

Curriculum Vitae

Simon Perkins

University of Buckingham – LLB (Hons) 1998

Called 1999 – Grays Inn

Expertise

Extensive experience of defence advocacy across the spectrum of criminal practice including in the Crown Court, Court Martial and Court of Appeal.

With a special interest in Disclosure Issues, adept at employing IT to collate and analyse complex and voluminous cases.

Regularly instructed to represent vulnerable defendants on account of demonstrating great understanding and patience with this client group. A reputation for gaining the confidence of those who are least able to express their instructions, and for providing clients with clear, direct and unequivocal advice.

Considerable experience in Court Martial defence and representing Service personnel in the Military and civilian courts.

Simon has developed his interest in and knowledge of psychiatric issues arising from military service.

Notable Cases

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

Murder, Violence

R v RK

A “single punch manslaughter” witnessed by two PCs who failed to recognise the severity of the injury, delayed summoning medical assistance, and prevented a teenage bystander from trying to assist. None of that affected the outcome of the assault. However, the case was prosecuted as a murder after the PCs “embellished” their evidence about the assault. The pathology was inconsistent with their accounts and the jury acquitted of murder.

R v JL

Defence junior in case of a 21-year-old with borderline special educational needs involved in a fatal drunken assault on elderly alcoholic.

Robbery / Conspiracy to Rob

R v KM

Defence of one of a number of men involved in a series of armed robberies of betting shops.

R v JJ

Defence of a 15-year-old youth implicated in a series of armed cash-in-transit robberies by the presence of his blood on one getaway vehicle.

Sexual Offences**R v RD**

Defence of 16-year-old accused of raping his 6-year-old step-sister. Case conducted under the vulnerable witness procedures and turned upon the implausibility of the complainant's account and detailed reconstruction of the family's chronology. Client acquitted on all counts.

R v GO

A combination of contemporary and 20-year-old allegations against a profoundly learning-disabled man who was unfit to plead. The challenge to the evidence relied upon exposure of inconsistencies in the principal witness' account; close examination of the medical unlikelihood of the defendant being equipped to do the acts alleged; and a dismantling of rather sweeping conclusions of an "expert" paediatrician based upon a minimal number of first hand cases and a complete absence of published research on the phenomena asserted.

Drugs**R v CO**

Conspiracy to Supply Class A. Whilst this was a Guilty Plea significant work was done to mitigate sentence involving psychiatric enquiries in defendant's PTSD consequent upon Army service in Northern Ireland.

R v RC

Conspiracy to supply Class (A) where conspirators were connected to a major wholesale supplier. Case entailed cell-site analysis, covert surveillance and bugging of conspirators' vehicles.

Neglect / Ill-Treatment of Patients**R v LT**

Acted as led junior in defence of the manager of a residential care home prosecuted under s44 of the Mental Capacity Act 2005. The case against three defendants collapsed due to absence of evidence of incapacity of alleged victims and failures of disclosure. Leading counsel was kind enough to say that the Defence Case Statement drafted by Simon was "...perfectly precise and prescient."

Dishonesty**R v CJ (Court Martial)**

An allegation of theft from stores and subsequent sale of items on EBay. The case required detailed analysis of several hundred alleged eBay transactions. The key point was that deficiencies in Army stock control systems leading to short cuts in paper recording systems created the impression of stock deficiencies when none existed. Case was stopped by the Judge Advocate when it emerged that the Prosecution could not prove any stock was missing.

Unusual / Miscellaneous

R v JPF

This was a superficially simple allegation of dangerous driving against a 17-year-old said to have been committed 8 days after he passed his driving test. The defendant had a “black box” insurance policy and whilst the police had seized the data from it, their superficial analysis was not relied upon. However, detailed expert analysis of some 18,000 lines of data from the “black box” enabled a detailed refutation of each key allegation from prosecution witnesses. The client, of Good Character, was acquitted.

R v PH

Defence of an off-duty police officer alleged to have needlessly kicked a dog. Case entailed commissioning and calling defence expert veterinary evidence to rebut the allegations.

R v JH

Successful defence of a police civilian staff member accused of unauthorised access to, and dissemination of, police computer records.

Contact Details

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Available to meet solicitors and clients at any convenient location.