



Tim Harris
Counsel, London

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Practice Areas

Litigation and Arbitration, Antitrust and Competition Regulation and Enforcement, Criminal Defense, FCPA/Anti-Corruption, Internal Investigations, Regulatory Compliance, Regulatory Enforcement, White Collar Defense and Regulation

Education

BPP Law School (LPC - Distinction, 2006; GDL Commendation, 2005);
Durham University (B.A. in History, Hons., 2001)

Bar Admissions

England & Wales (Solicitor-Advocate)

Tim Harris is a counsel in Cohen & Gresser's London office. His practice focuses on white collar criminal defence, including internal and regulatory investigations, regulatory enforcement, and financial crime compliance. He advises clients dealing with FCA supervisory examinations and enforcement action.

Tim advises on matters that traverse criminal and civil allegations - particularly litigation arising under various provisions of the Proceeds of Crime Act. He also has experience of successfully defending a number of clients against threatened and commenced private prosecutions.

Tim has been recognized by *The Legal 500 UK's 2022* guide in the areas of Fraud: White-Collar Crime (Advice to Individuals) and Regulatory Investigations and Corporate Crime (Advice to Corporates). In the guide's commentary, Tim's work is "singled out by clients."

Prior to joining C&G, Tim was an associate at Simmons & Simmons in London, where he represented a wide range of companies and individuals in complex financial crime and regulatory matters. During his career, he has been involved in a number of London's highest-profile investigations, trials, and public inquiries.

A significant component of Tim's practice focuses on non-contentious advice with respect to tax evasion, anti-bribery/ corruption, and anti-money laundering regulations. He has written widely on these subjects.

Tim has a keen interest in pro bono matters. He has, for instance, advised the London Air Ambulance service and appellants in litigation against the Department of Work and Pensions.

Tim received his undergraduate degree from Durham University and graduated from BPP Law School in London. He trained with Eversheds LLP (now Eversheds Sutherland), and then worked as a solicitor with Bark & Co Solicitors and Bank of America Merrill Lynch.

Tim is a Solicitor-Advocate with Higher Rights of Audience in the Criminal Courts.

Criminal Investigations

Tim has been involved in a number of London's highest-profile criminal investigations. His recent criminal experience includes:

- A FTSE-listed oil and gas services company under investigation by the SFO into alleged corrupt activity in the Middle East.
- A global pharmaceutical company in connection with an SFO and DoJ investigation into alleged bribes.
- Individuals concerned in SFO investigations into Serco, Tesco, Rolls Royce, Afren and Sweett.
- Two partners of a leading boutique law firm interviewed separately under caution.
- The Chairman of a concrete pipe company investigated by the CMA for alleged cartel activity.

Criminal Proceedings

Tim has represented a number of people in criminal proceedings, and at trial including:

- R v Adoboli - represented Mr. Adoboli, a former UBS trader, at trial.
- iSOFT - represented the former CEO of iSOFT Group plc, a FTSE 250 software company, charged by the FCA with conspiring to make false and misleading statements.
- Operation Tabernula - FCA insider dealing prosecution. This is the FCA's largest prosecution to date. Tim acted for a broker of an international institution.
- HMRC prosecution of individuals accused of conspiracy to cheat the Revenue in relation to a scheme to exploit gift aid tax provisions.
- The SFO prosecution of the former Chairman of Polly Peck PLC

Regulatory Instructions / Special Situations

Tim has acted for a variety of organizations responding to regulatory inquiries or engaging with regulators. His experience includes:

- Acting for a leading private bank responding to concerns raised by the Dubai Financial Services Authority regarding its local AML controls.
- Reviewing the AML and ABC systems and controls for a London branch of a European banking group following a proactive FCA inspection.
- Advising an international bank on civil recovery proceedings.
- Advising a professional services firm in connection with a joint select committees' inquiry into the collapse of BHS, retail group.
- Acting for the Solicitors Regulation Authority to investigate two law firms regarding their work acting for Iraqi clients.

Internal Investigations

Acted for companies investigating alleged misconduct carried out by staff, agents or third parties, including:

- A mining company investigating whistleblower allegations of unlawful acts committed against members of the local community near a mine site.
- A global insurance broker in an investigation of a suspected employee fraud.
- A professional services regulator to investigate the payment of certain expenses paid to the Chief Executive.

Activities and Affiliations

Member, Fraud Lawyers Association

Member, Financial Services Lawyers Association