

"His diligence, preparation and communication help put clients at ease"
The Legal 500, 2021

Richard Dawson is an expert trial lawyer. He specialises in serious crime, road traffic law, and regulatory and professional discipline matters with a nation-wide client base, undertaking work throughout the UK.

Richard has developed a strong reputation for hard work, immaculate preparation and clear fact management in complex cases and he is highly regarded by all those who instruct him; representing those charged with the most serious crimes, including murder; serious assaults; serious road accidents, resulting in death or catastrophic injury; rape; sexual offences; drugs matters; fraud and financial offences.

Drawing upon a wealth of knowledge and skill, developed over more than 15 years of practice in criminal law, Richard has a strong track record of successfully defending those charged with serious crimes.

Murder

R v Wad-Hashimi – attempt murder – Defence Counsel (ongoing)

R v Sandlan & Another – attempt murder – Defence Counsel – acquitted (guilty plea to s.18)
Reported: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-lancashire-36369569>

R v Mitchenson & Another – Operation Monarch – murder & arson – junior Defence Counsel – charged with the murder of a convicted sex offender, who had been seriously assaulted and partially strangled, before being doused with white spirit and set on fire – cut-throat defence – acquitted (co-Defendant convicted – life sentence with a 30 year minimum period to serve)

Reported:
<http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/man-jailed-life-after-battering-4775336>

R v Wrigley – attempt murder – leading Defence Counsel – acquitted

R v Hyland & Another – attempt murder & robbery – Defence Counsel

R v Grocock & Others – murder – junior Defence Counsel

R v Hanrahan & Another – murder – junior Defence Counsel

Serious Violence & Public Disorder

R v Ward & Others – conspiracy to commit criminal damage with intent to endanger life – Defence Counsel (ongoing)

R v Nowosad & Others – s.18, GBH – Defence Counsel (ongoing)

R v Andrews – Kidnap – Defence Counsel (ongoing)

R v Ward – threats to kill – Defence Counsel – acquitted



CONTACT DETAILS

Email:

richard.dawson@lincolnhousechambers.com

Telephone:

0161 832 5701

PRACTICE AREAS

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MEMBERSHIPS

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Association of Regulatory & Disciplinary Lawyers

Fraud Lawyers Association

Northern Circuit

Middle Temple

EDUCATION

The Crossley Heath School, Halifax

BSc (Hons.) Environmental Geology –
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R v Berry & Others – assault & ill-treatment/neglect of person who lacks capacity – Defence Counsel – care home worker alleged to have “boiled” a patient, causing serious debilitating scald injuries to her legs; then to have covered up the mistake and failed to obtain medical treatment – acquitted (convicted of regulatory offence)

Reported:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-lancashire-33964749>

<http://www.itv.com/news/granada/2015-10-02/care-home-owners-xxxx-for-neglecting-99-year-old-woman-scalded-in-the-bath-and-force-feeding-residents/>

R v Johnson – s.18, GBH – Defence Counsel

R v Browitt – s.18, GBH – Defence Counsel

R v Laird – child cruelty & s.20, GBH – Prosecution Counsel – allegations of multiple serious assaults to 8-week-old baby

R v Zubar – violent disorder – Defence Counsel – 10-handed violent disorder arising out of Asian extended family dispute – acquitted

R v Buckley – causing serious harm to a child – Defence Counsel – starved daughter almost to death.

R v McMinn – s.18, GBH – Prosecution Counsel

R v Campbell – s.18, GBH – Defence Counsel

R v Marsh – s.20, GBH – Defence Counsel – assault on the rugby field – privately funded case

R v Farooq & Others – s.18, GBH – Defence Counsel – large-scale violence and public disorder arising out of a turf war in the Midlands – acquitted

R v Glaze & Others – armed robbery – Defence Counsel – car jacking – acquitted

R v Brogan – child cruelty & assault – Defence Counsel – allegations of serious assaults committed over many years against his natural son – acquitted

R v Bakewell – s.18, GBH – Defence Counsel – domestic violence

R v Kenrick & Others – aggravated burglary – Defence Counsel – use of lump hammer to cause serious injury – acquitted

R v Wynne – burglary with intent to inflict GBH & s.18, GBH – Prosecution Counsel – successfully prosecuted man who had stabbed his own brother

Rape and Serious Sexual Offences

R v Newland – historic, multiple Complainants, indecent assault – Defence Counsel – privately funded case (ongoing)

R v Barnes – rape – Defence Counsel – non-recent allegation of anal rape against ex-partner – acquitted

R v Farrar – indecent images – Defence Counsel – privately funded case



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R v Owen – causing/inciting a child to engage in sexual activity & indecent images – Defence Counsel – multiple allegations; multiple Complainants – privately funded case

R v Moni – sexual grooming – Defence Counsel

R v Butterworth – historic sexual abuse – Defence Counsel – privately funded case

R v Bennett – buggery – Defence Counsel – single historic allegation; 53 years ago – acquitted

R v McKell – sexual assault of a child under 13 – Defence Counsel – multiple allegations; multiple Complainants

R v McCann – historic sexual abuse – Defence Counsel – war veteran alleged to have sexually abused stepdaughter

R v Singleton – historic rape & sexual abuse – Defence Counsel – multiple allegations; 30 years ago; allegedly commencing when his niece was only 4 years old – acquitted

R v Skelton – attempt rape & sexual assault – Defence Counsel – acquitted of attempt rape

R v Box – sexual assault of a child under 13 – Defence Counsel – multiple allegations of sexual assault of granddaughter

R v Hodgson – rape & sexual assault – Defence Counsel – multiple allegations of raping and sexually abusing a teenage boy

R v Hilton – sexual assault of a child under 13 – Defence Counsel

R v Mohan – historic rape of a child under 13 – Defence Counsel – allegations of historic sexual abuse of his natural daughter – acquitted

R v Lord – attempt rape & assault by penetration – Defence Counsel – alleged sexual assaults as against his estranged wife

R v Saeedi – multiple rapes – Defence Counsel – acquitted

R v Butterworth – historic sexual abuse – junior Defence Counsel – privately funded case

R v Stanley – multiple rapes – Defence Counsel – multiple allegations of sexual assault; multiple complainants – acquitted

R v Higgins – historic familial sexual abuse – Defence Counsel – charged with allegations of historic sexual misconduct against his half-sister from when he was aged 13 and she was only 7 years old – acquitted of attempting to rape her and of repeatedly indecently assaulting her

R v Gabryszewski – rape – Defence Counsel – successfully defended a Polish national who spoke no English

Drugs and Money Laundering

R v Bailey & Others – Operation Kellington – conspiracy to supply Class A drugs – Defence Counsel – Prosecution conceded were unable to prove Class A drugs had been or were to be supplied to/by the Defendant, Bailey



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R v Norwood & Others – Operation Heliodor – conspiracy to supply Class A drugs – Defence Counsel

R v Maher – encouraging/assisting the commission of an offence (supply cocaine) – Defence Counsel – unusual offence, contrary to s.45, Serious Crime Act – custodian of 85kg of cutting agents (“bash”)

R v Leighton & Others – Operation Afterburn – conspiracy to supply drugs – Defence Counsel – drugs supply line between Manchester and Portsmouth

R v Deaffern – Certificate of Inadequacy (Drug Trafficking Act 1994) – Defence Counsel – granted

R v Shelton – Certificate of Inadequacy (Criminal Justice Act 1988) – Defence Counsel – granted

R v Freeman-Olugbenga & Others – Operation Hook – drugs importation – Defence Counsel – acquitted

R v Marra & Others – Operation Moth – conspiracy to supply cocaine – Defence Counsel

R v Kara – money laundering – Defence Counsel – allegations of cuckoo smurfing

R v Coppell & Others – Operation Binbrook – conspiracy to supply Class A drugs & money laundering – Defence Counsel

R v Dolan & Others – conspiracy to supply cocaine – Defence Counsel

R v McCallin – drug importation – Defence Counsel – HGV driver importing cannabis by the lorry load from Europe

R v Riley & Others – Operation Barometer – Defence Counsel – major conspiracy to supply cocaine across the North West

R v Whitworth & Others – Defence Counsel – conspiracy to supply cocaine from the Midlands to the North West – involved the importation of hundreds of kilograms of Benzocaine from China

R v Tang & Others – Operation Delmas – junior Defence Counsel – conspiracy to supply wholesale quantities of Class A drugs from London to the North West & money laundering

R v Hayhurst & Others – Operation Beath – Defence Counsel – money launderer charged in connection with international conspiracy to import/supply drugs – potential value in excess of £100 million

R v Healy & Others – Operation Rigging – Defence Counsel – large-scale conspiracy to supply drugs

R v Gregory & Others – Operation Perryville – Defence Counsel – 26 Defendants charged out of undercover drugs operation

Fraud & Serious Dishonesty

R v Donaghy & Another – mortgage fraud – Defence Counsel

R v Conway – benefit fraud – Defence Counsel – failed to declare that her landlord had gifted her a house



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R v Creaven & Others – Operation Fennel – Defence Counsel – car ringing – conspiracy to convert criminal property.

R v Davenport – theft – Defence Counsel – breach of trust case – executor of a will; stole sister's inheritance.

R v Ogunleye & Others – conspiracy to assist unlawful immigration – Defence Counsel – sham marriages between EU & Nigerian nationals.

R v Thompson & Others – fraud – junior Defence Counsel – million pound conspiracy to defraud elderly people throughout the UK – case against Thompson eventually dropped at trial.

R v Parsons – fraud – junior Defence Counsel – conspiracy to defraud multiple banking institutions – digital interception of credit card details from freestanding ATM units – technology employed never before seen in use in UK – stated to have the potential to cripple UK financial institutions.

R v Holt & Others – Operation Rochefort – Defence Counsel – 14 handed set-top box fraud – represented only Defendant against whom the case was eventually dropped.



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