

Joe joins Lincoln House after 12 years as an advocate in the Crown Prosecution Service. He is an experienced and tenacious advocate, with a track record of excellence in dealing with cases of particular difficulty, whether because of the vulnerabilities of the witnesses, defendants or complainants involved, or the high level of complexity.

Joe recently returned from serving on behalf of HM Government as the Crown Prosecution Service's Criminal Justice Advisor to the Kingdom of Bahrain, and Liaison Prosecutor in the United Arab Emirates. He also worked with senior prosecutors and British missions in a number of other Middle-Eastern countries. He is experienced in dealing with the most complex and sensitive aspects of cases with an international dimension, particularly terrorism, serious organised crime, and cases involving crossborder illicit finance, and has a thorough knowledge of international human rights law.

Joe has appeared for the CPS Extradition Unit on behalf of Part 1 states in extradition proceedings and was also closely involved in the extradition of BBC Panorama's "Trillion Dollar Conman" Russell King from the Kingdom of Bahrain to Jersey. He is particularly well placed to advise on extradition, formal mutual legal assistance, Joint Investigation Teams, and all aspects of acquiring and deploying cross-border evidence, including the human rights dimension, and sensitive reciprocity issues.

Joe previously served in the Royal Artillery on operations in Iraq, and is knowledgeable on firearms and ammunition, as well as having a thorough command of firearms legislation. He has a high level of security clearance.

Joe began his career as a specialist in "trouble-shooting" the most challenging magistrates' court cases, particularly those involving defences linked to road traffic offending, or those in which senior members of the bar or Queen's Counsel were instructed by the defence to pursue challenging issues on behalf of high profile clients. Since then Joe has represented the Crown in a wide variety of cases at every level of seriousness, from affray to conspiracy to murder.

Joe is a recognised specialist in rape and serious sexual offending cases, and cases involving youths. Joe has devoted a significant part of his career to rape and sexual abuse cases and has particular expertise in respect of historic sexual offending and sexual offences against children. Joe is known for his sound advice on and rigorous approach to third party and digitally stored material. Joe has prosecuted trials covering the full range of sexual offending, from opportunistic sexual assault, through making indecent images, to multiple-victim rape cases, and a case in which a victim of rape was murdered by her partner upon making her disclosure. Joe enjoys a reputation for dealing sensitively and communicating in a manner appropriate to the needs of vulnerable victims, witnesses and defendants. Joe makes time for this important interaction, whatever the demands of the case.

NOTABLE TRIALS

Rape and Sexual Offending

R v MD, sole counsel (guilty pleas): "Encouragement" offences under the Serious Crime Act 2007, concerning online networking with other paedophiles to share sexual abuse fantasies and technical expertise. Detailed submissions on the effect of the legislation on other statutory provisions, maximum sentence, and special sentences for offenders of particular concern.



CONTACT DETAILS

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PRACTICE AREAS

Crime

Business Crime

Regulatory

EDUCATION

University of Manchester:-
BA (Hons) Law and Politics – First Class
(RG Lawson and Harry Street Prizes)

MPhil (Law) – International Law

Inns of Court School of Law –
Very Competent

R v C and G, sole counsel: Historic penetrative sexual abuse by step-father on step-daughter as a very young child, and identical allegation against his brother, in circumstances where both defendants cross-alleged each against the other, historic sexual abuse against children, as evidence of bad character. This case involved detailed analysis of large quantities of very old third-party records to establish the true position.

A Youth Court Case, sole counsel: Multiple rape allegations tried in the Youth Court concerning two teenage Air Cadets, in which screens, live-link, meeting between the complainant and, judge and defence counsel were deployed as a combination of special measures to enable a highly vulnerable victim to give evidence.

R v PM: Historic penetrative sexual abuse by father on biological daughter post-2004, together with extensive penetrative sexual abuse against the defendant's 12-year old daughter-in-law in the 1980s. The defendant was elderly at the time of trial and suffered from multiple severe disabilities.

R v Kerring Sambou, sole counsel: Rape committed against a sleeping intoxicated victim in one part of the country, then subsequently rape against a victim who had consumed alcohol and drugs in another area, whilst on bail for the initial offence. Significant volume of CCTV, bodycam and digital material, and media interest. Sentenced to 22 years with 3 years extended licence after trial.

R v LI, sole counsel: Complaint against step-father of historic penetrative sexual abuse, in circumstances where a similar allegation against his brother, which was contained in the same ABE interview, had already been made the subject of no further action by a second police force on evidential grounds. Vulnerable complainant with multiple difficulties.

R v Logan Black, sole counsel: Multiple counts of making indecent images, where the images were contained only on cached files, and where images of "young-looking" girls located on stored files were relied on as evidence of bad character. Detailed technical evidence as to the nature of stored and cached files.

R v AL, sole counsel: Historic child sexual abuse spanning conduct both within the United Kingdom and in Spain. Defendant extradited pursuant to a European Arrest Warrant after seven years, during which time the original ABE interview was destroyed. Cross-examined in the absence of a police interview of any kind, consequent to his having been extradited.

R v SB: Grooming and sexual abuse of multiple child victims, all of whom had challenging backgrounds and presented significant third-party disclosure complications.

Operation Rasheen (Michael McQueenie), sole counsel (guilty plea at trial): Stranger rape on a child with learning difficulties and multiple other disabilities, investigated by the Force Major Investigations Team, involving significant public appeal, and national media interest

R v Michael Tew: Rape of a male victim following the consumption by the victim of alcohol and drugs, and issues of "drunken consent".

R v NN: Opportunistic sexual assault on a woman in a hospital setting by a defendant experiencing schizophrenic episodes.



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Violence and Homicide

R v Darren Dale, sole counsel: Convicted of making threats to kill and attempting to possess a prohibited firearm, following an investigation by the North West Regional Counter-Terrorism Unit. This case concerned the defendant expressing far-right and anti-Muslim views to visiting officers from the "Prevent" counter-terrorism programme, and detailing his purported plan to commit multiple murders whilst showing a range of weapons to the officers.

R v Miklos Verebes, led junior: Rape and murder case, where the victim disclosed multiple rapes by her partner in the context of an abusive relationship, and was then murdered by him after he was made subject to no further action by the police. Convicted after trial on both the murder and the historic rapes.

Operation Berbice, led junior: Conspiracy to murder and soliciting murder arising from a failed contract killing and subsequent attempt by the principal defendant to arrange for the victim to be murdered, from his cell whilst on remand for the conspiracy. Three of the five defendants were handed lifesentences.

Operation Moorhen, led junior: Manslaughter case involving the defendant's premature baby, where the defendant had previously been made subject to no further action, and where family proceedings in the High Court led to the re-consideration of complex neuropathology, osteo-articular pathology, an IPCC investigation, and a reversal of the earlier decision. The case involved conflicting advanced evidence on the subject of peri-mortem bleeding into bone fractures, a large volume of disclosure from proceedings in the High Court, and sensitive covertly recorded material ultimately being disclosed and received in the criminal trial.

Krissendutt Vibert, sole counsel: Case concerning mistreatment of dementia patients by a care worker in the context of a care home. Significant disclosure of third-party records and successful bad character application framed around disciplinary records.

Operation Phoebe, sole counsel: 24-defendant violent disorder concerning organised football hooligan activity linked to the "Burnley Suicide Squad", comprising a single case management hearing for all defendants, three trials, and a sentencing exercise lasting a week, at the conclusion of which 21 defendants were made subject to football banning orders, 20 of whom received custodial sentences.

R v Zhangar and Adam, sole counsel: Section 20 grievous bodily harm where two otherwise highly respected members of the community attacked and seriously injured another man by repeatedly kicking him.

General Crime

Operation Mallard, led junior: 13-defendant "county-lines" conspiracy to supply heroin and cocaine involving an organised gang transporting large quantities of drugs into Blackpool from Manchester, "cuckooing" properties tenanted by vulnerable individuals and directing prolific street-dealing. 11 conspirators sentenced to a total of 40 years imprisonment at the conclusion of the case.

R v Michael Martin, led junior: Multiple counts of fraud and misconduct by a serving police superintendent, with subsequent confiscation proceedings under the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 conducted as sole counsel.



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R v MD, sole counsel: Blackmail case where the defendant had been in a historic sexual relationship with the complainant whilst under the age of consent under the legislation which then applied, and where he covertly recorded the complainant admitting to intercourse with him, and threatened to pass the recording to the police unless paid a substantial amount of money.

Operation Nicosia, led junior: £3.1 million fraud against a large number of financial institutions, and continuing to trade whilst insolvent.

Operation Limassol, sole counsel: Conspiracy to burgle involving an organised gang targeting high-value cars parked outside residential addresses, where the majority of the evidence consisted of cell-site, call data and covert surveillance evidence.



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