



## Police Stations & Magistrates' Courts

**"Clients praise the lawyers' personal touch that really makes you feel like ... your case is the only one they're dealing with"** (Chambers UK)

"...the evidence obtained during...[the investigation]...stage determines the framework in which the offence charged will be considered at the trial...an accused often finds himself in a particularly vulnerable position...this particular vulnerability can only be properly compensated for by the assistance of a lawyer..." - European Court of Human Rights

A person who is arrested or required for interview under caution has the right to seek legal advice from a solicitor and we strongly recommend anyone in this position to seek expert legal assistance without delay.

For many individuals, their reputation is crucial. Expert legal advice from the outset can mean the difference between being arrested and being interviewed voluntarily - an important distinction that can have a significant impact on a person's professional and personal life and ability to obtain a visa. Regularly, we successfully submit to investigating authorities that it is not necessary to arrest our clients, thereby avoiding the taking of DNA samples, fingerprints and photographs - and in some cases the imposition of onerous bail conditions. When necessary, we also have considerable experience in media/reputation management.

How a suspect chooses to respond when first arrested or interviewed under caution can shape the future of an investigation and any subsequent prosecution; taking expert legal advice prior to interview and making the right decisions can be crucial to the outcome. It could make the difference between being prosecuted and being released without charge; or, if prosecuted, the difference between conviction and acquittal.

If prosecuted, we offer a continuous service, including advice and representation in the Magistrates' Court and the Crown Court. Our team has extremely experienced and talented advocates who appear regularly in the Magistrates' Courts and a number of our lawyers have higher rights of audience to appear in the Crown Court. In addition, over the years, we have also developed excellent working relationships with the finest barristers in the profession.

**"as far as the white collar crime and regulation sector goes, you name it, BCL has advised on it"**

(Legal Business Awards)

**"One of the largest teams in the UK, market sources point to the deep pedigree of the outfit"**

(Chambers UK)

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