Jessica Peck

Junior Counsel - Under 15 Years
CALLED 2018



Jessica Peck is a highly driven and determined advocate. She acts in matters across the spectrum of crime, from serious violence to driving offences. She is known for her meticulous attention to detail and dedicated research.

Jessica has an established and vast defence practice, appearing regularly in the Crown, Magistrates' and Youth Court. She has a particular interest in defending young and vulnerable lay clients and has a natural skill for building rapport and trust with the lay client. She is fast establishing a strong Prosecution practice across the Crown Court in all criminal matters including sentencing of sexual offences.

Before coming to the Bar, Jessica worked as a paralegal with Sonn Macmillan Walker Solicitors which allowed her to gain experience in and an understanding of extradition law; something in which she maintains a particular interest in. Her previous experience working as an intern at the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the Extraordinary Chambers of the Court of Cambodia fuelled her interest in international criminal law and working with vulnerable clients.

Areas of Expertise

- **General Crime**

Jessica defends and prosecutes across the Crown Court, Magistrates' Court, and Youth Court. She has a busy and diverse criminal defence practice, ranging from serious violence to dishonesty to driving offences.

Jessica has a particular interest in representing youth defendants and has been instructed in a number of cases concerning more complicated youth matters. She is experienced in drafting complex legal arguments including an abuse of process and applications to dismiss. This has resulted in numerous instructions in quasi criminal-civil matters including TFL appeals against the revocation of licences.

Jessica is building her prosecution practice by appearing on behalf of the CPS regularly in sentencing hearings and appeals. She has also prosecuted on behalf of the Probation Service for breaches of orders.

Notable Cases

Drugs

R v GB, 2022

Following a change of plea on the day of trial to a third-strike offence of possession with intent to supply of a controlled drug of class A, Jessica successfully presented an argument that it was not in the interests of justice to impose the mandatory minimum sentence due to the previous convictions being committed as a youth. The lay client was instead sentenced to a total of 3 years and 4 months for two charges of possession with intent to supply a controlled drug of a class A drug, being concerned in the supply of a controlled drug of class B and three breaches of a criminal behaviour order. Jessica further successfully opposed the imposition of a further criminal behaviour order.

Guildford Crown Court

R v VL, 2022

Jessica was instructed on a return basis the evening before trial in matter relating to being concerned in the supply of class A drugs. Following indications from the Learned Judge, the lay client received a suspended sentence.

Central Criminal Court

Drugs

Financial Crime

Metropolitan Police v B, 2021

Successfully secured return of cash seized by police following a stop and search where no criminal proceedings were brought but an application for forfeiture of the cash was made by the Metropolitan Police.

Bromley Magistrates' Court

Financial Crime

Firearms

R v DF, 2023

A youth client was initially charged with conspiracy to possess a firearm from a snapchat conversation. Following the drafting of written representations to the CPS, this charge was discontinued on the argument that it was not possible to determine if the item depicted was an actual firearm or an imitation.

Uxbridge Youth Court

Firearms

General Crime

R v VL, 2022

Having been instructed as a return brief before trial for a multi-handed conspiracy to burgle, steal and defraud, Jessica successfully negotiated with the Crown to accept a plea to a single offence of handling stolen goods.

Isleworth Crown Court

R v D, 2021

Mounted a successful defence in a case alleging attempted robbery. The Crown offered no evidence.

Snaresbrook Crown Court

R v M, 2020

Successful half time submission on a s5 Public Order Act charge on the basis that no persons were present at the time who could have been caused harassment, alarm or distress, only police officers. Secured an acquittal in relation to an allegation of assault of an emergency worker following detailed submissions as to the content of CCTV.

Hendon Magistrates' Court

R v R, 2020

Persuaded the Court to grant bail in a robbery matter where no address could be provided, removing the ability for an electronically monitored curfew.

Wimbledon Magistrates' Court

Crime

Violence

R v MG, 2022

Acquittal secured in an allegation of assault of an emergency worker after a number of concerns were raised as to the officers' treatment of the defendant.

Snaresbrook Crown Court

R v JA, 2022

Acquittal secured in a matter of ABH for which the lay client had been recalled, following detailed cross-examination of the complainant.

Woolwich Crown Court

R v TS, 2022

The matter was conceded by the Crown after having been set down for an application to dismiss on the basis that the police had forced the lay client to be in possession of a bladed article in a public

place when evicting him.

Isleworth Crown Court

R v CA, 2022

The Crown offered no evidence to two charges of robbery and two charges of possession of a bladed article following the service of the defence case statement raising alibi and seeking cell site evidence and forensics.

Basildon Crown Court

R v A, 2020

Successfully secured an acquittal on an assault emergency worker where client was vulnerable. The trial involved numerous legal arguments, two police officers to be cross-examined, a defence witness and expert evidence.

Uxbridge Youth Court

Violence

Achievements

Memberships

- The Honourable Society of the Inner Temple
- South Eastern Circuit
- Women in Criminal Law

Appointments

- CPS Panel Grade 2

Education

- University of Surrey – LLB Law with International Studies
- City of London Law School – Bar Professional Training Course