DAVID SCUTT

Call 1989

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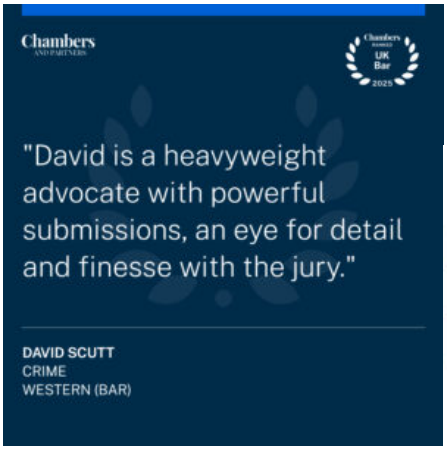
David Scutt is a highly accomplished and experienced Crime barrister.

His practice includes homicide, other serious violent offending, firearms offending, serious sexual offending, drug-trafficking, human-trafficking, fraud and organised crime. David is instructed in cases of the utmost seriousness, complexity and sensitivity.

He is a “go to” barrister in cases involving vulnerable witnesses and defendants. He has a reputation for excellent advocacy, meticulous case preparation, integrity and approachability – making him “a formidable opponent”.

David is an advocacy trainer, both in the UK and abroad (including the International Criminal Court in The Hague).

David was short-listed for Crime and Extradition Junior of the Year’ at the Legal 500 Bar Awards 2023.



Expertise

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Crime

David's Crime expertise includes the following:

- Murder & manslaughter
- Rape and other serious sexual offences
- Child sex offences
- Child cruelty offences
- Human trafficking offences
- Drug trafficking offences
- Organised crime
- Fraud Trading Standards / copyright infringement offences
- Planning and other enforcement

Featured Crime cases

R v B (2025)

Non-recent sexual offending. Multiple complainants.

R v H (2025)

Leading counsel. Multiple allegations of rape and other serious sexual offending against a background of controlling behaviour.

Op Bluelace (2024-25)

Leading counsel. Large-scale multi-handed supply of drugs (class A and B) national & international elements.

Op Freebie (2024-25)

Commercial-scale drug dealing (class A). Use of Dark Web and cryptocurrency. Complex Crime Unit.

R v T (2024)

Attempted murder. Two victims.

Operation Bezel (2024)

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Multi-handed conspiracy to inflict GBH using car(s).

R v T (2024)

Serious sexual offending involving highly vulnerable defendant (ASD, ADHD, suicidal ideation).

R v F (2023)

Leading counsel. Multiple rapes, GBH, controlling and coercive behaviour.

R v H (2023)

Causing death by dangerous driving (racing).

R v C (2023)

Attempted murder.

R v D (2023)

Operation Bobcat. Multi-handed drug-trafficking conspiracy arising out of Op Venetic (encro-chat).

R v T (2022)

Multiple rapes, assaults and controlling and coercive behaviour in an intimate relationship.

R v B (2022)

Originally charged as murder; ultimately diminished responsibility manslaughter.

R v D (2022)

Attempted murder.

R v G (2022)

Non-recent sexual abuse, including rape, of multiple young children entrusted to the care of the defendant.

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R v D (2022)

Multiple rapes and assaults by penetration of extremely vulnerable victim (whilst unconscious).

Operation Harley (2022/23)

Various Bristol Riots cases.

R v P, W, G & S (2021/22)

The Colston Statue case.

Awards

Appointments

- CPS Advocate Panel – Level 4
- Specialist Rape Prosecutor

Education

- Bar Finals – Inns of Court School of Law
- BA Hons, Law & Economics, University of Keele

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Memberships

- Criminal Bar Association
- Western Circuit

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