



Practice Profile

An impressive junior, Jonathan accepts instructions in all areas of Chambers' work with an emphasis on serious crime and family work.

Whether acting alone or as a led junior Jonathan is a first-class operator with a quick fire intellect and excellent tactical awareness. He is liked by clients, Judges and juries; and has developed a strong reputation for incisive cross-examination and concise and persuasive closing speeches leading to an impressive track record of jury acquittals.

Jonathan also appears in the Family Courts in public law Children Act/Adoption Act proceedings and private law proceedings including divorce. For many years he was chair of a children's charity based in Essex called Kids Inspire.

Jonathan has been instructed on a number of public enquiries including Grenfell and as disclosure counsel in relation to the Post Office Horizon issue.

Given his previous business and commercial experience Jonathan accepts instructions in contractual disputes and employment law matters acting for the Claimant or Respondent.

Prior to accepting tenancy Jonathan worked for over 15 years in senior management roles and as a consultant leading the commercial negotiations of high value infrastructure projects in the private and public sector both in the UK and internationally. He also trained and performed as an actor and voice over artist on television, radio, theatre and film including in Doctor Who.

Jonathan's Privacy Policy can be downloaded [here](#).

Areas of Practice

News

5KBW wins "Crime Set of the Year 2024" at the prestigious Chambers UK Bar Awards

15 November 2024

We are absolutely delighted to announce that 5 King's Bench Walk was awarded "Crime Set of the Year Award 2024" at the Chambers UK Bar Awards held at Old Billingsgate on 15 November. This is Chambers' 5th nomination for the prestigious Chambers UK Bar Awards in the field of Crime. We are very proud to have won this award for the second time in 5 years.

Commenting on the awards, Heads of Chambers at 5 King's Bench Walk, Sarah Forshaw KC and Mark Heywood KC said:

"We are absolutely delighted that 5KBW has been recognised once again as the UK's pre-eminent Crime Set. It is testament to the outstanding ability of every member of our Chambers, to our excellent clerking services and to our administrative staff. The shortlists and ultimate awards are the result of extensive research by Chambers and Partners. We could not be more proud.

That our own Louise Oakley also carried away the award for 'Crime Junior of the Year' is the icing on the cake. She is, quite simply, a star."



Recent Cases

R v O & Others [Sheffield Crown Court] 2022

Fraud

Conspiracy to possess fraudulent ID documents. Multi-handed case. Only defendant to be acquitted.

R v MS [Woolwich Crown Court] 2022

Sexual Activity with a Child

Multiple allegations of sexual activity with a child. Defendant did not give evidence and was acquitted.

R v MA [Snaresbrook Crown Court] 2022

Robbery

Defendant did not give evidence and was acquitted.

R v O-C [Inner London Crown Court] 2022

Sexual Assault

Defendant was acquitted of two sexual assaults following ID and forensic evidence.

R v B [Snaresbrook Crown Court] 2022

s.18 (GBH)

Following CCTV evidence defendant was acquitted.

R v N [Nottingham Crown Court] 2022

ABH Against Prison Officers

Jonathan represented one of the few remaining IPP prisoners who at this point had served 16 years for attempted robbery. 3 counts of ABH against prison officers. Defendant made admissions in court and the assaults were caught on CCTV. Acquitted unanimously.

R v R [Maidstone Crown Court] 2021

Conspiracy to Commit Armed Robbery

Acquitted following a lengthy multi-handed trial. All co-defendants represented by senior members of chambers. I was D2 and undertook all cross-examination of civilian witnesses on behalf of defence Bar.

R v T [Wood Green Crown Court] 2021

Conspiracy to Supply Class A

Acquitted.

R v W [Southampton Crown Court] 2021

Armed Robbery

Acquitted despite CCTV and eye witness evidence.

R v M [Snaresbrook Crown Court] 2021

PWITS Class A

Acquitted.

R v R [Inner London Crown Court] 2021

Sexual Assault

Hung jury. Lengthy cross-examination of complainant. Also dealt with forensic evidence placing defendant in the house.

R v B [Wood Green Crown Court] 2021

s.20 GBH

Represented a doorman who was acquitted of a s.20 GBH having pushed a customer to the floor and caused them to suffer a serious bleed on the brain.

R v N [Basildon Court Court] 2021

Conspiracy to Commit Fraud

Acquitted in a multi-handed case.

R v K [Snaresbrook Crown Court] 2021

Controlling & Coercive

Acquitted in multi-handed allegation made by complainant from Pakistan who was part of an arranged marriage with defendant's brother.

R v DC [Croydon Crown Court] 2020 2020

Murder

12 count indictment including murder, administering poison to endanger life, fraud and theft. Led by Eleanor Laws QC defending vulnerable client who was 17 during the indictment period.

R v IA [Aylesbury Crown Court] 2020

Attempted Murder

s18 GBH and possession of an offensive weapon. Defendant acquitted of both counts following careful cross-examination of the complainant.

R v A [Central Criminal Court] 2020

Affray

Acquitted by a majority, Mr A together with others was clearly seen on CCTV involved in an incident that resulted in someone being stabbed multiple times.

R v M [CCC] 2019

s.18 GBH and Threatening with a Bladed Article

Acquitted following two retrials.

R v M (Central Criminal Court) 2019

s.18 GBH & Threatening with a Bladed Article

Acquitted following two retrials.

R v K (Southwark Crown Court) 2019

Theft & Breach of Trust

Defendant failed to attend his trial – acquitted after trial on a lack of dishonesty defence.

R v T (Inner London Crown Court) 2019

Bladed Article

Defendant had discarded the knife under a car. He gave no comment interview. Acquitted after trial on basis of reasonable excuse.

R v V (St Albans Crown Court) 2019

Bladed Article

Found outside a house party in possession of a knife in his ruck sack. Acquitted after trial on basis of knowledge.

R v S (Kingston-upon-Thames) 2019

s.18 GBH

Domestic incident, which resulted in girlfriend falling down the stairs and breaking her neck. Acquitted after trial. This was a retrial from earlier in the year, privately paid.

R v P (Central Criminal Court) 2019

Bladed Article

Found in possession of large knife in his ruck sack at the Notting Hill carnival. Acquitted after trial on basis of knowledge.

R v N-H (Luton Crown Court) 2019

Bladed Article

Stopped by police with knife under the seat of his car. Acquitted after trial on basis of reasonable excuse.

R v H (Croydon Crown Court) 2019

Bladed Article

Arrested at 2am with a Stanley knife. Acquitted after trial on basis of reasonable excuse. Jury returned verdict in less than 10 minutes.

R v C (Maidstone Crown Court) 2018

s18 GBH

Fight between two friends. Acquitted after trial on the grounds of self-defence.

R v E (Snaresbrook Crown Court) 2018

s.18 GBH

Possession offensive weapon, witness intimidation, having a bladed article, criminal damage – 17 year old defendant with extensive previous pleaded guilty to witness intimidation and possession offensive weapon before trial acquitted following trial of two further counts. CCTV and cross-examination of complainant and independent eye witness.

R v O & One Other (Guildford Crown Court) 2018

Possession of Offensive Weapon

Acquitted after trial. Defendant and passenger found with knuckle duster 'key rings'. Originally arrested on suspicion of kidnapping.

R v AN (Blackfriars Crown Court) 2018

Handling Stolen Goods

Acquitted after three day trial. Defendant took an Apple laptop that he paid £100 for to a repair shop two days after it was stolen.

R v C (Croydon Crown Court) 2018

Actual Bodily Harm

Acquitted after three day trial despite two eye witnesses including one independent witness.

R v. A [Bournemouth] 2018

59 Burglaries

Jonathan Reuben represented a prolific burglar known as the 'gentleman burglar' who whilst on licence from a three sentence for over 100 burglaries committed a further 59 burglaries. Sentenced to 5 years and 4 months.

The Times

Daily Mail

Bournemouth Echo

R v. M [ILCC] 2018

Multiple rape case

Jonathan Reuben led by Sarah Forshaw QC defending in a multiple count rape case. The trial had to be adjourned after serious disclosure failings were discovered by defence. Successful application for costs against the CPS under section 19 Prosecution of Offences Act 1985.

R v. C [Inner London] 2018

Supply of Class A drugs

Jonathan Reuben secured the acquittal of this defendant after a three day trial despite possession of wraps of cocaine, cash and a phone download with drug dealing messages.

R v AN [Blackfriars] 2018

Handling stolen goods

Jonathan Reuben secured an acquittal after a three day trial. The defendant took an Apple laptop that he paid £100 for to a repair shop two days after it was stolen.

R v. T [Maidstone] 2018

Sexual Assault

Jonathan Reuben acted for this defendant who was acquitted after three day trial for a serious sexual assault. Cross-examination of the complainant and one eye witness.

R v. P (Woolwich) 2018

GBH Sc20

Jonathan Reuben acted for this defendant who was acquitted after a three day trial. The defendant was of good character and was seen on CCTV in a fight with the complainant who suffered a spinal injury.

R v. W [Cambridge] 2018

Supply of Class A drugs

Jonathan Reuben acted in this matter in which there was a hung jury after six day trial, no retrial sought. County line case, defendant found in possession of large quantity of class A drugs in the home of a vulnerable person. Some drugs allegedly secreted in his anus.

R v E [Snaresbrook] 2018

s18 GBH

Jonathan Reuben acted for a defendant that smashed a bottle over the head of his friend, who was left with permanent damage to the sight in his left eye. Negotiated a plea to a s20 resulting in a sentence of 2 years and 4 months.

R v O & anr [Guildford] 2018

Possession of an offensive weapon

Jonathan Reuben acted for this defendant who was charged with possession of an offensive weapon. The defendant was acquitted after the trial. The defendant and passenger found with knuckle duster 'key rings'. Defendant was originally arrested on suspicion of kidnapping.

R v E [Snaresbrook] 2018

Sc18 GBH, Witness Intimidation and Possession of an Offensive Weapon

Jonathan Reuben represented this 17 year old defendant with extensive previous convictions. The defendant pleaded guilty to witness intimidation and possession an offensive weapon before the trial, and was acquitted following a trial of two further counts. The case involved CCTV and cross-examination of complainant and independent eye witness.

R v A-A (Inner London Crown Court 2017

Theft from Employer

Acquitted after three day trial following cross-examination of an eye witness.

R v L (Aylesbury Crown Court) 2017

Theft

Jury directed to acquit after a successful half time submission at the close of the defence case, the Learned Judge accepted there was no case to answer.

R v. I [Huntingdon] 2017

Conspiracy to obtain criminal property

Paul Walker led Jonathan Reuben in this complex conspiracy to obtain criminal property. A £300,000 fraud with similarities to the film 'Catch me if you can'.

R v. J [Chelmsford] 2017

Supply of Class A drugs

Jonathan Reuben acted for this defendant who was found in possession of class A drugs following a police raid. The defendant admitted attribution of a mobile phone with drug dealing messages on it. Crown offered no evidence following a successful section 78 PACE argument and an unsuccessful bad character application.

R v. R [Central Criminal Court] 2017

Supply of Class A drugs

Jonathan Reuben secured the acquittal of this defendant after a two day trial, despite being arrested in possession of multiple wraps of cocaine and heroin and a mobile phone with drug dealing messages.

R v. R [Highbury Corner Youth Court] 2017

Knife point robbery

Jonathan Reuben secured the acquittal for this defendant with robbery by knife-point. The defendant's DNA was found on the knife used in the robbery. Acquitted after half-time submission challenging the lack of statistical analysis of the DNA evidence.

R v D (Basildon Crown Court) 2016

Burglary and Possession of Firearms

Defendant received a fifteen month custodial sentence for five dwelling burglaries, possession of an imitation firearm and possession of live ammunition.