

MATTHEW SNARR



YEAR OF CALL

2001, Inner Temple

EDUCATION

LLB (Hons), University of Manchester

ASSOCIATIONS

Health and Safety Lawyers Association
Personal Injury Bar Association
Employment Law Bar Association

APPOINTMENTS

Junior Counsel to the Crown (Provincial) –
“Treasury Counsel”

HEALTH & SAFETY PROFILE

Matthew Snarr is very experienced in the field of health and safety law with a particular emphasis on alleged breaches of health and safety legislation in the workplace.

His knowledge of this area stems from his well developed personal injury practice which regularly concerns breaches of statutory legislation in an industrial context. Matthew is conversant with the handling of costs arguments in the criminal courts.

Matthew’s practice in the field of health and safety laws extends to acting both for the Health and Safety Executive as well as Defendant companies or individuals. Matthew has experience of prosecuting and defending complicated sentences in the Crown Court and the Magistrates’ Court.

Matthew’s regulatory practice extends to acting in difficult inquests ranging from multiple fatalities in road traffic accidents to death in custody to fatal injuries at work. His Coroners Court trial experience covers the full spectrum of work from judicial review applications to multi-day jury trials.

NOTABLE CASES

- *HSE v IAC Ltd* [2011] Consett Magistrates’ Court, instructed to act on behalf of a construction firm charged with a breach of s.2 of HSWA leading to serious injuries to the complainant following a fall from scaffolding.
- *Pembrokeshire CC v A restaurant* [2010] Haversford West Magistrates’ Court, instructed to present plea in mitigation on behalf of a restaurant business relating to admitted multiple breaches of food hygiene legislation and gas safety offences.
- *Traffic Commissioner v SSS Ltd* [2010] Instructed to represent a company at a

public inquiry to defend its operator’s license to continue its haulage business after an inspection by VOSA. The company successfully retained its haulage license.

- *HSE v JHS Group* [2009] Ormskirk Magistrates’ Court, instructed on behalf of two partners prosecuted under s.2 of HSWA in respect of an accident in which the injured party fell from scaffolding at height resulting in a fractured neck.
- *HSE v The Elliot Group* [2009] Welshpool Magistrates. Court, acted as junior counsel on behalf the Defendant facing charges under s.2 and s.3 of HSWA arising out of a fatal accident. Prosecution case discontinued after 3 days, successfully resulting in not guilty verdicts and defendant costs orders.
- *R (on the application of Bodycote HIP Ltd) v HM Coroner for Herefordshire* [2008] EWHC 164 (Admin) – Matthew was instructed as junior counsel with Tim Horlock QC in a successful judicial review action concerning a jury’s finding of unlawful killing by gross negligence against a company. The judicial review concerned argument on the legal framework of corporate manslaughter.
- *HSE v Airbags International Limited* [2008] Chester Crown Court, instructed on behalf of HSE to present prosecution sentence against a Defendant company responsible for failings under s.2 of HSWA resulting in amputation of employee’s arm.
- *HSE v Edbro Machine Tools Limited* [2008] Stafford Magistrates’ Court, instructed on behalf of manufacturing company to mitigate sentence for admitted breaches under Supply of Machinery (Safety) Regulations 1992.



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PUBLICATIONS

'Proving it in reverse' *New Law Journal* 13th
March 2009 p390-392 , co-author of legal article
on the ramifications of *R v Chagot* [2008]
UKHL 73.

Matthew regularly presents seminars on topical
issues in health and safety law.



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