

## **SOUTH EASTERN CIRCUIT PRESIDING JUDGES**

### **PRACTICE DIRECTION FOR 'HEAVY' FRAUD TRIALS ESTIMATED TO TAKE 6 WEEKS OR MORE**

THE PRESIDING JUDGES OF THE SOUTH EASTERN CIRCUIT WITH THE CONCURRENCE OF THE SENIOR PRESIDING JUDGE FOR ENGLAND AND WALES MAKE THE FOLLOWING DIRECTION:

1. This Direction applies only to cases committed or transferred by London Magistrates Courts to London Crown Courts or 'Sent' to London Crown Courts in accordance with the provisions of Section 51 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, or any equivalent provisions.
2. As from 1 June 2006 all cases exclusively of alleged fraud or money laundering (not e.g. a combination of drugs and money laundering) estimated by the Crown to last 6 weeks or more will be committed or sent to the Crown Court sitting at Southwark as the London Receiving Court for 'Heavy Fraud' cases.
3. Such cases will be dealt with by the Magistrates or the Crown Court sitting at Southwark in accordance with the Directions for Committals by Magistrates for the Sending of cases to the Crown Court sitting at Southwark as set out in the two documents annexed hereto, and headed "Heavy Fraud" – Southwark Crown Court (sic) – First Case Management Hearing (Magistrates)' and "Heavy Fraud" – Southwark Crown Court (sic) – First Case Management Hearing (Sent Cases - Preliminary Hearings)' respectively.

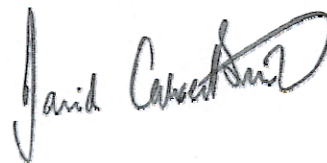
Signed



Mrs Justice Rafferty  
Presiding Judges of the South Eastern Circuit



Mr Justice Gross



Mr Justice Calvert-Smith

Dated 10 May 2006