and BVC with the College of Law. Tim is a Hardwicke Scholar of Lincoln's Inn and was the recipient of the Sir Thomas More Bursary. Prior to pupillage he undertook an Internship in Capital Punishment Studies in Trinidad, visiting and interviewing prisoners on death row.

Away from his practice Tim is a member of Sunningdale with a handicap of 9 and an enthusiastic member of The Refreshers (the Bar Cricket Team) and The Arcadian Casuals. Tim is married with one son.

..... SOME NOTABLE CASES

R v Redmond Johnson & Others (Operation Affair) (2009-11) Ipswich CC, VHCC Cat 2: Defending an SFO Prosecution of an £8m 'Spanish-based Boiler Room Fraud' which targeted thousands of investors in the UK applying high pressure telesales techniques to push shares in a bio-diesel company, Worldwide Bio Refineries. Tim acted for the leading defendant, who was in extremely poor health, and who signed a SOCPA agreement and gave evidence for the Crown. He received a 3 year prison sentence while his fellow director of WBR received a 7 year sentence.

[Information link](#)
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R v UMBS Online Ltd & Others (Operation Tangelo1) Southwark CC: Successful defence of a Director of UMBS Online Ltd who was charged with money laundering and fraudulent trading. The Crown alleged that UMBS and its predecessor company, UMBS EF had been providing confidential online banking services to its customers, most of whom were involved in carousel and MTIC fraud, and which between June 2006 and March 2007, generated illicit trades valued at over £3.6 billion.

R v Dennis Hunter & Others (Operation Euripus) Southwark CC, VHCC Cat 2: Defending the director of a Spanish company in the RCPO prosecution of an MTIC Fraud with the largest loss to HMRC. £250 million was identified as having being siphoned off to various countries including the UAE, Hong Kong, Pakistan and Switzerland. Extremely complex money laundering operation associated with the fraud and the involvement of the main defendant in Operation White Whale (Ballena Blanca), a joint Interpol and Spanish Judicial Police investigation which resulted in the largest money-laundering prosecution in Spain.

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R v Karl Freeman & Others (2009) Lewes CC, Conspiracy to Supply Class A Drugs.

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R v Brian Chatfield & Another (2007-08) (Operation Dozen) Bristol CC, RCPO prosecution, £2.5m VAT & Revenue Fraud, VHCC Cat

R v Syed Ahmed & Others (2006) (Operation Devout) Northampton CC, RCPO prosecution, £40m Missing Trader Intra Community Fraud, VHCC Cat 2

R v Brian Chatfield & Another (2007-08) (Operation Dozen) Bristol CC, RCPO prosecution, £2.5m VAT & Revenue Fraud, VHCC Cat 2

R v Syed Ahmed & Others (2006) (Operation Devout) Northampton CC, RCPO prosecution, £40m Missing Trader Intra Community Fraud, VHCC Cat 2

R v Nadine Sainsbury & Others (2005-06) Kingston CC, £500,000 Conspiracy to Rob and Possess Firearms Base and Commissioners for HM Revenue and Customs, Manchester VAT Tribunal (2007) UKVAT V20437 (01 November 2007) Microsoft v O, High Court (2009) High Court (Chancery Division), Committal for contempt re: civil fraud arising from parallel importation.