

Lewis Bocking

Call to Bar: 2021



Lewis is a driven, conscientious and persuasive advocate. He employs a meticulous approach to case preparation and represents his clients fearlessly.

Lewis is an established defence practitioner, regularly representing individuals accused of serious offences for trial in the Crown Court.

He has also built a reputation as a prosecutor, often handling cases from the PTPH, to trial and sentence as a Grade 2 prosecutor.

He is adept at handling complex issues of fact, law and procedure. Lewis is able confidently to manage voluminous forms of information and evidence, including sequences of events and expert reports.

Regularly instructed to represent vulnerable defendants with complicated mental health issues and diagnoses, he has a thorough knowledge about the disposal of such cases.

For those who instruct him, Lewis provides prompt, analytical written advice on prospects of success in appeals, instructing experts, and other trial-related issues. Lewis provides a consistent high-level of advocacy, with both his robust oral submissions and cogent written work.

Lewis has built a reputation for his intellectual ability, diligence and tactical acumen, which is deployed to the advantage of those he represents. At the University of Cambridge, Lewis ranked top of his MPhil cohort, receiving a distinction and recognition for his academic performance. For his LL.M, in which he obtained a Distinction, he analysed the practicalities of money laundering regulations. Lewis also holds a first-class law degree.

Lewis has a specialist interest in sentencing, and received the Sentencing Academy Thesis Prize (2022) for his original research undertaken at the Institute of Criminology, University of Cambridge, which critically assessed the approaches of Crown Court judges to offence-specific sentencing guidelines.

Contact details:

Lewis.bocking@lincolnhousechambers.com

Clerk Contact details:

alockett@lincolnhousechambers.com

Abigail Lockett– 0161 832 5701

Practice areas:

Crime

Recent and ongoing examples of his caseload include:

Trials:

Operation Elderon - led junior for the Crown in respect of conspiracies to commit aggravated burglaries and robberies on a nationwide level.

R v MH - junior alone for a defendant in multi-handed fraud concerning mechanical garages.

R v IF - defended a man of good character in respect of allegations of strangulation. The Defendant was acquitted.

R v JB - defendant a man alleged to have caused grievous bodily harm and strangled his mother. The Defendant absconded abroad prior to trial. Lewis remained in the case, representing his client at trial, and the Defendant was acquitted of strangulation.

R v MH - prosecuted a man at trial for supplying cannabis over an 8-month period. The Defendant was convicted.

R v MAW - defended a man of good character in respect of 9 domestic violence related allegations against his ex-wife. Following a 5-day trial, the Defendant was acquitted of all charges on the indictment.

R v KT - prosecuted a man at trial for threatening his ex-partner with a machete in her bedroom. The Defendant was convicted.

R v RR - defended a man of good character alleged to have inflicted grievous bodily harm. This matter involved an extensive legal argument concerning the principles of joint enterprise. The Defendant was acquitted.

Sentences:

R v MM - defended a new driver who had caused multiple serious injuries by dangerous driving. Suspended sentence imposed.

R v HF - defended a man of previous good character for causing grievous bodily harm. Suspended sentence imposed.

R v SC - prosecuted a man for strangling his ex-partner on four occasions. Lengthy custodial sentence imposed.

R v GC - defended a male who had breached a contingent destruction order and committed a further offence relating to a dangerous dog. Neither dog was destroyed.

R v MD - defended a youth who had gotten involved with dealing various Class A drugs. Community order imposed.

R v RD and JL - prosecuted two males who were significant players in a North West-based OCG, for dealing in Class A and B drugs. Both defendants received sentences in excess of 10 years' imprisonment.

R v KB - defended a man who had been caught selling Class A drugs by an undercover police operation. Suspended sentence imposed.

R v GR - defended a female found to have been dealing Class A drugs. Suspended sentence imposed.

R v NJ - defended a male who had perverted the course of justice. Suspended sentence imposed.

R v MQ and Others - prosecuted 7 men involved in a violent disorder. All defendants received lengthy custodial sentences.

Awards

[2022] Recipient of The Sentencing Academy Thesis Prize 2022

[2022] Proxime Accessit to the Manuel Lopez-Rey Prize, Institute of Criminology, University of Cambridge

Memberships

The Northern Circuit

The Honourable Society of the Middle Temple

Education

[2020] LLB (Hons) at LJMU - First Class Honours (ranked in top 5 of cohort)

[2021] LLM Legal Practice (Bar) at BPP University - Distinction

[2022] MPhil in Criminology at Queens' College, University of Cambridge - Distinction (ranked top of cohort)

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