



Stephen Meadowcroft Q.C.

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Call 1973
Silk 2007

Area of Practice

Stephen has specialised in crime for over 30 years and has both prosecuted and defended in all types of cases (including VHCC) as a junior, a leading junior and recently in Silk.

He has also been involved in numerous football hooliganism cases, several prison riots (including the "Strangeways Riots" of 1990) and Animal Rights cases.

He has conducted cases all over the North West of England and beyond and has considerable experience in cases which have been heard in the Court of Appeal.

Chambers UK 2009 describes Stephen as:

"magnificent, even in the most difficult cases - his work covers all aspects of serious crime"

Chambers UK 2010

"Stephen Meadowcroft QC was considered to be an outstanding junior and is shaping up to be a heavyweight Silk"

Chambers UK 2011

"Barristers at the 'fantastic and well administered' Exchange Chambers have expertise in a wide range of criminal areas. Prominent among them is Stephen Meadowcroft QC, a 'brilliant communicator' who has been involved in numerous football hooligan cases and animal rights cases on top of the usual diet of general criminal matters"

Recent cases acting for the Prosecution have included:

- *R v Monabhan* (Carlisle Crown Court) – prosecuted a blind man accused of stabbing his girlfriends to death. He claimed that it was an accident as he couldn't see her (guilty verdicts)
- *R v Basharat, Atif, Hassan & Abbas* (Manchester Crown Court) – sexual activity with a child (guilty verdicts)
- *R v Otway* (Manchester Crown Court) – gangland shooting where the prosecution witnesses did not want to give and changed their evidence – the jury initially could not reach a verdict but convicted the defendant at re-trial after further evidence was produced (guilty verdict)
- *R v Ahmed, Khan & Safi* (Manchester Crown Court) – sexual activity with a child prostitute (guilty verdicts)
- *R v Aftab Khan* (Manchester Crown Court) – controlling a child prostitute (guilty verdict)

- *R v Fallon & Allport* (Manchester Crown Court) – serious assault resulting the victim suffering permanent brain damage where the witnesses gave contradicting accounts and some did not wish to give evidence (guilty pleas)
- *R v Khaliq* (Manchester Crown Court) – assisting an offender in carrying out child sex offences (guilty verdict)
- *R v Safi* (Manchester Crown Court) – sexual offences against an underage girl (guilty verdicts)

Recent cases acting for the Defence have included:

- *R v Curtis & others* (Preston Crown Court) – conspiracy to murder involving a gangland shooting in which a close friend of the defendant conducted a cut-throat defence (not guilty verdicts)
- *R v Dauti* (Manchester Crown Court) – woman accused of murdering her husband with a defence of “battered wife syndrome” – evidence eventually accepted and plea to manslaughter accepted
- *R v Brough* (Stafford Crown Court) – represented a man who was convicted originally of a Section 18 on a 91-year old lady he viciously attacked during a burglary – the lady remained in a coma for 3 years and subsequently died after which the defendant was charged with murder – the defence forwarded legal arguments at the end of the prosecution case and the trial Judge order not guilty verdicts
- *R v Khalid* (Manchester Crown Court) – murder resulting from an arranged fight between 2 gangs in Blackburn where the victim was stabbed to death (not guilty verdicts)
- *R v Smith* (Manchester Crown Court) – murder of a middle-aged man by a youth with a baseball bat – prosecution accepted a plea to manslaughter after negotiations
- *R v Smith* (Manchester Crown Court) – acted in a racially motivated attack on an Asian man who was kicked to death in Bolton
- *R v McCluney* (Manchester Crown Court) – represented a teenage boy who savagely attacked and murdered a 2-year old girl whilst acting as a babysitter
- *R v Goulding* (Chester Crown Court) – acted for a defendant who was part of a gang who kicked a man to death outside his home
- *R v Broughton* (Chester Crown Court) – the murder of a drug dealer who was beaten to death with a hammer
- *R v Rigby* (Liverpool Crown Court) – murder of a young man after a prolonged period of torture
- *R v Taylor* (Liverpool Crown Court) – multi million pound drugs and gun running conspiracy
- *R v Khan* (Manchester Crown Court) – gangland murder conspiracy – acted for the organiser of the assassination
- *R v Holt* (Bolton Crown Court) – death by dangerous driving
- *R v Ellis* (Manchester Crown Court) – gang related murder in Manchester
- *R v Porter* (Liverpool Crown Court) – gangland murder of a member of a rival drugs gang by a planned shooting
- *R v Pilkington* (Manchester Crown Court) – killing of fellow inmate whilst in prison; defendant pleaded guilty to manslaughter
- *R v Schofield* (Manchester Crown Court) – murder; teenage boy with psychiatric problems stabbed another youth to death believing that his mother was in danger; he pleaded guilty on a limited basis

- *R v Turchet* (Manchester Crown Court) – money laundering case arising out of a multi-million pound drugs conspiracy
- *R v Tracey* (Manchester Crown Court) – murder; guilty plea
- *R v Taylor* (Manchester Crown Court) – murder; guilty plea
- *R v Allen* (Sheffield Crown Court) – gang-land murder by a professional assassin – represented the organiser of the murder