

Angus Bunyan

'Angus is a great advocate' and 'He is tremendous with clients.'
Chambers UK 2023



Year of Call: 1999

020 7353 5324

Overview

Angus is an established leading junior who specialises in corporate and financial crime.

His practice has recently included being instructed by the SFO to secure Deferred Prosecution Agreements with two UK companies for bribery offences and to prosecute individuals suspected of bribery in the construction sector, representing the Federal Republic of Nigeria in its application for compensation from Glencore, prosecuting UK directors for paying bribes to secure Afghan military contracts and acting in the HBOS case involving corruption between senior managers at the bank and leading figures in the business community.

Angus also has significant expertise both in bringing and defending private prosecutions, especially those arising from commercial disputes. He represented Oleg Deripaska in his private prosecution of a former associate and in the related judicial review proceedings and his advice and counsel is regularly sought by other HNW individuals and companies seeking to explore this niche area.

He also represents individual and corporate clients in regulatory matters, particularly those facing proceedings for environmental matters involving waste and water offences. An SFO Panel A and CPS level 4 prosecutor, he is routinely instructed as leading counsel in high profile, complex and multi-handed trials where specialist knowledge and first-rate advocacy are required.

'He is on the ball, drafts well and is a pleasure to work with.' – Chambers UK 2024

'He is a thorough and careful barrister who knows his law, and has great tactical and strategic skill. I would recommend him to anyone who asked me about him.' – Legal 500 UK 2024

'Angus is an articulate and brilliant advocate who is as happy in the weeds of the facts as he is in making legal argument.' – Legal 500 UK 2024

Location

2 Hare Court
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‘Angus is well-informed and extremely diligent. He is not phased by the challenges faced and anticipates problems before they arise.’ – Legal 500 UK 2023

‘Very quick, super smart and works well with solicitors.’ ‘He’s happy to get stuck in and works as part of a team. He’s very knowledgeable, experienced and a real pleasure to work with.’ – Chambers UK 2022

‘Angus is very clever, tactically astute and hard-working. A first-class advocate who prepares extremely well.’ – Legal 500 UK 2022

‘He has a very calm approach which is very effective with juries.’ ‘Just the man to have on your side in a legal scrap and a huge asset to any team.’ – Chambers UK 2021

‘He combines mastery of the details with the ability to see the bigger picture. He has a focused approach and complete unflappable in and out of court.’ – Legal 500 UK 2021 (Fraud)

‘His judgement is sound and his manner unflappable.’ Legal 500 UK 2020 (Crime)

‘A straight shooter, who’s dependable and clear in his advice and submissions. He’s a likeable advocate who inspires trust.’ Chambers UK 2020 (Fraud)

‘He prosecutes with a fair hand but also a firm hand, and he’s incredibly knowledgeable about his cases. He prosecutes multi-defendant cases with ease.’ – Chambers UK 2020 (Crime)

‘Devastating in his cross examination.’ Legal 500 UK 2019 (Business and Regulatory Crime)

‘An incredibly hard worker, he stays on top of every page of evidence.’ Legal 500 2019 (Crime)

‘Instructed as a leading junior in challenging fraud cases.’ Legal 500 UK 2019 (Fraud)

‘An excellent advocate and a first rate lawyer, whose attention to detail in mammoth cases is remarkable.’ Legal 500 UK 2018 (Crime)

Business Crime & Financial Services

Angus has very substantial experience prosecuting (SFO A Panel) and representing both individuals and corporates accused of serious fraud, bribery and corruption and offences under the Company and Insolvency Acts. He also provides advice to those facing investigation, considering self-reporting or submitting a SAR under POCA and conducting internal investigations.

Example Cases:

Andrew Pilley and others

Represented owner and director of major utilities company and League One football club charged with fraudulent trading and money laundering relating to the systemic mis-selling of energy contracts. Eight-month trial, led by Jonathan Laidlaw KC and instructed by JMW LLP.

The Federal Republic of Nigeria v Serious Fraud Office, Glencore Energy UK Ltd [2022] EWCR 2

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Represented the Federal Republic of Nigeria in its application to secure compensation from the disgraced mining and commodities giant Glencore. Led by Lord Garnier KC and instructed by RPC LLP.

SFO v AB Ltd & CD Ltd

Instructed by the SFO to secure two Deferred Prosecution agreements from subsidiaries of a real estate company for obtaining contracts in the commercial office fit-out market by hidden incentives and bribes paid to corrupt intermediaries.

Re: former Prime Minister of Malaysia

Instructed on behalf of the former Prime Minister and Finance Minister of Malaysia Najib Razak to advise on final appeal to the Malaysian Federal Court following his conviction for corruption and money laundering for his involvement in the notorious 1MDB scandal. Instructed by Howard Kennedy LLP.

Simms-Davies and others

Instructed pre- and post-charge in SFO prosecution of individuals for bribery relating to contracts obtained in the commercial office fit-out industry (returned pre-trial).

David Mills & others (Operation Hornet) [2020] EWCA Crim 369

Prosecuted allegations of serious and long running corruption between senior managers of HBOS and leading figures of the UK business and professional community. 5 month trial, led by Brian O'Neill KC. Instructed alone for subsequent appeals.

Criminal Defence

As a junior alone, Angus has successfully defended individuals charged with murder, rape and other serious sexual offences where a robust but jury-friendly approach is required. He has also appeared as a led junior working with Silks in Chambers and outside.

Example Cases:

Andrew Pilley and others

Represented owner and director of major utilities company and League One football club charged with fraudulent trading and money laundering relating to the systemic mis-selling of energy contracts. Eight-month trial, led by Jonathan Laidlaw KC and instructed by JMW LLP.

Scott Hunt & others

Murder case involving the dismemberment and burial of the deceased and a subsequent conspiracy to pervert the course of justice. Angus' client was acquitted by the jury on one count and the Judge acceded to a submission of no case on a second.

Vitautas Jokubauskas

Led junior in a murder case involving the brutal killing and dismemberment of the deceased and the subsequent disposal of body parts around Peterborough.

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Criminal Regulatory

Angus was instructed as junior counsel by the Environment Agency in the largest illegal waste deposit case then prosecuted by the Agency (O'Donnell & others) and one of the first in which the Agency charged offences under POCA. Since then, he has successfully represented corporate clients, including major waste firms charged with breaching environmental permits and was instructed at first instance in *Thames Water Utilities Ltd [2015] EWCA Crim 960*.

Private Prosecution

Angus draws on his very substantial public prosecution experience to advise both corporate and private clients on the merits of and particular issues with bringing (or defending) a private prosecution. He is increasingly sought after by leading firms to provide advice and representation to HNW individuals and companies (based here or overseas) who wish to protect their interests by way of private criminal proceedings in the UK. Angus has particular experience of advising in cases which are related to commercial litigation and where jurisdictional and other complex issues arise.

Example cases:

R (Deripaska) v DPP [2020] EWHC 2918 (Admin)

Acted for Oleg Deripaska in his private prosecution of a former associate arising from commercial court proceedings and in the related judicial review proceedings. Led by Jonathan Laidlaw KC and instructed by RPC LLP.

Re: Vitaly Orlov

Acted for Vitaly Orlov in his private prosecution of a former associate arising from commercial court proceedings. Led by Richard Whittam KC and instructed by Macfarlanes LLP.

Asif v Ditta [2021] EWCA Crim 1091

Successfully represented a solicitor facing a wasted costs application following the staying of a private prosecution of which he had conduct. Instructed by RPC LLP.

Public Prosecution

Angus is a member of the SFO A Panel, a CPS level 4 prosecutor and a member of the CPS Fraud and Serious Crime panels, both also at level 4. He is instructed as leading counsel in high-profile, sensitive and often multi-handed trials where specialist knowledge is required.

Example cases:

Simms-Davies and others

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Instructed pre- and post-charge in SFO prosecution of individuals for bribery relating to contracts obtained in the commercial office fit-out industry (returned pre-trial).

Byrne and others [2021] EWCA Crim 107

Instructed to resist appeal (part of consolidated hearing) following revelation of professional failings by carbon credit expert relied on at trial.

Elgzaly and 13 others

Led for the Crown in a series of trials concerning the targeting of high-value vehicles in London and their export to criminal networks abroad, exploiting a loophole in the DVLA process. Instructed by CPS IJOCD.

Mysliwiec and others

Led for the Crown in a case of blackmail, false imprisonment and armed robbery committed by a Polish businessman against accountants in London.

Accreditations



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Appointments & Memberships

- SFO Panel A
- CPS External Advocates Panel Grade 4
- Criminal Bar Association
- Fraud Lawyers Association
- Private Prosecutors' Association
- Hardwicke & Wolfson Scholar of Lincoln's Inn

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