



News(<https://www.legalcheek.com/news/>)

'Her credentials speak for themselves': CPS chief Alison Saunders to join Linklaters

By Thomas Connelly (<https://www.legalcheek.com/author/thomas-connelly/>)

Apr 3 2018 11:24am

18

Magic circle bound after controversial five-year tenure



The Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP), Alison Saunders, will join magic circle outfit [Linklaters](https://www.linklaters.com) (https://www.legalcheek.com) end of her five-year tenure as the head of the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS), in October.

Saunders — who was only the second woman to hold the post when she was appointed as DPP in 2013 — will join Linklaters as a partner in its business crime team. Michael Bennett, Linklaters' global head of dispute resolution, said Saunders' "credentials speak for themselves, and she will be a fantastic asset to the team, and to our clients". He continued:

"She has a wealth of prosecution experience and is accustomed to dealing with regulators and counterparts at the highest level globally. She is an excellent fit for Linklaters' dispute resolution ambitions."

Saunders studied law at the University of Leeds before going on to complete pupillage and qualify as a barrister. Joining the CPS in 1986, the Aberdeen-born lawyer worked her way up the ranks to become chief crown prosecutor for Sussex in 2001, and deputy legal advisor to the Attorney General in 2003. She held the role of chief crown prosecutor from 2009 until 2013. While here, Saunders oversaw the successful prosecution of Stephen Lawrence's killers.

Her stint as DPP was not without controversy. She faced calls to resign in June 2015 following her decision not to charge Labour peer Lord Janner with alleged child sex offences (her decision was later overturned following an independent review headed up by 6KBW's David Perry QC). More recently, Saunders came under fire after [several rape trials collapsed](https://www.legalcheek.com/lc-journal-posts/rape-disclosure-failings-are-no-surprise-the-criminal-justice-system-is-crashing-down-around-us/) (https://www.legalcheek.com/lc-journal-posts/rape-disclosure-failings-are-no-surprise-the-criminal-justice-system-is-crashing-down-around-us/) because of disclosure failings.

Focusing on the positives of Saunders' tenure, a CPS spokesperson said:

"The criminal justice landscape is changing rapidly, as crime trends shift and courts become digital. Under Alison Saunders' leadership, the CPS has adapted to that changing environment, maintaining performance without compromising our core principles of independence and fairness."

Saunders' upcoming move to Linklaters will likely come with a pay rise. She earned £200,000 in salary and an additional £42,000 in pension benefits at the CPS last year, according to reports. Linklaters' latest set of financials show that profit per equity partner (PEP) currently stands at a whopping £1.57 million.

Recruitment for Saunders' successor will begin later this month. The post has been held previously by barristers include Keir Starmer, Ken Macdonald and David Calvert-Smith.

Criminal Prosecution Service(<https://www.legalcheek.com/tag/criminal-prosecution-service/>)

Linklaters(<https://www.legalcheek.com/tag/linklaters/>)

Solicitors(<https://www.legalcheek.com/tag/solicitors/>)

()

18 Comments

Anonymous

Apr 3 2018 11:35am

I blame government cuts not her!

(6)  

Legal Cheek (https://www.legalcheek.com)
Section 32(1)(b) of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994

Apr 3 2018 3:15pm

Absolutely! Government cuts forced Saunders to instruct prosecutors to treat rape suspects as guilty until proven innocent. Given the lack of funds at their disposal, how could they possibly do otherwise? Actually investigating crimes is really expensive, but if you just presume guilt, it saves a lot of money.

Some have pointed out that the CPS, under Saunders, repeatedly failed to disclose evidence that would have exonerated suspects much earlier in the process (thereby costing the public purse untold sums in wasted costs). But they (including the judge who recommended an investigation at the highest levels of Saunders' CPS) are just nit-pickers. After all, who cares about justice, or sensible spending of public money, when there is an agenda to pursue?

(51) 

Anonymoose

Apr 3 2018 10:23pm

Isn't it mostly the remit of the police to investigate crimes and disclose all evidence uncovered in the investigation to the CPS so that Crown Prosecutors can apply the full code test in possession of all of the information?

Not saying that the CPS don't have a role to play in investigations and advising, but I think your criticisms may be misdirected (certainly in the recent cases of alleged sexual offences).

(2) 

Anonymous

Apr 3 2018 11:55am

Good to see that being vilified can result in a mega-payout in the next job. I bet someone is laughing all the way to the bank...

(28) 

Sir David Nappy

Apr 3 2018 12:11pm

Her tenure as DPP has resulted in a chilling reversal of the burden of proof – with her insistence that anyone who complains of a sex crime is automatically labelled a 'victim', and basically treated as though their account was 100% correct.

Old Joe Stalin would have been proud of her.



Corbyn. Sympathiser

Apr 3 2018 1:40pm

On your last sentence – lucky her!

(3)  **Big Dolla**

Apr 3 2018 2:59pm

Don't understand the downvotes. She essentially undermined the presumption of innocence in those areas. A disgrace to English law. Shame that she lasted so long.

Also – Corbyn Sympathiser, your comment is disappointing. I hope others don't associate Corbyn or Labour with the mass murderer Stalin, regardless of how much I disagree with Corbyn or Labour.

(42)  **Anonymous**

Apr 3 2018 12:37pm

One of worst DPP's in history, she isn't fit to work in a Burnley high street firm, let alone a Magic Circle firm

(57)  **Anonymous**

Apr 3 2018 1:20pm

'She is an excellent fit for Linklaters' dispute resolution ambitions.'

Will also fit in with all of the other shitheads that work at Links.

(44)  **Anonymous**

Apr 5 2018 1:33pm

U wot m8?
Legal Cheek (<https://www.legalcheek.com>)

(0)  

Anonymous

Apr 3 2018 1:33pm

Digital Courts were supposed to compensate for the reduction in lawyers and funds. Any fool could see it was doomed to failure. Except Alison. David Robinson jumped early to the private sector. I wonder why?

(6)  

Anonymous

Apr 3 2018 4:02pm

She believes in prisons with all of her heart and all of her expression. I think you can tell this immediately.

In 2013 there was an initiative, wasn't there, for free masons to be declared unto the light ?

The brethren threatened legal proceedings and the initiative withered on the vine.

I wonder if she wears the apron and assists with the opening of the ladies' lodge. Now we may never know.

We are so busy we overlook the influence of free masonry but I am sure that the sacred and ineffable compass will move through an arc from crime, government and commerce with foreboding accuracy, if someone directs it thus.

Personally I prefer Jesus to Hiram Abiff , so, in a worse case scenario, I would not be suitable for either her old job or the new, even if there was an open interview process.

(3)  

Anonymous

Apr 3 2018 5:23pm

My set is riddled with Freemasons, helps with the rankings in the legal directories.

(9)  

She-moth

Apr 3 2018 4:12pm

Legal Cheek (<https://www.legalcheek.com>)
The wasp glided towards the lake. The lake was a nice lake. Very tasty and plenty of water. Toads playing harps surrounded the water. The wasp did not like the music, but the lake was worth putting up with the music for. The wasp didn't know but many fish were in the water. Had the wasp known the wasp would not have gone near that lake. But the wasp did go near the lake. The wasp was eaten up by a jumping fish. The wasp stung the fish as it began to consume it, but it was too late. The wasp died and the fish had an unpleasant meal. The toads did not care at all and the music continued.

Lesson? Some will die, others will get stung, but the show will go on.

(9) 

Anonymous

Apr 3 2018 6:31pm

Can I have whatever you've been smoking?

(3) 

Anonymous

Apr 3 2018 6:44pm

Cash me outside

(3) 

Anonymous

Apr 4 2018 11:07am

How 'bout daaah?

(0) 

Ciaran Goggins

Apr 4 2018 3:42pm

Saunders is rubbish. Is it me, or does she look like 50% DNA Guinea pig?

(4) 

Comments are closed.



Related Stories

Journal

(<https://www.legalcheek.com/2018/03/linklaters-completes-magic-circle-retention-season-with-84-result/>)

Linklaters completes magic circle retention season with 84% result

(<https://www.legalcheek.com/2018/03/linklaters-completes-magic-circle-retention-season-with-84-result/>)

Global giant keep 43 out of 51 spring NQs


Mar 19 2018 4:58pm  7
(<https://www.legalcheek.com/2018/03/linklaters-completes-magic-circle-retention-season-with-84-result/#comment-section>)

(<https://www.legalcheek.com/lc-journal-posts/rape-disclosure-failings-are-no-surprise-the-criminal-justice-system-is-crashing-down-around-us/>)

Rape disclosure failings are no surprise — the criminal justice system is crashing down around us

(<https://www.legalcheek.com/lc-journal-posts/rape-disclosure-failings-are-no-surprise-the-criminal-justice-system-is-crashing-down-around-us/>)

It's a crisis

Feb 7 2018 10:44am  19
(<https://www.legalcheek.com/lc-journal-posts/rape-disclosure-failings-are-no-surprise-the-criminal-justice-system-is-crashing-down-around-us/#comment-section>)

 (<https://www.legalcheek.com/2017/11/nine-linklaters-lawyers-accept-33-pay-cut-to-work-40-hour-week/>)



Nine Linklaters lawyers accept 33% pay cut to work 40-hour week

(<https://www.legalcheek.com/2017/11/nine-linklaters-lawyers-accept-33-pay-cut-to-work-40-hour-week/>)

Associates give reduced hours scheme a go

Nov 28 18 (<https://www.legalcheek.com/2017/11/nine-linklaters-lawyers-accept-33-pay-cut-to-work-40-hour-week/#comment-section>)
2017 1:07pm

© Copyright 2019 Legal Cheek Ltd. All Rights Reserved.

Registered in England and Wales with Company Number 08037587

Hosted by [Clook](https://www.clook.net/) (<https://www.clook.net/>)