

Ella Ripper

Call: 2021



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Ella's practice encompasses criminal law, professional discipline and inquests.

Ella represents individuals and companies across the full spectrum of criminal offences. Recent instructions include human trafficking (acting for the first defendant), conspiracy to supply drugs of class A, firearms and serious sexual offences. Recent financial crime cases include acting for a director and her company over charges brought by HMRC, and, as a led junior in a trial at Southwark Crown Court, representing a banker accused of conspiring with five others to defraud an international bank.

She has a growing practice in licensing and regulatory crime in both the Magistrates' and Crown Court. She recently represented one of the UK's largest transport companies and is currently prosecuting one case involving £625k's worth of counterfeit goods, and another concerning fraudulent documentation submitted to a local authority.

Ella regularly acts on behalf of regulators and for medical professionals accused of serious misconduct, including dishonesty. She has appeared before the major healthcare regulators, including the MPTS and NMC. Her most recent fitness to practise hearing, heard for 4 weeks in total, comprised the defence of a clinical lead at an 85-bed care centre and involved the cross-examination of four CQC inspectors.

Ella frequently advises and represents interested persons at inquests, including medical professionals and Trusts. She recently represented a Trust in a 9-day Article 2 inquest, where 6 of the Trust's district nurses were called to give oral evidence.

Before coming to the Bar, Ella worked as a legal researcher in the white-collar crime department of Peters & Peters Solicitors LLP.

Expertise

Criminal Defence

Ella represents defendants in the Magistrates' Court, Youth Court and Crown Court. She has defended in cases in the Crown Court involving a range of offences including allegations of serious violence, drug supply and fraud.

Notable cases:

R v AW [2025]

Representing a young defendant in a conspiracy to supply over 11kg of class A drugs.

R v JB [2025]

Representing the first defendant in a multi-handed human trafficking/modern slavery case.

R v M [2025]

Represented a defendant found not guilty of coercive and controlling behaviour and assault by penetration following an 8-day trial. Key defence strategies included a successful s. 78 application and challenging disclosure failings, which significantly impacted the Prosecution's case.

R v GA [2024]

Represented one of the UK's largest transport companies at trial. The company was acquitted of a driving-related offence.

HMRC v M [2024]

Represented a company and its director in a case brought by HMRC alleging the unlawful supply of taxable goods/services in contravention of the VAT Act 1994.

R v T [2023] Southwark Crown Court

Led junior in a multi-handed conspiracy to defraud an international bank by their employers and external agents. Trial involved a high volume of documentary and banking evidence.

R v F [2023]

Female defendant, a mother of 4, given a suspended sentence order after pleading Guilty just before trial to running a class A drugs line. The starting point for sentence was 4 and a half years.

R v H [2023]

Representing the first defendant out of 5 accused of supplying over 1kg of Class A drugs with co-defendants running defences of modern slavery implicating Ella's client.

R v H [2023]

Acquittal of a heavily convicted defendant of non-fatal strangulation and assault.

R v E [2023]

Acting on behalf of a vulnerable defendant accused of the sexual grooming of a 12-year-old. The case involved fitness to plead concerns.

Inquests

Ella has a growing practice in this area. Her recent and current instructions include.

Notable cases:

Inquest into the death of C [2025]

Instructed to represent a Trust in a nine-day Article 2 inquest, involving significant amounts of expert medical evidence and legal argument. The Coroner called eight of the Trust's witnesses to give evidence, including six district nurses.

Inquest into the death of A [2024]

Representing a GP in an inquest where the deceased had been prescribed the wrong dosage of medication.

Inquest into the death of L [2024]

Instructed to represent a GP/psychiatric specialist in a 4-day inquest concerning the death of his patient.

Inquest into the death of T [2023]

Instructed to represent a GP in an inquest concerning the suicide of his patient.

Inquest into the death of JH [2023]

Instructed to advise on questions and an accompanying statement for a medical expert witness.

Professional Discipline

Ella has appeared in the MPTS, UKCP and NMC.

Notable cases:

GMC v P [2024]

Instructed to represent a doctor with serious mental health problems who was facing an interim suspension order.

GMC v S [2024]

Ella was instructed by the MPTS to cross-examine a patient and her husband, who had been granted special measures, on behalf of a senior obstetrician.

NMC v P [2024]

Defence of a clinical lead at an 85-bed care centre at a 4-week FtP hearing. The NMC sought a 12-month suspension order, but the Panel were persuaded to impose a one-year caution (the shortest length of time that a caution order can be imposed for).

UKCP v HH [2023]

Prosecuting a psychoanalyst in the UK Council for Psychotherapist's first successful application for an interim suspension order.

NMC v T [2023]

Defence of a deputy manager of a rehabilitation centre accused of poor management.

NMC v DM [2023]

Defence of a nurse specialising in neo-natal care. Allegations concerned dishonesty.

Public Prosecution

Ella is a Grade 2 CPS Prosecutor.

Notable cases:

R v N [2025]

Prosecuting a bank robbery.

R v S [2024]

Ella prosecuted the director of a haulage business who falsified tachograph records, instructed by the DVSA. Ella has also appeared in various other private prosecutions alleging fraud on behalf of the DVSA.

Attorney General's Office in Jersey [2024]

Ella was instructed by the Attorney General of Jersey for six months, where she provided written advice on a range of criminal investigations (fraud, rape, importation of drugs and serious violence) at the pre-charge stage.

Consumer & Trading Standards

WB v O [2025]

Prosecuting a company and its director over forged documentation.

RBG v T [2024]

Prosecuting the trading of £625k's worth of counterfeit goods on behalf of a local authority.

LBI v NO [2024]

Prosecuting the trading of non-compliant cigarettes, electronic cigarettes and other items on behalf of a local authority. Expert evidence involved. Press release [here](#).

International, Sanctions & Extradition

Ella was recently instructed by the Attorney General of Jersey to provide pre-charge advice on numerous investigations, including a VAT fraud under legislative provisions that have never before been engaged.

Before coming to the Bar, Ella was a legal researcher at Peters & Peters. She specialised in international sanctions law, drafting a report for the Japanese government on AML enforcement in the UK and EU, making her uniquely placed to advise on matters that touch on both sanctions and criminal law.