



## **BIOGRAPHY OF JASON SUGARMAN QC RS LEGAL STRATEGY LIMITED**

Jason Sugarman QC is the Managing Director of RS Legal Strategy Limited. He has 21 years' experience as a commercial fraud specialist, with expertise in corporate criminal matters, financial crime, and corruption.

Originally from Brighton, Sugarman's first job was at his father's meat factory aged 16. His interest in law developed at a critical time – during his studies, his father's business was suing a large US company for theft of a commercial trade secret. Jason spent 3 months in the US supporting his father's legal team, playing an instrumental role in discovering fabricated evidence that made them successful in their case, winning significant damages for the family business.

After studying History and Politics at Durham University, Jason went on to obtain a Diploma in Law from the University of Westminster. As a barrister, Jason initially prosecuted sexual assault, murder, child abuse and other criminal cases. He then specialised in financial fraud cases, including money laundering, investor fraud, corruption and VAT fraud, both prosecuting for HMRC and defending against the Serious Fraud Office. Since the early 2000s, Jason has worked on some of the most significant white-collar cases in the UK, representing and advising both governments and multinational corporations from other jurisdictions.

Jason met his business partner Mark Rainsford QC in 2003, when Mark was brought in as Jason's lead counsel on a money laundering case prosecuted by HM Customs Revenue. Jason had lost his leader only two weeks before the trial, but Mark pulled the team together in two weeks, learned the case inside out, and won it together with Jason. In 2013 they would work together again on a number of cases, successfully defending former senior partner of Fox Hayes LLP, Robert Manning, charged by the SFO of major corruption, and Hong Kong businessman James Sutherland, who was charged with laundering £100m.

Both Mark and Jason believe the Bar has been too inaccessible and remote from the individuals ultimately represented by it. Seeing the changes taking effect in the legal system, which allows direct access between clients and barristers, they decided to create an innovative law firm concept, contributing to a more accessible legal system where Barristers can be involved at an earlier stage of litigation.

RS Legal offers a unique range of professional expertise under one roof, including former senior law enforcement officers, criminal and commercial solicitors, Queen's Counsel and a former senior judge available for corporate clients. The experience and seniority of RS Legal's professionals enables clients to develop effective case strategies from the outset, maximising the potential for the best possible outcome.

Jason is passionate about politics and has stood as a candidate for Parliament on three separate occasions. He is currently looking forward to standing again for a fourth time. Jason spends his leisure time with his wife and two daughters, and regularly walks his Dutch Spaniel Bella on Barnes Common.