

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

ALLISON CLARE QC, RED LION CHAMBERS



PROFESSIONAL OVERVIEW

Allison Clare QC is Head of the Business Crime & Fraud Group at Red Lion Chambers. Allison specialises in all aspects of corruption, fraud and money laundering with a particular expertise and interest in corporate liability and deferred prosecution agreements.

She advises and defends both corporates and company directors in complex corruption and fraud investigations. Allison recently wrote an article for the New Law Journal on the adequate procedures defence under the Bribery Act 2010 and edits two chapters in Archbold. Allison also penned a guest blog for the Bar Council about the Bar's gender pay gap and the underrepresentation of female barristers in contested complex fraud cases. Allison's recent trial work includes leading the successful defence of an investment fraud.

Ranked in Chambers & Partners as a leader in in Financial Crime for both Corporates and Individuals. Chambers & Partners note: *"She is absolutely first-class and a very bright fraud specialist", "Absolutely outstanding", "She is tremendously impressive, and commands respect."* Also ranked in the Legal 500 in Business and Regulatory Crime (including Global Investigations) and Fraud. According to the Legal 500, *"Allison is fabulous. Her advice is always of the highest quality. She is down to earth and a pleasure to instruct."*

Allison is also Mum to three teenage girls.

Q1. WHY THE FEMALE FRAUD FORUM?

I first joined the FFF at the very start of my career when I was trying to build a fraud practice. It was a really welcoming, encouraging and relaxed group. This good experience at the start of my career spurred me on to rejoin more recently. It remains a great way to get to know and support other women doing similar work, share ideas and socialise. In my most recent fraud trial, there were finally more female silks defending than male silks. I think being part of the FFF can help make parity in representation the norm rather than the exception.

Q2. WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE MEMORY?

Finally getting to have a silks party this year, after all the lockdowns. It was great to reconnect and share a glass with so many people from lots of different cases over many years. Whether you are working for someone, alongside them, against them or appearing in front of them, they can all teach you how to do something better. My three girls came to the party as well, which was great fun.

Q3. WHAT CAREER ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE YOUR YOUNGER SELF?

Watch and learn.