



Brian McConnachie KC

Year of Call: 1994

Year of Silk: 2005

Before coming to the Bar, Brian was a solicitor in private practice in Perth for around ten years. After calling he became a very busy Junior Counsel in the criminal courts both in trials and in the Appeal Court. In 2002 he was appointed as an Advocate Depute and two years later a Senior Advocate Depute. In 2006 he was appointed Principal Advocate Depute having overall practical responsibility for the prosecution of High Court crime in Scotland. During his time in Crown Office he successfully prosecuted many high profile cases: Robbie McIntosh (a 15 year old boy who murdered a lady on the Law Hill in Dundee stabbing her numerous times); Mohammed Atif Siddique (the first Scottish Islamic terrorist); Michael Ross (a Black Watch soldier who, aged 15, shot and murdered a waiter in Orkney); Juan Crispin (a Spanish waiter who murdered a fellow employee in Di Maggios restaurant in Glasgow).

After leaving Crown Office Brian quickly became one of the busiest Senior Counsel in Scotland in both criminal trials and in the Appeal Court. As well as having excellent legal knowledge and finely honed court craft Brian is approachable, friendly and communicates well with everyone from the client to the judge. He has well practised negotiation skills particularly so after his significant spell in Crown Office. As well as continuing to be instructed in Scotland's highest profile cases he has recently been instructed in equally high profile inquiry work.

Areas of Practice

Criminal Trials

Childrens' Referrals

Post conviction proceedings

Human Rights

FAI & Public Inquiries

Road Traffic Violations

Health & Safety

Wildlife Crime

Selected Cases

Sheku Bayoh Public Inquiry. Instructed to represent former Police Officer Alan Paton who was involved in the incident that resulted in the death of Mr. Bayoh in police custody.

HM Advocate v Christopher Harrison. Senior Counsel for the accused in this cold case murder involving the death of scientist Dr. Brenda Page at the hands of her former husband.

HM Advocate v Andrew Innes Senior Counsel for the accused in a case involving the murder of a mother and child and the abduction of another child.

M9 Fatal Accident Inquiry Senior Counsel instructed on behalf of the father of Mr. Yuill who died in a motor vehicle which went off the road near Stirling. The incident was reported to the police but the vehicle was not discovered for several days due to system failures.

Gubinas v HM Advocate Senior Counsel for the appellant in 5 Judge Appeal which altered the way in which CCTV evidence could be used evidentially.

Appointments and memberships

Advocate Depute 2002-2004

Senior Advocate Depute 2004-2006

Principal Advocate Depute 2006-2009

Vice Chairman of Criminal Bar Association 2011-2015

Chairman of Criminal Bar Association 2015-2017