

NICHOLAS LEE

Call 2018

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Nicholas is a specialist criminal practitioner. He is regularly instructed to prosecute and defend in serious cases involving violence, weapons, drugs, dishonest, public disorder, child cruelty and sexual offences.

Nicholas enjoys presenting and challenging cases which involve multiple sources of circumstantial evidence and expert evidence such as cell site analysis, voice comparison evidence and DNA/fingerprints.

Nicholas regularly conducts cases involving vulnerable defendants and witnesses and intermediaries. He has experience presenting and challenging expert psychiatric evidence and has conducted 'fitness to plead' and 'did he do the act' hearings.

Nicholas is a Grade 3 prosecutor and has acted as prosecution junior in large-scale conspiracies. He is an experienced disclosure junior and, in that role, has advised on disclosure in the context of sensitive intelligence, agreements under Section 74 of the Sentencing Act 2020 and modern day slavery defences.

Nicholas previously worked in banking and has a particular interest in fraud and financial crime. He is currently instructed as prosecution junior in a conspiracy to evade import duty (investigated by HMRC) and has previously been instructed by the Insolvency Service. He has made and responded to applications under various sections of the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002.

Nicholas accepts instructions in driving matters in the magistrates' court and his experience in this field includes defending a police officer charged with careless driving in the conduct of his duties.

Nicholas welcomes instructions in unusual areas of criminal law. He has defended cases prosecuted by the RSPCA and responded to applications for Sexual Risk Orders brought by the police.

Expertise

Crime

Nicholas joined the crime team in 2019 following pupillage under the supervision of Mary Cowe.

He is a contributing author to *Practical Advocacy in the Crown Court* (2020) and *A Practical Approach to Road Traffic Law* (2023).

Featured Crime cases

HMRC v ** (ongoing)**

Prosecution junior in large-scale conspiracy to evade import duty on tobacco.

R v ** (ongoing)**

Prosecution of four defendants for kidnap and blackmail.

R v ** (2024)**

Successfully argued for a suspended sentence for a man convicted of numerous voyeurism and IIOC offences.

R v HH et al (2023)

Prosecution junior in multi-handed conspiracy to handle stolen farm and construction machinery. The defendants' business model involved shipping the stolen machinery to Poland. POCA ongoing.

R v ** (2023)**

Prosecution of two youths for Section 18 wounding following an unprovoked stabbing.

R v AC (2023)

Successfully argued for a suspended sentence following convictions for dwelling burglary and arson reckless as to whether life endangered.

R v DR (2023)

Prosecution of a man for Section 18 GBH following a stabbing.

R v BM (2023)

Successfully argued there were exceptional reasons not to impose the mandatory minimum term for a 'third strike' burglar. Suspended sentence imposed instead.

R v BB et al (2023)

Disclosure junior in prosecution of a network trafficking drugs from Liverpool to Devon and Cornwall.

R v LF (2023)

Successfully argued for a suspended sentence for a relapsed drug addict who stole from a vulnerable family member

R v TJ and EP (2022)

Prosecution of a conspiracy to commit dwelling burglaries and 'ram-raid' non-dwelling burglaries.

R v ** (2022)**

Disclosure junior in prosecution of multiple youths involved in drugs supply who pleaded modern day slavery defences.

R v KC (2022)

Defence of a man charged with aggravated burglary. Successful application to dismiss the charge of aggravated burglary and acquitted of burglary at trial.

R v MC et al (2022)

Successfully argued that the case should be stayed as an abuse of process due to the prosecution's inexplicable delay in bringing proceedings.

R v JW (2022)

Prosecution of a man for attempted Section 18 GBH for gouging a police officer's eye.

R v LG (2021)

Prosecution of a robbery in which there was a fitness to plead determination and a 'did he do the act' hearing, followed by the imposition of a hospital order with a Section 41 restriction.

R v AH et al (2021)

Disclosure junior in multi-handed shotgun assassination relating to drugs supply.

R v ** (2021)**

Defending a young woman charged with public nuisance after threatening to jump from a multi-storey car park.

Appointments

- CPS Grade 3 Prosecutor

Education

- Bar Professional Training Course (Outstanding), Manchester Metropolitan University
- LLM in Comparative, European and International Law, European University Institute
- Graduate Diploma in Law (Distinction), Manchester Metropolitan University
- English Language and Literature (First Class), University of Oxford

Memberships

- Criminal Bar Association
- Western Circuit
- Young Fraud Lawyers Association

Awards

- Gray's Inn Mould Scholarship (2019)
- Gray's Inn Prince of Wales Scholarship (2016)