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FIVE ST ANDREW'S HILL

+44 (0) 207 332 5400

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Seth Levine

YEAR OF CALL: 2001



Seth is an experienced barrister who has acted in the most serious and high-profile cases across multiple jurisdictions.

Overview

Seth is an experienced barrister, having worked across multiple jurisdictions, including London, New York, Africa and the Caribbean.

Seth's breadth and depth of experience reflect his strengths as a persuasive advocate, strategic advisor and technical lawyer. He has particular expertise in:

extradition

serious crime

sanctions
multi-jurisdictional financial crime
asset forfeiture & proceeds of crime
professional discipline
military law and
public law (international & domestic)

Seth has detailed working knowledge and specialist insight into the architecture and functioning of **regulatory law** and activity, investigations and prosecutions at the international level and the policy influences which guide them. The diversity of his experience makes him exceptionally well-placed to advise and represent in cases that concern the **intersections between domestic and international law; the private and public sectors and criminal and civil law.**

Seth has a proven track record as a **criminal advocate**, domestically and internationally, for the prosecution and defence. **He has acted in the most serious and high-profile cases on three continents, including complex financial crime, terrorism, war crimes, murder, trafficking, and sexual violence.**

He has expertise and experience in several areas that are complementary to criminal law, including **human rights, disciplinary** and **employment matters, police law, prison law, inquests and inquiries, immigration, military discipline, the law of armed conflict, the law of the seas, the law of international organisations and regulatory law**.

Seth has detailed working knowledge of the architecture and functioning of entities that impact obligations and rights internationally, including the **UN Security Council**, the **UN Human Rights Council**, the **International Court of Justice**, the **International Committee of the Red Cross**, **Interpol**, regional **Financial Action Task Force**s and **The Egmont Group of Financial Intelligence Units.**

Seth has appeared in numerous reported cases before the **Administrative Division** of the **High Court of England and Wale**s, the **Supreme Court of Bermuda**, the **Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court**, the **United Nations Appeal Tribunal** and the **International Criminal Court.**

Professional Memberships

British Institute of International and Comparative Law (BIICL)

BIICL Business and Human Rights Forum

Defence Extradition Lawyers Forum

Nigeria Institute of Advanced Legal Studies

Extradition & International

Seth has nearly twenty years of experience working in extradition and related areas, representing and advising governments, individuals and organisations in the UK and globally. Seth was one of the first barristers to be seconded to the Crown Prosecution Service's Special Crime Division as an extradition and mutual legal assistance specialist in 2006. He appeared in many landmark cases under the 2003 Extradition Act relating to European Arrest Warrants.

As head counsel for the UN's peacekeeping Mission in the DRC, Seth drafted and implemented extradition arrangements for the surrender of individuals wanted for genocide and war crimes. As specialist counsel to the Governments of Bermuda and Anguilla, Seth was responsible for conducting import and export extraditions under the 2003 Act as applied to British Overseas Territories, including numerous cases resulting from allegations on the High Seas.

Asset Forfeiture, Confiscation & Civil Fraud

Seth has appeared in numerous complex and serious POCA cases domestically since the 2002 Act came into force. Working from the British High Commission in Abuja, he was responsible for advising on capacity building to prevent, detect and prosecute illicit financial flows in Nigeria and the wider region. In Bermuda, Seth worked as specialist counsel with responsibility for developing anti-money laundering and proceeds of crime prosecutions and ensuring regional Financial Action Task Force (FATF) compliance. He had conduct of complex, high-profile and high-value investigations, prosecutions and asset forfeiture spanning multiple jurisdictions and sectors, including wide-ranging proceedings flowing from a $500m tax fraud in the USA. In Anguilla, Seth acted in landmark POCA and forfeiture proceedings before the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court.

Business Crime & Financial Regulation

Seth has worked with businesses in regulated sectors in the UK, West Africa and the Caribbean. He has advised multinational companies including global cruise ship operators and insurers. He has prosecuted and defended complex business crime, often involving alleged compliance failures and breaches of fiduciary responsibilities.

Interpol & Sanctions

Interpol

Seth has worked with Interpol Red Notices in the UK, Europe, North America, the Caribbean, South America and Central and West Africa. Having had conduct of extradition and mutual legal assistance cases on behalf of Governments throughout their lifespan, he has particularly keen insight into the operation of Interpol in the regions where he has worked.

Sanctions

Seth has advised governments, international organisations and the private sector on Sanctions, from inception to compliance and enforcement, for over a decade. He has particular expertise on counter terrorism and weapons proliferation sanctions imposed by the UN Security Council and specific sanctions brought into force under the Sanctions and Anti-Money Laundering Act 2018, including the Russia (Sanctions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 and the Global Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law Sanctions Regulations 2026. Seth has recently advised on the applicability of exemptions under the Russia Sanctions in respect of oil extraction and export from Kurdish Iraq.

Criminal Defence & Criminal Prosecutions - Private & Public

As well as acting in some of the most serious and high-profile criminal cases domestically and in the various jurisdictions he has worked in, Seth has spent a considerable portion of his career providing training and capacity building in the field of criminal law and advocacy, including in West Africa and the

Caribbean. As such, he has a thoughtful and nuanced approach to the demands of different cases and tribunals. Seth is experienced in handling sensitive cases and vulnerable clients and witnesses, as well as representing individuals where reputational concerns are paramount.

Military law

Having spent many years working as a lawyer in active conflicts in Central and West Africa, on behalf of the United Nations, the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office and Adam Smith International, Seth is highly experienced in military law, particularly International Humanitarian Law (the Law of Armed Conflict) and armed forces accountability. He acted as the British High Commission in Nigeria's lead on legal frameworks relating to IHL, counter-terrorism, criminal justice and related areas in West Africa for a number of years. Previously, Seth was senior counsel to the UN's peacekeeping mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), responsible for all matters relating to the Mission's status as a party to the conflict under its Security Council mandate. Seth has provided training on IHL to UK and partner forces throughout West Africa. Seth's expertise in military law, combined with his experience as a criminal advocate and detailed knowledge of the Armed Forces Act 2006, makes him ideally placed to act in cases before the Service Justice System.

Professional Discipline & Regulatory

As counsel before UN Dispute and Appeals Tribunals in Nairobi, Geneva and New York, Seth has acted in numerous landmark disciplinary and regulatory cases, acting for UN personnel and the Secretary-General. In Anguilla, Seth has acted as leading counsel and advisor in disciplinary proceedings against senior police officers, prison officers and customs officials.

Immigration

Seth has significant experience of working internationally with those displaced by armed conflict, including children and victims of conflict-related sexual violence. He has worked with the FCDO, NGOs, the United Nations, the ICRC and other IGOs on encouraging adherence to international law, including the principle of non-refoulement under the 1951 Refugee Convention and other protections afforded by instruments such as the Palermo Protocol on human trafficking.

Judicial Review & Public Law

Seth is an experienced public law advocate, domestically and internationally. He has appeared in numerous cases before the Administrative Court where ECHR provisions have been in play, particularly relating to terms and conditions of detention.

In Bermuda, Seth acted as leading counsel in the Supreme Court in a judicial review of the power of the DPP to conduct criminal proceedings against barristers in parallel to disciplinary proceedings brought by the professional regulator. In Anguilla, Seth acted as leading counsel before the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court in a judicial review of the constitutional validity of forfeiture provisions of the Customs Act.

Working in the Caribbean, Seth developed a detailed understanding of the UN Convention on the Law of the Seas (UNCLOS), particularly in relation to obligations of flag states and vessel operators for the enforcement of criminal law. Together with his extensive knowledge of international criminal law instruments, Seth is well-placed to advise and represent governments, organisations and individuals who are impacted by these obligations.

Cases of Note

Clive Hodge v The King [2026]

Eastern Caribbean Court of Appeal – Leading counsel instructed by the Attorney General of Anguilla. Appeal against conviction for double murder after a guilty plea, said not to have been voluntary and to have been vitiated by ineffective assistance by trial counsel.

Re- PLC [2026]

Advised on a Trade Licence for an Anguilla-registered company to extract and export oil from Kurdish Iraq under an exemption pursuant to the Russia (Sanctions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 and the Sanctions and Anti-Money Laundering Act 2018 as applied to a British Overseas Territory.

Elianny Nieves Romero v The Comptroller of Customs [2026]

Eastern Caribbean Court of Appeal – Leading counsel, instructed by Attorney General of Anguilla. Landmark judicial review concerning provisions of The Customs Act that permit deemed forfeiture and

condemnation.

Sint Maarten v Rashaun Warner [2026]

Anguilla – Leading counsel for Sint Maarten in extradition request for attempted murder and firearms.

Attorney-General v Kirkland Spencer [2026]

Eastern Caribbean Court of Appeal – Junior Counsel for the AG, led by Terrence Williams KC (Jamaica). Landmark Caribbean appeal against evidentiary and terminatory rulings in jury trials.

The King v UR [2026]

Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court – Leading counsel in prosecution of $4m land trust fraud.

St Kitts and Nevis v Robert Wilson

Leading counsel in extradition proceedings in Anguilla seeking the return of a fugitive wanted for rape of 13 year old daughter.

The King v. Durham and Durham [2026]

Supreme Court of Bermuda – Leading counsel in judicial review and abuse of process hearing in the Supreme Court in relation to the Director of Public Prosecution's powers to initiate criminal charges, subsequent to regulatory investigation by the Bar Council into the same conduct.

Bermuda v. AO [2026]

Conduct of extradition proceedings on behalf of Bermuda relating to an alleged rape on a Bermudian-flagged cruise ship in international waters. Complex application of the territoriality provisions of the 2003 Extradition Act.

Bermuda v. YA [2025]

On behalf of the DPP of Bermuda, conduct of complex prosecution, extradition, recovery and criminal libel proceedings concerning the former CFO of a major international insurer.

Bermuda v. ET [2025]

Acting for the Government of Bermuda in a complex, multi-jurisdictional prosecution, extradition request and forfeiture proceedings regarding tax evasion and money laundering emanating from a $500m US

fraud.

The King v. RC (Philippines) [2025]

On behalf of the Government of Bermuda, conduct of extradition proceedings and prosecution relating to an alleged murder on a Bermudian-flagged cruise ship in international waters.

The King v. David Osadebay [2025]

Prosecuted high-profile musician charged with fraudulently entering Bermuda to distribute heroin.

United Nations & PDL [2015-17]

In-house lead for the UN Peacekeeping Mission in DRC in arbitration proceedings concerning a $1.2billion Jet A-1 fuel contract that was frustrated due to a failure to secure suitable, safe premises from the government of the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The Prosecutor of the ICC v. Bosco Ntaganda [2016-2017]• The Prosecutor of the ICC v. Bosco Ntaganda [2016-2017]

Relating to disclosure of the activities of the UN's Peacekeeping Mission in the DRC in the context of war crimes allegations (for the Secretary-General of the United Nations).

Applicant v. Secretary-General of the United Nations [2014] UNDT/2014/23

Appeal against dismissal for failure to perform functions by former staff member (for the Secretary-General).

Applicant v. Secretary-General of the United Nations [2013] UNDT/2013/131

Allegations of serious sexual misconduct in relation to peacekeeping operations in Côte d'Ivoire (for the Applicant).

Bali v. Secretary-General of the United Nations [2013] UNDT/2013/094

Complex litigation concerning the closure of the UN's peacekeeping mission in Sudan and transition to a new mission in South Sudan (for the Applicant).

Finniss v. Secretary-General of the United Nations [2012] UNDT/2012/200

Lead counsel in landmark litigation establishing improper selection processes vitiated by bias, leading to substantial damages and specific relief (for the Applicant).

Najmrodzki v District Court in Sieradz Poland [2011] EWHC 935 (Admin)

Oppression and Article 3 (for the Requested Person).

R (Smith) v. Uxbridge Magistrates' Court [2010] 3 WLUK 417

Regarding the scope of detention under Section 152 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988 and the application of Article 3 ECHR (for the Applicant).

Gabriel v Court of First Instance and Instruction No1 of Cadiz, Spain [2009] All ER (D) 10 (Jun)

Particularisation of EAWs (for the Requested Person).

McCormack v. Tribunal De Grande Instance, Quimper, France [2008] EWHC 1453 (Admin)

Authority establishing whether a person who had not reached the status of mise en examen in the French judicial process was an accused person for the purposes of the Extradition Act 2003 (for the Requested Person).

Calder v. The Public Prosecutor's Office of Landshut, Germany [2006] EWHC 2921 (Admin)

Whether a 14-year gap between multiple allegations of rape and extradition was unjust or oppressive (for the Requesting Authority).