

Alex Menary

Call 2004



Clerks' Details

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Memberships

- Criminal Bar Association
- North Eastern Circuit

Education

- University of Wales, Cardiff LLB 2003
- University of Wales, Cardiff BVC 2004
- Gray's Inn Gray's Inn
- Practice Advisor to BPP Law School, Leeds

Criminal CV

Overview

Alex is a criminal practitioner with experience in a wide range of cases. He acts for both the prosecution and defence.

Regularly instructed in complex and difficult matters, his particular areas of specialism include:

- Fraud
- Drugs supply
- Assault
- Sexual offences

Alex is a Grade 3 CPS Prosecutor and Rape Panel member. He has gained a wealth of experience in relation to Proceeds of Crime Act proceedings in both the Crown Court and during enforcement proceedings before the Magistrates on behalf of the Department for Work and Pensions.

He has also been instructed in relation to quasi-criminal proceedings by the West Yorkshire Police and on behalf of the defence in Environment Agency prosecutions.

Experienced in dealing with both paper and defendant-heavy cases, Alex assimilates facts quickly and focuses on the central issues. He is as comfortable working as part of a team during led cases as he is as a junior alone.

He also has a special interest in road traffic cases.

Cases

R v PB, Manchester Crown Court, July 2017: Successful defence of a nursing assistant charged with a campaign of sexual abuse of an adolescent mental health patient whilst detained on the ward at Cheadle Royal Hospital. The complainant's father had been convicted at an earlier trial of sexually abusing her prior to her admission, complicating the disclosure process during the 2-week trial. The defendant was unanimously acquitted.

R v H, S and A, Leeds Crown Court, April 2017: Led junior for second defendant on trial for murder in cut-throat defence, arising out of background of street-drinkers in Scarborough. The defendant suffered from alcohol dependence syndrome raising antithetical issues of diminished responsibility and loss of control.

Operation Bloodstone, Teesside Crown Court, April 2017: Provided pre-charge advice and prosecuted through to cracked trial a five-defendant conspiracy to steal nitrous oxide cylinders from NHS and private hospitals, where the Hampshire based gang had travelled as far as Inverness and Penzance in a sophisticated and well-planned year-long operation. The defendants were implicated by cell-site analysis, phone attribution, CCTV and ANPR stills in addition to the recovery of vehicles with multiple cloned identities.

R v M, York Crown Court, February 2017: Successful defence of chauffeur at private hire firm charged with theft of fuel by use of fuel card. Significant discrepancies between paperwork retained by the employer made it clear before the jury that no reliance could be placed on company documents. Unanimously acquitted.

R v C, York Crown Court, February 2017: Successful defence of a care-home director charged with Fraud. Following service of the defence statement and disclosure requests the prosecution offered no evidence.

R v A, Teesside Crown Court, February 2017: Successful pre-charge advice and prosecution of cold-caller who had befriended a vulnerable elderly man and extracted £30,000, the man's life savings, from him in a fake investment scam.

R v W, Teesside Crown Court, December 2016: Successful prosecution of stepfather for a campaign of rapes against stepdaughter between the ages of 10-16, and additional punishment rape of mother. The defendant was convicted unanimously after a 10-day trial and sentenced to 23 years imprisonment.

R v BG, LH and others (Operation Fig), Bradford Crown Court, June 2016-December 2016: Led junior in successful Home Office and WYP Immigration Fraud and Bribery prosecution. The defendants ran a profitable immigration firm submitting false housing reports in support of visa applications to the Home Office, in addition to establishing sham companies to demonstrate wages being paid to applicants. Passport and naturalisation applications were also fraudulently submitted. When accreditation was withdrawn, the second defendant attempted to bribe officers from the Office of the

Immigration Services Commissioner to regain their license. The served evidence totalled 28,000 pages. The case was complicated as the unused material was damaged in flooding. As a result, a complete review of the unused material was undertaken by Alex working with the investigation team prior to trial, a task that took 3 months, considering thousands of client files and an estimated 100,000 pages of material in addition to electronic items that were seized. The majority of the witnesses were Chinese nationals, understandably nervous about their immigration status, the majority of whom required interpreters.

R v H, Teesside Crown Court, May 2016: Successful prosecution of 37-year old defendant for attempting to groom a person he believed to be a 14-year old child via WhatsApp and Viber.

R v T, York Crown Court, March 2016: Successful defence of care-home worker charged with ill-treatment of dementia patient. Disclosure requests revealed that records had been fabricated by senior members of staff, training was inadequate and often incomplete, and staff were left to fend for themselves. Unanimously acquitted.

R v C, Teesside Crown Court, March 2016: Finding of fact hearing into patient alleged to have used aerosol can and lighter to burn fellow vulnerable resident at sheltered accommodation.

W v DPP, RCJ, March 2016: Successful appeal against sentence for 26-year old defendant convicted of Aggravated Burglary, Burglary and Perverting the Course of Justice.

R v K, Manchester Crown Court, January 2016 and York Crown Court, April 2016: Successful defence of wholesaler charged with linked offences of Fraud and Handling Stolen Goods. At Manchester the prosecution offered no evidence prior to trial; at York the defendant was unanimously acquitted after jury trial.

R v L, Leeds Crown Court, Dec 2015: Successful defence of licensee of Wakefield public house for non-recent allegations of sexual assault against his wife. The case was heard against the background of divorce proceedings heard 8 years before in which the complainant had given differing accounts and significant evidence had not been challenged. Unanimously acquitted.

R v F, Leeds Crown Court, September 2015: Led junior in murder arising out of argument between heroin addicts on the streets of York, where the deceased had never recovered and passed away after 2 years in a hospice. Required commissioning of expert consultant neuropathologist reports in addition to pathologist and psychiatric reports. Case was further complicated as the defendant had been represented by Alex during the intervening period and convicted of theft from person as alternative to aggravated burglary, yet prosecution attempted to adduce evidence of the latter by calling the complainant from prison.