

Natalie Sherborn

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Natalie is a partner in the white collar defence and investigations team with a wealth of experience dealing with all aspects of financial crime and other serious conduct issues.

Natalie advises both corporations and individuals facing scrutiny by regulatory bodies and law enforcement agencies as prosecutors increasingly place corporates, business owners and executives in the cross hairs. She regularly leads complex global corporate investigations and advises on reporting issues that arise for listed and privately held companies. Natalie also has significant experience dealing with financial crime involving cryptocurrency and digital assets.

She is an experienced trial lawyer, having been in independent practice at the Criminal Bar prior to entering private practice, and is well placed to advise throughout the lifespan of a matter from pre-investigation to prosecution. Natalie brings deep experience of crisis management, devising reputational defence strategies that minimise exposure and potential risks, both pre-emptively and responsively, enabling her to counsel clients in respect of the substantive issues, whilst seeking to mitigate reputation threats. This can include crisis such as cyber-breaches.

Recent instructions received include leading internal investigations into criminal and regulatory breaches, advising on external investigations by law enforcement agencies and regulators including the NCA, SFO, NATIS, HMRC, FCA, DOJ and SEC. She represents a number of corporates granted interested party status in coroner's inquests.

Co-counsel have described Natalie as "really impressive", "experienced in sensitive work" and "an expert at avoiding risks to the client".

Natalie has been consistently recognised in the leading legal directories. She is a recommended lawyer in the

Legal 500, in the Regulatory Investigations and Corporate Crime, Fraud (Advice to Individuals), Contentious Financial Services and Art categories and in Chambers UK Financial Crime: Corporates where she has been noted for her "significant knowledge of cross-border investigations and managing global investigations". Natalie has been most recently recognised as one of the world's leading practitioners in the Who's Who Legal: Investigations 2023 guide.

In 2017, Natalie featured as a rising star in The Lawyer's Hot 100 2017, an annual report recognising "the most daring, innovative and creative lawyers from in-house, private practice and the Bar", where she was one of only six non-partners in private practice included in the index. Natalie appears in the Citywealth "Leaders List" as well as winning the "Reputation Lawyer of the Year" award in 2016.

Track record

Instructions received to advise the

Instructions received to advise the directors and the audit chair of a financial services firm in the context of employee fraud within an overseas subsidiary, restatement of company accounts and repeated failure to comply with the Companies Act. Advised on engagement with auditors, regulators and in respect of a complaint to the ICAEW. Successfully represented a number of directors facing prosecution for offences under the Companies Act.

Representing an ex-Member of Parliament

Representing an ex-Member of Parliament facing a large number of allegations of bullying.

Conducted an internal investigation into

Conducted an internal investigation into bribery concerns arising in respect of a contract for services with the Libyan government.

Advising a business in respect

Advising a business in respect of significant suspected incorrect revenue recognition practices and internal investigation into senior management.

Internal investigation into fraud, tax

Internal investigation into fraud, tax avoidance and suspected bribery by a corporate client's Latin American subsidiary.

Advised an UHNWI in respect

Advised an UHNWI in respect of potential criminal implications arising in relation to several private art related transactions.

Representing an FCA regulated director

Representing an FCA regulated director of an AIM listed entity on an investigation into regulatory breaches.

Advising on suspected incorrect revenue

Advising on suspected incorrect revenue recognition practices and senior management level fraud within a listed company. Advising on approval of the company accounts and dealings with its auditors, regulators and law enforcement agencies.

Conduct of a series of

Conduct of a series of complex and parallel internal investigations into allegations of bribery, corruption, fraud, false accounting and tax evasion for a European headquartered corporate with global operations.

Representing UHNWI, the alleged mastermind

Representing UHNWI, the alleged mastermind of a multi-billion-dollar financial scandal involving fraud and corruption. Adverse parties include government agencies worldwide ranging from the UK, US, Switzerland, Singapore, Hong Kong, UAE and Malaysia.

Advising global firm head quartered

Advising global firm head quartered in London facing intense scrutiny from a Parliamentary Select Committee, the European Parliament, and international media publications. Facing calls for a criminal investigation in respect of allegations of breach of electoral laws, corruption and facilitating money laundering.

Advising the ex-senior executive of

Advising the ex-senior executive of a political consulting firm in respect of an ongoing data scandal.

Instructed by a Premiership Football

Instructed by a Premiership Football Club to conduct an expedited internal investigation into widespread allegations of gross misconduct.

Lead lawyer instructed by the

Lead lawyer instructed by the CEO of a UK Business Group to conduct an internal investigation into whistle-blower allegations. Responsible for drafting terms of reference, evidence gathering and drafting a detailed report of findings and recommendations to be presented to the Board. Subsequently providing reputation advice in respect of related employment tribunal proceedings.

Advising a business management consultancy

Advising a business management consultancy facing allegations of serious misconduct regarding the securing of foreign aid contracts.

Representing a company director /

Representing a company director / political party member at the party's internal disciplinary proceedings. Liaising with senior members of the party; the party's disciplinary committee, the ICO and the police. Providing reputation advice regarding allegations of push polling and breach of data protection legislation during a political leadership campaign.

Talks

- Instrumental in developing and extending a crisis management offering in respect of internal and external Investigations and is known as a "thought leader" in this area. Regularly called upon to advise and train clients on incident response and a "seasoned speaker" on compliance, internal investigations and reputation management. Frequently invited to present domestically and internationally and a guest lecturer at the University of Brazil on UK Anti-bribery and corruption.

External publications

Numerous articles published in client forums and print media, most recently including Global Investigations Review, PR Week, Financier Worldwide, Legal Journal, The Law Gazette and Out-Law.

Co-author of the UK chapter of GIR's Practitioner's Guide to Global Investigations 2021 and 2022

Admissions

England and Wales, 2000

Education

King's College, London - LLB Law, 1997

Inns of Court School of Law - Bar Vocational Course (BVC), 2000

Languages

English

Memberships

The Honourable Society of Gray's Inn

Fraud Lawyers' Association

Private Prosecutors' Association

Fraud Advisory Panel

Key dates

Year joined: 2022

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