

Victoria Smith-Swain

Call 2008



Clerks' Details

👤 Ian Spencer
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👤 Kate Heald
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Memberships

- Vicky is a member of Lincoln's Inn, the Criminal Bar Association and the Association of Regulatory and Disciplinary Lawyers.

Education

- Bar Vocational Course, Nottingham Law School, Jul 2008
- LL.B Law, Newcastle Law School, Jun 2007
- A Levels/AS Level, NEW College, Pontefract, Jul 2003
- Kalisher Trust Bursary, Criminal Bar Association
- No.1 High Pavement Plea in Mitigation Competition 2008; Crowther Shield Public Speaking Competition 2008; and Dickinson Dees' Senior Client Interviewing Competition 2007.

Criminal CV

Overview

Vicky is a specialist criminal practitioner acting for both the prosecution and defence. She has significant experience across the full spectrum of criminal matters including:

- Dishonesty and fraud offences
- Violent offences, ranging from common assault to murder
- Sexual offences
- Drugs conspiracies
- Public order offences
- Road traffic offences
- ASBO and football banning order applications
- POCA applications and confiscation enforcement proceedings
- DWP and local authority prosecutions

Vicky brings a clarity of thought and expression to the advices she drafts on appeal against conviction and sentence. She represents clients on appeal where she is the original trial advocate, but also represents those clients who wish to seek alternative representation for their appeal.

Recommendations

“I assess Ms Smith-Swain to be a highly competent, professional, skilled, and down to earth advocate, who will go far. I base this opinion from client feedback (which I always obtain) and my own personal experiences from working with her. Ms Smith-Swain has also obtained good results at court in respect of my “difficult clients” who can be quite challenging and demanding... When Ms Smith-Swain covers my work, I know that all the issues will be dealt with and my clients will be well taken care of. This is of the utmost importance to my business as she is Counsel who I trust with my work.”

Claudia Francois, CFJ & Co Solicitors

“Vicky was great to have on side on the day. Clear, calm to the point and it was clear from talking to her that she genuinely loves what she does. When times like Monday come a long they generally make you take stock of things in life. Being around someone so passionate about what they do was a pleasure and refreshing, even in the circumstances – not quite a Martha Costello yet but still inspiring! ...I appreciate that a lot of the above is arguably a big part of your job but I can't help but feel like you've gone the extra mile. Sorry if this is all on the cringeworthy side but felt I had to thank you.”

Lay client's son, R v D

Cases

R v S – represented a male charged with aggravated burglary, causing grievous bodily harm (s.18) and affray.

R v C – represented a female who was jointly charged with three others for witness intimidation.

R v H – represented a male charged with multiple counts of burglary. The case involved complex footprint analysis and extensive legal argument over bad character and the admissibility of cell site data.

R v N – represented a male charged with a mortgage fraud.

R v G – represented a female in contested confiscation proceedings involving a million pound benefit figure and multiple shared assets.

R v S – represented a male at trial charged with racially aggravated threatening behaviour and assault.

R v F – represented a male at a newton hearing dealing with three offences of possession with intent to supply heroin and supplying Class A drugs.

R v A – represented a male jointly charged with a cash in transit robbery.

R v H – represented a male charged with causing a police officer serious bodily harm by dangerous driving.

D v RSPCA – represented a male in his appeal against sentence for multiple charges of animal cruelty.

R v W – represented a female charged with conspiracy to burgle 14 properties, theft from multiple motor vehicles and converting criminal property. The case involved complex expert evidence regarding the open access architecture of Gumtree and internet cookies in order to establish who placed the adverts selling the stolen property.

R v R – prosecuted a male charged with the production of, and possession with intent to supply, Cannabis.

Beyond the Bar

Vicky enjoys travelling and experiencing new cultures and customs. She has travelled extensively and has lived in Australia and the Middle East. She has worked with orphaned and disadvantaged children in Argentina and volunteered at an elephant sanctuary in Thailand. Vicky is a PADI Advanced Diver and enjoys adrenaline sports such as skydiving, white-water rafting, horse-boarding and sand-boarding.