

## Curriculum Vitae

### Robert Lancaster

Solicitor-Advocate (2007)

De Montfort University, Leicester - LLB (Hons) 1997

Solicitor - 2002

Duty Solicitor (Manchester and Stockport Schemes) - 2004

Higher Court Advocate - 2007

Partner at Burton Copeland LLP - 2009

15 years' experience within a criminal casework environment, progressing from case preparer to principal advocate with leading solicitors Burton Copeland.

Since joining the Public Defender Service in June 2014, Rob has maintained a busy practise in Manchester. He enjoys working closely with solicitors and providing prompt advice upon receipt of instructions.

### Expertise

Representation of defendants at all stages of the criminal justice system, from the police station to the Court of Appeal.

Succeeded in the Court of Appeal in an Attorney Generals Reference prosecuted by Dominic Grieve QC MP by representing the only defendant in a Conspiracy to Commit Fraud who did not have his sentence increased.

Very busy practise over the last ten years conducting trials in relation to a full range of offences before the Crown Court. Experience in representing alleged conspirators in relation to 'Cash in Transit' Robbery and in the analysis of large volumes of evidence and unused material.

Experienced in dealing with Public Interest Immunity applications and complex Proceeds of Crime Act matters. Extensive experience in representing young and vulnerable defendants, and in cases involving the use of intermediaries.

Particular emphasis in recent years in representing defendants charged with serious violent and sexual offences.

### Notable Cases

Set out below is a selection of cases in which Robert Lancaster has been involved, but it should not be regarded as exhaustive.

#### **Attorney Generals Reference (No 6 of 2013)**

Lengthy submissions in relation to the sentence of a male referred to in the media as the '1-PAD Rapist'.

#### **Attorney Generals Reference (No's 41, 42, 43, 44, 45 of 2011).**

Conspiracy to Commit Fraud (referred to above)

<b>Serious Sexual Offences</b>
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**R v M [2017]**

Assault by Penetration and Sexual Assault – Trial - Not Guilty Verdicts.

**R v S [2017]**

Rape (x 6) – Trial – Not Guilty Verdicts. Following submissions five counts were withdrawn from the Jury at the conclusion of the prosecution case.

**R v M [2016]**

Rape – trial – Liverpool Crown Court – Not Guilty Verdict.

**R v H [2016]**

Rape and Wounding – Defence maintained false complaint and self-defence. Not Guilty Verdicts. Vulnerable Complainant and Defendant as both suffered from enduring and serious mental illness.

**R v J [2016]**

Rape – Liverpool Crown Court - Appropriate application to cross examine upon prior sexual behaviour. Not Guilty Verdict.

**R v G [2016]**

Exposure – Defendant was a nudist and maintained that he did not seek to offend others. Not Guilty Verdict.

**R v S [2015]**

Multiple allegations of Rape and Sexual Assault against family member. Defendant with significant learning disability.

**R v L [2015]**

Rape – The Crown offered no evidence following submissions regarding prior false complaint. Extensive preparation included identifying and obtaining transcripts of evidence given by the Complainant in another case.

**R v M [2014]**

Sexual activity with a Child x 2 – Not Guilty Verdict – Cross examination of a vulnerable 7-year-old child.

**R v V [2014]**

Rape - Trial - Not Guilty Verdict - Complainant alleged an attack by the defendant who was so intoxicated that he had no recollection of events.

**R v M [2014]**

Rape - Trial - Not Guilty Verdict - Case concerned alleged rape outside a nightclub. Extensive consideration of CCTV footage raised issues that completely undermined the Complainants credibility.

**R v S [2013]**

Rape - Trial - Not Guilty Verdict - Cross examination of four women who alleged that the man they had invited into their house had attacked one of their number. Defence was consent.

**R v S [2013]**

Rape - Trial - Not Guilty Verdict - Night manager of city centre hotel accused of sexual attack upon a guest. Cross examination through live link to witnesses in Australia.

<b>Serious Violence</b>
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**R v B [2015]**

Wounding with Intent and Attempted Wounding with Intent – Case taken over by the Serious Crime Division of GMP as the victim was the son of a Senior Police Officer. Lengthy argument re disclosure and potential abuse. Not guilty verdicts.

**R v W [2015]**

Wounding with Intent – Trial – Not Guilty Verdict – Allegation of an alleged group attack with a knife.

**R v O [2012]**

Wounding with Intent - Trial - Not Guilty Verdict - Doorman alleged to have attacked two men with three of his colleagues. Issues were joint enterprise and identification.

**R v Q [2011]**

Wounding with Intent - Trial - Not Guilty Verdict - Defendant named and known to witnesses, although denied presence. The unpleasant nature of the Complainant, highlighted through cross examination, did not assist the prosecution.

**R v H [2010]**

Wounding with Intent - Trial - Not Guilty Verdict - Defendant accepted that he committed a serious assault on the night in question, albeit not the assault that he had been charged with.

<b>General Crime</b>
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**R v B [2017]**

Represented a Juror facing Jury Misconduct Proceedings after she conducted and shared internet research about the Defendant in her trial with her fellow jurors, causing a serious trial to collapse. Suspended Sentence Order imposed.

**R v S [2017]**

Arson with Intent to Endanger Life – extremely vulnerable young Defendant – extensive background circumstances impacted upon admitted behaviour and allowed a plea to the lesser offence of reckless arson. Suspended Sentence Order.

**R v H (and others) [2016]**

Fraud - Multi-million pound evasion of duty on tobacco (multiple Defendants) - Teesside Crown Court – Defendant received a suspended sentence order.

**R v R [2015]**

Arson with Intent to Endanger Life – Allegation of a serial arsonist setting fires within the same area of Manchester. Issues arising out of disclosure requests undermined identification evidence – Not Guilty Verdicts on all counts.

**R v I [2015]**

Fraudulent Use of a Trademark – represented Defendant charged with others in relation to the widespread sale of counterfeit goods from premises in North Manchester. Following submissions relating to significant failures within the investigation the Crown offered no evidence.

**R v F [2011]**

Represented a defendant who became known in the media as the ‘Facebook Juror’ in relation to Contempt of Court Proceedings before the Crown Court.

**R v A [2009]**

Crown sought to proceed with matters taken into consideration in circumstances where it could be established that the defendant had received an inducement to confess. Following legal argument the Crown offered no evidence on all counts.

**To Note/Other****Reputation and Commitment**

Rob Lancaster is proud to be a Solicitor-Advocate and he has gained the respect of the Bar and the Judiciary, particularly within the Manchester Crown Courts.

As a Partner and leading Solicitor-Advocate at Burton Copeland LLP Rob gained a reputation as a formidable trial lawyer, whilst performing a key role as a leader within a very busy Crown Court Department.

As a member of the PDS Advocacy Unit Rob continues to conduct trials in relation to serious allegations with skill and enthusiasm. His experience means that he understands the issues that confront solicitors during the preparation of a case, from its police station roots to the higher courts. He is acutely aware of ‘Better Case Management’ and works with solicitors to achieve positive results.

Fully committed to providing high quality representation to Defendants and a high quality service to instructing solicitors.

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Offices in Cardiff, Swansea, Pontypridd, Cheltenham, Darlington & London.  
Available to meet solicitors and clients at any convenient location.