



Brian Spiro - Partner

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"Brian Spiro is 'very measured, calm and experienced, someone you can build a relationship of confidence with very quickly' ... experienced in handling sensitive matters for wealthy and high-profile individuals." He is described as having "'a good international practice. He is calm and assured. A tremendously confidence-inspiring solicitor.'" (Chambers High Net Worth, 2016)

"Praised for his 'strategic judgement' Brian Spiro is recognised by the market as being 'a true criminal lawyer'. He regularly handles cases brought by the SFO, HMRC and CPS, and has experience in international matters. ... Peers identify Brian Spiro as 'an excellent all-round criminal lawyer'. His practice straddles general crime and criminal fraud." (Chambers UK, 2015)

"Pre-eminent status in the white-collar arena ... [with] a dynamic crossover knowledge he is famous for ... clients describe him as 'courageous' and 'a man to have on your side if you're feeling nervous ... Incisive, calm, enormously experienced, thorough, dependable and able'." (Spear's 500, 2015)

"He ... is the 'lawyer of choice' for those facing high stakes matters. He is 'especially strong' on SFO, Crown Prosecution Service and HM Revenue & Customs prosecutions and investigations, and clients value his 'originality and ability to think on his feet'." (Who's Who Legal, 2014)

"The 'really excellent' Brian Spiro considered 'particularly eminent' in the legal market." (Who's Who Legal, 2014)

"... commended for his 'superb client-handling skills'." (The Legal 500, 2014)

"'Leading practitioner' Brian Spiro is considered a 'star' in the field. Sources admire his 'calmness under pressure' and 'savvy' approach, describing him as 'unflappable and realistic'. He is sought after to advise international clients on bribery and corruption issues." (Chambers UK, 2014)

"Brian Spiro has an excellent reputation for handling complex white-collar defence work. Sources describe him as 'a very clear-thinking lawyer who brings a distilled and pragmatic approach to his work ... [He] is highlighted for his ability to 'keep his cool in a crisis' and for his 'very hands-on' approach." (Chambers UK, 2014)

"Brian Spiro is 'a star' ... who is 'particularly good with clients'. ... He is an experienced fraud lawyer who has 'seen it all before' and is 'immensely responsive'. Sources single out his ability to instil calm and confidence in clients, even in difficult circumstances." (Chambers UK, 2013)

"Sources remark upon the ease with which he handles the needs of such a variety of clients and single him out as a great lawyer ... 'one of the elder statesmen of the criminal legal world'." (Chambers UK, 2013)

Brian Spiro specialises in "high loss" business crime litigation, fraud and regulatory matters including Serious Fraud Office, Crown Prosecution Service and HM Revenue & Customs prosecutions and investigations. He has expertise in international law including mutual legal assistance in criminal matters,

environmental offences and breach of UN sanctions. He is also noted for his work in advising media organisations on crime and related matters and his representation of high profile individuals.

Brian graduated from the University of Nottingham with an LLB (Hons) in 1980. After a period as a parliamentary adviser working in the House of Commons, he trained as a solicitor with Clifford Chance and Simons Muirhead & Burton, London. He qualified as a Solicitor of the Supreme Court of England & Wales in 1984 and was made a partner of Simons Muirhead & Burton in 1986 where he stayed until joining BCL as a partner in 2001.

Brian was a member of the Law Society's sub-committee and chair of the London Criminal Court Solicitors' Association sub-committee responding to the UK government's recent proposals on fraud law reform. He was also chair of the London Criminal Court Solicitors' Association sub-committee responding to the Home Office's proposals for reform of the law against bribery and corruption. He is the lead author of the Police Station Adviser's Index (a practitioners' textbook on police station procedures, Thomson Sweet & Maxwell), now in its 4th edition, and has acted as an international consultant to the WHO, the UN and the British Council on criminal law matters.

Brian is Chair of the Business Crime Committee of the International Bar Association and a member of the City of Westminster Law Society, the Law Society of England & Wales, Lawyers for Liberty and the London Criminal Courts Solicitors' Association. He is a regular writer and commentator on criminal law and related issues.

