

Tom became a tenant of Lincoln House in December 2020, having completed his pupillage under Alex Leach QC.

Tom enjoys a busy criminal practice. He prosecutes and defends across the whole spectrum of Magistrates' Court cases, including sexual offences, domestic violence and road traffic offences. In doing so, he has gained experience of handling vulnerable witnesses, child witnesses and experts. In the Crown Court, Tom prosecutes and defends sentences, bail applications and interlocutory hearings. He is a Level 1 Prosecutor.

In relation to road traffic offences, Tom has a particularly good record with exceptional hardship arguments, both in the Magistrates and on appeal to the Crown Court, and is frequently instructed for trials involving expert evidence, for example back calculations and collision reconstruction. Tom has been instructed privately on a number of matters and prides himself on his professional and proactive approach, seeking to ensure that clients have the best advice at the earliest opportunity.

During his first six, Tom gained experience of homicide, sexual offences and organised crime. He shadowed Queen's Counsel for both prosecution and defence at trial. Tom undertook advisory and research work for members of Chambers covering all manner of issues across criminal practice and procedure.

Tom combines his criminal practice with a growing civil practice. Since joining Chambers he has built on his previous experience as a county court advocate in which he gained a wide variety of civil proceedings and an excellent understanding of civil procedure. His recent civil work includes small claims and fast-track track trials (road traffic collisions and tripping claims), Stage 3 hearings and various interlocutory hearing. Advisory matters range from advising a foreign company pursuing a commercial debt, including on the issue of jurisdiction, to advices on quantum in personal injury cases.

Tom is part of the "Junior Junior" scheme with the Attorney General's Panel Counsel, and is currently instructed by the Department of Health on the Infected Blood Inquiry. Recent work includes disclosure, conducting conferences and drafting witness statements.

Away from the law, Tom enjoys playing for his local football team, walking holidays and cooking.



CONTACT DETAILS

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PRACTICE AREAS

Criminal Law

Civil Law

Driving Offences

APPOINTMENTS

CPS Level 1

EDUCATION

Law (BA, LLB) – University of Cambridge
(Upper second class)

BPTC – BPP University Birmingham
(Very Competent)

Criminal Law

Tom deals with all aspects of Criminal Law. He has experience of:

- Violent offences
- Drug-related offences
- Sexual offences
- Fraud and theft offences
- Road traffic offences

In relation to road traffic offences, Tom has a particularly good record with exceptional hardship arguments, both in the Magistrates and on appeal to the Crown Court, and is frequently instructed for trials involving expert evidence, for example back calculations and collision reconstruction. Tom has been instructed privately on a number of matters and prides himself on his proactive approach, seeking to ensure that clients have the best advice at the earliest opportunity. In a recent case, Tom was instructed to defend an allegation of driving without due care and attention which was successfully discontinued following matters raised by Tom at the first appearance.

Civil Law

Tom is able to deal with a wide variety of civil matters. As a county court advocate with LPC Law, he conducted over 900 hearings prior to commencing pupillage. In doing so he gained experience of landlord and tenant disputes, insolvency proceedings, commercial disputes and Stage 3 hearings. Tom is often instructed for small claims and fast-track trials, including personal injury and credit hire. His recent advisory work includes advising a foreign company pursuing a commercial debt and defending a claim for unpaid school fees.

Tom appreciates need for paperwork to be completed promptly without compromising on quality, whether that be attendance notes following a hearing or advices.

Notable cases include:

Prosecuting

Manchester Crown Court: prosecuted a sentence for fraud involving the targeting of pensioners, as well as breach of a suspended sentence.

<https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/john-ward-blackley-clayton-court-18911598>



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Manchester Crown Court: prosecuted a complex series of domestic violence offences. A restraining order was imposed against the victim's wishes for her own protection.

<https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/thug-told-police-i-stab-21115369>

Manchester Magistrates' and Crown Court: successfully prosecuted a taxi driver for sexual assault on a vulnerable woman. The conviction was upheld on appeal, with the Crown Court concluding the Defendant had deliberately targeted the victim due to her vulnerability.

<https://www.burytimes.co.uk/news/19083437.taxi-driver-sexually-assaulted-woman-picked-bury-town-centre/>

Defending

Manchester Crown Court: defended a sentence for possession with intent to supply cannabis. The Defendant received a suspended sentence.

<https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/drug-dealer-found-over-1k-18552433>

Manchester Crown Court: defended a man who had pleaded guilty to multiple sexual offences against a child. The Defendant received a sentence of 37 months, despite the offences carrying a starting point of 60 months.

Preston Crown Court: successful exceptional hardship argument advanced on appeal on the basis of loss of employment in circumstances where the employer was unaware of the proceedings, resulting in the immediate removal of disqualification.

Manchester Crown Court: defended a woman charged with theft of a bank card from a deceased friend. The Defendant received a suspended sentence.

<https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/woman-took-friends-bank-card-20589210>

Manchester Crown Court: defended a man who pleaded guilty to a racially aggravated assault on a police officer and 6 common assaults, all committed on the same occasion. The Defendant received a suspended sentence.

Manchester Crown Court: defended a man charged with causing grievous bodily harm. Successfully resisted the Prosecution application for a Criminal Behaviour Order.

Preston Crown Court: defended at trial for breach of a sexual harm prevention order. The case involved technical digital evidence disclosed shortly before trial. The Defendant pleaded guilty on the morning of trial, with a favourable sentence resulting in him walking free that day.



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Liverpool Magistrates' Court: successfully defended a man accused of assaulting his ex-wife where a conviction would have resulted in the loss of his employment.

Burnley Magistrates' Court: defended in a domestic violence case. The prosecution was forced to offer no evidence following legal argument on the morning of trial



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