



Josh Normanton

2012

"I cannot believe that someone of that call could produce a performance that a silk would have been proud of"

- Crown Court Judge

"Always well prepared and clients love him"

- Instructing Solicitor

Overview

Josh appears regularly in high profile, sensitive and complex criminal cases nationwide. He acts both for defendants and the prosecution in cases involving serious fraud, violence and sexual conduct. He has been described as "meticulously prepared" and an advocate that "no opponent should underestimate".

His specialisms include financial services law developed during a secondment to the General Counsel's Division of the Financial Conduct Authority. Josh has since conducted international financial regulation work, instructed by off-shore financial regulators.

Josh is a skilled prosecutor and is regularly instructed in private prosecution work in all courts. He is often instructed to provide specific advice on merits or procedural aspects of contemplated private prosecutions. His clients have included local authorities, companies and individuals. He recently secured a substantial confiscation order following the successful private prosecution of an individual.

Josh also appears regularly in serious sexual cases involving vulnerable witnesses and defendants. He was a core member of the Rook Group Advocacy and the Vulnerable Committee which developed a nationwide course now being rolled out to all Solicitors and Barristers. Josh has written extensively on law and practice relating to the questioning of vulnerable witnesses.

Josh is a contributing editor for Archbold Criminal Pleading, Evidence and Practice.

Josh works closely with senior Silks and the Judiciary on social mobility and diversity projects. He is regularly involved in mock trials, conferences and seminars to improve access to the profession for those from all backgrounds.

Josh is a member of the executive committee of the Criminal Bar Association. He is the social secretary for the Young Fraud's Lawyers' Association.

Notable Cases

R v Gupta (2018)

Acting for the defence, Josh was led by the Chair of the Criminal Bar Association in a high-profile case involving sexual misconduct allegations against a consultant doctor. The doctor was acquitted of all counts. Josh's leader described him as "a junior of the highest calibre with an exceptional work ethic and impressive manner with clients."

R v Anderson ("Operation Stronghold") (2018)

Josh appeared alone as counsel for the lead defendant in a lengthy and complex nine-handed case involving conspiracy to supply class A drugs. He was praised by the judge for his conduct of the case.

R v Stoddart (2017)

Josh appeared before a panel of the Divisional Court which included the President of the Queen's Bench Division, Sir Brian Leveson QC to represent a juror who had committed a serious criminal contempt after conducting research into a defendant's criminal past in the course of trial and informing the other jurors. Following Josh's mitigation, the juror received a short-suspended sentence.

R v W (2016)

Josh acted for a 19-year-old vulnerable male with learning difficulties who faced multiple allegations of historic rape against his younger male nephew. He was acquitted after trial.

R v S (2015)

Josh was instructed as junior counsel in a lengthy multi-handed trial involving serious sexual allegations. The case was complicated by alleged malpractice by a County Council Children Services' department. Josh's client was acquitted of all counts of sexual abuse. The case was reported in the national and international press.

R v Pocius (2014)

Instructed as junior counsel, Josh represented a Lithuanian defendant indicted in a brutal multi-handed murder. Josh's client was acquitted. The case was reported in the national press.

Education

BPTC (Very Competent);

LLB (Hons) 2:1.

Lord Diplock Scholarship, Middle Temple.

University of Sheffield. BA (Hons), 1st Class.

In 2011, Josh was awarded the Harold G Fox Scholarship, a prestigious international scholarship. As part of the scholarship, he worked at associate level in the litigation department of the prominent Canadian law firm Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP in Toronto. He worked under John Campion of the same firm, who is recognised as one of the leading litigation lawyers in North America. Josh also shadowed Judges at the Ontario Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court of Canada in Ottawa.