

# LEIGH LAWRIE

## YEAR OF CALL

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2010

## EDUCATION

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- LLM in Human Rights Law (Distinction), Kings College, London
- Diploma in Legal Practice, University of Edinburgh
- LLB (Hons), University of Edinburgh

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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- **Applications under the Double Jeopardy (Scotland) Act 2011:** expertise in the drafting and arguing of applications under the Double Jeopardy (Scotland) Act 2011. Instructed as junior counsel to the Lord Advocate in the first application to be made under the 2011 Act, *HMA v. Sinclair*, and in the subsequent successful prosecution known as the World's End murder trial. Also instructed as junior counsel in the second successful application to be made under the Act, *HMA v. Coulter et al.*, which concerned the 1998 murder of Surjit Singh Chhokar.
- **Criminal cases of high complexity:** junior counsel to the Lord Advocate in an appeal before 7 judges regarding the operation of section 258(4A) of the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995.
- **International Criminal Court:** currently instructed in two cases before the ICC. Instructed as defence counsel in the team representing the Deputy President of Kenya, Mr William Ruto, and also part of the defence team representing the Darfuri revolutionary, Abdallah Banda Abakaer Nourain.
- **The Special Court for Sierra Leone:** part of the prosecution team (first instance and appeal) which prosecuted the former President of Liberia, Charles Taylor.
- Former commercial lawyer in private practice.

## AREAS OF PRACTICE

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- Criminal Trials
- Criminal Appeals
- Human Rights and Devolution Issues
- International Public Law
- International Criminal Law
- Humanitarian Law
- Public Law
- Terrorism

#### SELECTED CASES

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*HMA v. Sinclair* [2014] HCJAC 131 – junior counsel to the Lord Advocate in the first application to be made under the Double Jeopardy (Scotland) Act 2011; application was based on new forensic evidence and sought the retrial of an accused previously acquitted of the World’s End murders

*HMA v. Coulter et al.* [2014] HCJAC – junior counsel for the Crown in the second application to be made under the Double Jeopardy (Scotland) Act 2011

*Beck v. HMA* [2013] HCJAC 51 - junior counsel in a historic criminal appeal against conviction. The appeal was referred to the criminal appeal court following a successful application to the Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commission

*Prosecutor v. Charles Ghankay Taylor*, 2012 – part of the prosecution team which successfully convicted the former President of Liberia, Charles Taylor, for crimes against humanity and war crimes committed by rebel forces in Sierra Leone. Taylor was sentenced to 50 years in prison