

Tom became a tenant of Lincoln House in December 2020 and has quickly developed a strong criminal practice, prosecuting and defending in equal measure in the Crown Court.

As a Level 2 CPS prosecutor, Tom is frequently instructed to prosecute cases concerning violence, drugs and dishonesty. He has experience of serious crime having recently been led in a complex multi-handed drugs conspiracy. Recent defence trials include wounding with intent, public disorder and sexual offences.

In court, Tom has quickly developed a measured and pragmatic approach, which he combines with rigorous preparation. He is equally adept examining witnesses in a focused and incisive manner as he is arguing points of law, such as bad character, hearsay and disclosure. Tom has earned the praise of judges for his considered and well-judged approach at trial and sentence, as well as for the quality of his written advocacy.

Tom prides himself on his close attention to detail and thorough preparation of all cases. His strong work ethic means that no stone is left unturned, key advice is given promptly and important strategic decisions are fully informed. Whether prosecuting or defending, he is keen to build working relationships with clients as well as to construct a coherent and considered strategy from the start. Tom has experience of representing clients with mental health difficulties, both at trial and sentence.

Tom continues to receive instructions on a private basis in the Magistrates' Court, particularly in relation to road traffic offences. He 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 provides a professional and proactive approach in such cases, seeking to ensure that clients have the best advice at the earliest opportunity.

Tom is part of the "Junior Junior" scheme with the Attorney General's Panel Counsel, and was previously instructed by the Department of Health on the Infected Blood Inquiry. His work included disclosure, conducting conferences and drafting witness statements. He has recently represented HMRC, the DVLA and the Insolvency Service in regulatory and criminal proceedings.



CONTACT DETAILS

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PRACTICE AREAS

Criminal Law

Civil Law

Driving Offences

APPOINTMENTS

CPS Level 2

EDUCATION

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

BPTC – BPP University Birmingham
(Very Competent)

Since joining Chambers Tom has built on his previous experience as a county court advocate by conducting a variety of civil hearings. His recent civil work includes 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.

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

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 appears in fast-track trials, including personal injury and credit hire. His advisory work includes advising a foreign company pursuing a commercial debt and defending a claim for unpaid school fees and advising on breaches of data protection legislation.

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



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Notable cases include:

Prosecuting

Manchester Crown Court: led by Neil Fryman prosecuting a 6-defendant drugs conspiracy.
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-manchester-59983661>

Manchester Crown Court: prosecuted a fraud by a finance manager of a regional company.
<https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/devious-fraudster-mum-swindled-55000-23871853>

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/>

Burnley Crown Court: prosecuted a 10-count burglary indictment featuring two defendants.

Defending

Minshull Street Crown Court: instructed to defend a man charged with blackmail. Despite authorities suggesting a suspended sentence would rarely be appropriate, the Defendant received a suspended sentence due to the exceptional nature of the case.
<https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/tenant-sent-landlords-series-angry-23815691>

Chester Crown Court: defended a man who had pleaded guilty to assault occasioning actual bodily harm and dangerous driving (hitting a victim with his car), affray (punching a 16-year-old) and two offences of theft (high-value shoplifting). The Defendant received a total sentence of 22 months.

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.

Minshull Street Crown Court: defended a man who pleaded guilty to possession with intent to supply heroin and cocaine, possession of a bladed article, handling stolen goods, driving while disqualified and breach of a suspended sentence (imposed for possession with intent to supply cannabis). He received a total of 3 years' custody.

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.



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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>

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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