



New Park Court

Fiona Lamb

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Fiona Lamb

Year of call 2010

For enquiries please call +44 (0)191 232 1980 or email

Fiona Lamb only accepts instructions for the defence. She has developed a busy practice with emphasis on fraud and sexual offences. Fiona goes above and beyond for her clients. She is able to adopt a variety of approaches with her clients which allows her to greatly assist those with mental health issues in particular.

Fiona completed a reduced pupillage at Farringdon Chambers in London under the supervision of Ian Henderson. Fiona began tenancy after only 9 months of pupillage. She joined New Park Court Chambers in February 2016 after 16 months of practice on the South Eastern Circuit.

Fiona has completed the Vulnerable Witness Training.

General Crime

Representative Cases

- *R v KS (Newcastle Crown Court)*

Represented a client charged with burglary after he forced entry into his ex-partner's house and damaged items within after she exposed their affair to his partner on Christmas Day. Case reported in the national media.

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- *R v TD (Newcastle Crown Court)*
Represented TD who entered two guilty pleas to cultivation of cannabis. Following unnecessary delays an abuse of argument was made on behalf of TD. The argument was successful, the indictment was stayed and the case dismissed.
- *R v SS & Others (Central Criminal Court)*
Instructed to represent the interests of SS within the role of a Noting Junior during an 8 week misconduct in public office trial. Notes amounted to over 245,000 words and were provided as a transcript to all Counsel. Case reported in the national media.
- *R v CF (Teesside Magistrates Court)*
Represented a man charged with intimidation under the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992. After submitting a lengthy skeleton argument and following legal argument the Crown was forced to offer no evidence. Enquiries subsequently undertaken in relation to a malicious prosecution argument.

Violence

Representative Cases

- *R v AH (Newcastle Crown Court)*
AH was unanimously acquitted of s.18 and the alternative offence of s.20 of the OAPA after 4 days in trial. Allegation was that AH had attacked the IP with a knife causing cuts to his face, neck, shoulder and a puncture wound to his chest. There was CCTV showing a confrontation between AH and the IP moments before the incident was supposed to have taken place. Case involved lengthy cross-examination of the IP.
- *R v MN (Newcastle Crown Court)*
Unanimous acquittal on counts of false imprisonment, ABH, common assault and affray. Trial lasted 3 days and involved the cross-examination of five prosecution witnesses.
- *R v TI (Newcastle Crown Court)*
Instructed in a 7 day dwelling robbery involving the theft of almost £6,000 described as an “inside job”. The case involved cell site analysis, a vast amount of telecommunications, identification, medical evidence, Facebook posts, enquiries into their validity and the exclusion of some members of the public from the court building for the duration of the trial. Following both Defendants’ convictions the Judge commended Fiona on her conduct throughout the trial and the quality of her closing speech. TI was sentenced to 13 years imprisonment. Case reported in the national media.

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- *R v NW (Snaresbrook Crown Court)*

Unanimously acquitted on both counts of ABH and common assault against two youths. Allegation was that NW had head-butted one male and punched another four times to the face in an unprovoked attack. Head-butt resulted in the loss of two front teeth. Identification was not an issue. Fiona quoted the song by Shaggy, 'It Wasn't Me' during her closing speech. Jury took 15 minutes to return a verdict of not guilty.
- *R v JB (Bradford Crown Court)*

First on the indictment in a two-handed racially aggravated GBH. Trial lasted 4 days. IP suffered "life changing injuries" in what the Judge described as a "sustained and racist attack". JB was sentenced to 2 years imprisonment.
- *R v SW (Durham Crown Court)*

Represented SW for possessing a firearm with intent to cause fear of violence which carries a minimum sentence of 5 years. Persuaded the Crown to accept a plea to affray on the morning of trial and SW was sentenced to 12 months imprisonment.
- *R v BM (Newcastle Crown Court)*

Represented a client charged with s.18 following a serious stabbing at a block of flats in Whitley Bay. BM pleaded guilty to the lesser offence of s.20. A lengthy Basis of Plea was submitted. BM was sentenced to 12 months imprisonment suspended for 18 months.
- *R v JF (Carlisle Crown Court)*

Instructed to represent JF in relation to an offence of ABH during a domestic violence incident. Case involved legal argument in relation to third party confessions and hearsay evidence involving Facebook messages. Fiona was praised by both the Judge and the Prosecutor for exercising "exceptional judgment and skill" in relation to a "very complex case". Case reported in the national media.
- *R v BG (Camberwell Green Youth Court)*

Acquitted of GBH resulting in a broken eye socket. BG forwarded pre-emptive self-defence along with his co-defendant.
- *R v PS (Central Criminal Court)*

Instructed in a 3 day ABH trial involving pre-emptive self-defence.
- *R v MH (Camberwell Green Youth Court)*

Involved cross-examination of a 15 year old witness. Despite numerous previous convictions for robbery being before the District Judge and the fact that MH was picked out on an I.D. parade, MH was acquitted of a single count of robbery.

Sexual Offences

Representative Cases

- *R v GM (Newcastle Crown Court)*
Secured a unanimous acquittal on both counts of an alleged sexual assault by an uncle on his 11 year old niece.
- *R v AF (Teesside Crown Court)*
Secured an acquittal at appeal of a 12 year old girl accused of assault by penetration of an 8 year old close family friend.
- *R v JR (Newcastle Crown Court)*
Represented JR at sentence for making indecent images of children. JR was sentenced to a 3 year Community Order with requirements. Case reported in the national media.
- *R v PP (Newcastle Crown Court)*
Represented PP at sentence for the grooming of a “12 year old” girl in a Guardians of the North case. PP was sentenced to 9 months imprisonment suspended for 18 months.
- *R v PR (Sunderland Youth Court)*
Represented a 16 year old male at trial for the attempted rape of a 20 year old male with learning difficulties. Sentenced to an 18 month YRO.
- *R v MM (Isleworth Crown Court)*
Instructed from the outset to represent MM in relation to multiple allegations of making indecent images of children, the majority of those being Category A. This was the second time that MM had been before the courts for such matters. The Judge praised Fiona over her handling of both MM and the case.
- *R v RE (Newcastle Crown Court)*
Represented RE at his appeal of both conviction and sentence in relation to a sexual assault. Fiona represented RE without a solicitor and agreed to work on a pro-bono basis. The sentence was ultimately halved and the Judge commended Fiona on her willingness to act for free to ensure RE got a fair trial.

Fraud

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Representative Cases

- *R v DB and Others – Operation Minted (Durham Crown Court)*

DB was three out of five on the indictment. He was charged with three counts including conspiracy to sell/supply counterfeit tobacco products. The case involved a high page count with a huge volume of undercover surveillance footage following a lengthy investigation by Durham County Council. The estimated turnover of the conspiracy was in the region of £1.2m. DB entered guilty pleas to supplying tobacco without a combined health warning in relation to the tobacco products stored in his loft. All Defendants were sentenced to immediate custody with DB sentenced to 10 months'. Case reported in the national media.

- *R v RR Snr and Others – Operation Cluster (Teesside Crown Court)*

Led by Stuart Graham in a multi-handed conspiracy to traffic with a view to exploitation, forced labour and money laundering. The case involved multiple family members from a Slovakian gang who trafficked homeless people from Slovakia and the Czech Republic to the U.K. and held them as slaves. Fiona was led for 7 weeks and was of primary assistance in relation to ongoing disclosure issues. RR Snr was sentenced to 4 years' imprisonment. Case reported in the national media.

- *R v RA (Newcastle Crown Court)*

Case involved fraud and theft of over £40,000 by RA from his elderly grandmother with suffered from dementia. RA acted as a carer for his grandmother and withdrew funds which were provided to other members of the family. The judge described RA as being in a "position of responsibility for which he was not suited". RA was sentenced to a 10 month custodial sentence suspended for 12 months.

- *R v AC (Teesside Crown Court)*

Unanimously acquitted after 5 days in trial. The allegations were that AC had stolen and fraudulently obtained over £16,000 from her mother without her permission. At the time of the alleged offences the IP was suffering from dementia and cancer. The IP was deceased at the time of trial and her evidence was adduced as hearsay. The IP's son gave evidence against AC as well as a number of carers. AC accepted making the withdrawals which she said she had done with the IP's permission.

- *R v NS (Newcastle Crown Court)*

Benefit fraud, unanimously acquitted.

- *R v JM (Teesside Crown Court)*

Secured a Suspended Sentence Order for JM who pleaded guilty to committing fraud to the value of £13,000 through false eBay sales. The fraud was committed on an international scale involving Losers from New Zealand, Australia and Germany.

- *R v PK & Others (Blackfriars Crown Court)*

Led by Bill Ryan in a multimillion pound cross-jurisdictional fraud involving stolen mobile telephones. Involved approximately 60,000 pages and thousands of hours of undercover surveillance footage. Trial



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lasted 5 weeks. Fiona represented client at sentence. Case reported in the national media.

- *R v BC & Others (Southwark Crown Court)*

Led by Martin McCarthy in a 'boiler room' fraud. Secured acquittal on a single count of conspiracy to defraud after 7 weeks in trial. The case concerned the overpricing and selling of coloured diamonds to vulnerable investors, amounting to profits for the fraudsters in the region of £1.5m. Case reported in the national media.

Dishonesty

Representative Cases

- *R v DS & Others (Isleworth Crown Court)*

First on the indictment and secured the only acquittal in a four-handed theft and handling stolen goods case. The stolen goods were found in his house.

- *R v FB (Snaresbrook Crown Court)*

Secured an acquittal in a two-handed burglary trial after a successful half time submission.

Court Martial

Representative Cases

- *Rifleman JS (Catterick Military Court Centre)*

Represented JS at a first hearing and sentence for two matters of being AWOL. These offences occurred during the operational period of a Suspended Sentence Order for another matter of being AWOL. Sentence was passed and JS was discharged.

What the directories say

"She is plainly a fighter."

"Fiona is particularly adept at dealing with difficult clients with mental health difficulties, she is well liked by clients and is very much at ease with vulnerable clients."

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"Fiona gives every case her full attention and she has established herself as very reliable Counsel... she is incredibly hardworking."

"Fiona was instructed as a noting junior in a very serious and complex conspiracy and I was highly impressed with her professional integrity, hard work ethic and high standards for client service."

"Fiona's warmth and personable qualities to me before and after the case were very much appreciated. Fiona is a proficient and very effective barrister."

"Fiona's guidance, advice, belief in me and reassurance over the last 12 months has been a pillar of hope for me throughout this ordeal. It fills me with relief that there is still a barrister who actually cares about people's freedom and wellbeing. Fiona's sincerity, honesty, knowledge of the law and tenacity will take her far. Fiona has done more for me off her own back than anyone ever has, and for that, I am forever grateful."

Appointments & Memberships

North Eastern Circuit

Middle Temple

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