Julian Blake

Call: 2006

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Julian reached national attention as Counsel to the Inquiry in the Post Office Horizon IT Inquiry, with The Times praising his "*firm but polite cross-examination*". In recognition of this work, as well as his representation of the Chief Medical Officer in the Covid-19 Inquiry and other prominent inquests and inquiries, he was awarded the Junior of the Year award by Chambers and Partners.

He has been consistently recommended in all the leading directories, with the most recent edition of Chambers and Partners commenting: *"His advocacy is phenomenal, and he has perfect judgement. Julian really is the real deal".*

Julian acts in a wide range of public law, information, media and technology (IMT) law, healthcare law and commercial law fields. As an experienced member of the Attorney General's 'A' Panel of Counsel, Julian has been involved in some of the Government's most complex and sensitive cases, including in several challenges before the Court of Appeal and Supreme Court. As set out in the Expertise section below, he has appeared in cases as varied as challenges to detention by UK forces in Afghanistan and Iraq, the resettlement of the Chagos Islanders, the leading financial sanctions challenge and a data breach involving one of the world's largest tech companies.

> ***His advocacy is phenomenal, and he has perfect judgement. Julian really is the real deal.***
>
> **CHAMBERS & PARTNERS, 2025**

Expertise

Corporate Crime & Criminal Justice

For the first decade of Julian's career, he appeared regularly in the Crown Court, both prosecuting and defending. He has subsequently developed a niche criminal practice, concentrating on public law challenges to corporate criminal investigations, data protection offences and other complex matters relating to the criminal justice system.

Examples of his work in this filed include:

ICO v Woodgate & Clark Ltd – ICO prosecution for offences of unlawfully obtaining personal data.

R v Timothy Power – insider trading by an executive of Belgo Restaurants.

Revell Read v SFO – Britain's biggest boiler room fraud.

Roberts v United Kingdom – ECHR challenge to jury impartiality.

Julian also acts in other matters relating to criminal justice more broadly, including inquests into the death of prisoners, challenges to prison categorisations and complex criminal appeals. He was an author of EU Law in Criminal Practice (Oxford University Press) and has acted as a practitioner editor of Blackstone's Criminal Practice.

> ***The advantage he has is that he is bringing in the perspective of criminal and regulatory knowledge. You can pick up the phone and bounce ideas off him any time, and he's an extremely user-friendly barrister.***
>
> CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS 2022

ICO v Woodgate & Clark Ltd

N/A

ICO prosecution for offences of unlawfully obtaining personal data.

R v Timothy Power

2008 EWHC 1583 (QB)

insider trading by an executive of Belgo Restaurants.

Revell Read v SFO

2008 EWHC 1583 (QB)

Britain's biggest boiler room fraud.

Roberts v United Kingdom

2008 EWHC 1583 (QB)

ECHR challenge to jury impartiality.

Achievements

News, Articles & Publications

Author, *EU Law in Criminal Practice*, OUP (2013)

Practitioner Editor, *Blackstone's Criminal Practice*, OUP (2015)

Contributor, *Miller on Contempt*, OUP (2017)

Contributor, *National Security Law,* OUP (2021)

Education

University of Cambridge, MA (Cantab)

Yale University, Fox International Fellowship

Other

Astbury Scholarship, Middle Temple

Lloyd Jacob Memorial Prize, Middle Temple

Former Editor of *Varsity* and President of the Junior Combination Room (JCR)

Prior to joining the Bar, Julian worked for the Foundation for Human Rights Initiative in Uganda, assisting offenders facing capital punishment. He is currently a Trustee of the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust.

> ***Julian is a truly outstanding advocate with compelling written work. He has an ability to block out the noise and laser in on the nub of the issue.***
>
> CHAMBERS & PARTNERS, 2025

> ***His advocacy is phenomenal, and he has perfect judgement. Julian really is the real deal.***
>
> CHAMBERS & PARTNERS, 2025

> ***Julian is an impressive and forceful advocate with a commanding presence.***
>
> CHAMBERS & PARTNERS, 2025

He is an exceptional advocate, who is highly persuasive and articulate. He presents complex legal arguments clearly and precisely.

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS, 2025

Attention to detail, very user friendly. Strong intellect.

LEGAL 500 2021

Extremely personable and great to work with

CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS 2019

The most user-friendly barrister I've ever instructed. He completely understands clients' concerns. He's always one step ahead and can predict things that'll come up.

CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS 2019

He has an enormous breadth of experience and understanding of a rapidly developing field and is very switched on.

LEGAL 500 2019

Very unassuming but massively hard-working, reliable and tough when required.

CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS 2020