

Karlia Lykourgou



Call: 2013

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Profile

Karlia Lykourgou is an experienced court advocate who achieves excellent results through careful preparation, informed legal argument, and persuasive advocacy.

She is sought after for serious and complex criminal cases involving violence, weapons, trafficking, sexual offences, drugs, theft and fraud; and successfully represents clients at the Court of Appeal, Divisional and Administrative Court.

She also acts on behalf of individuals and regulators before regulatory tribunals in matters including competence and misconduct. In these proceedings, Karlia specialises in expert questioning on technical issues related to patient injury and cause of death.

Karlia has also worked on the Grenfell Inquiry and the Undercover Policing Inquiry.

Karlia is committed to high standards of client care and provides accessible advice to clients at all stages of proceedings on a private or legal aid basis to achieve the best results possible. Direct access instructions are also welcome.

Recent Notable Cases

Education

Law with American Legal Studies LLB, University of Leeds

Public International Law LLM, University of Leiden, The Netherlands

Languages

English

Greek

Related practice areas

Criminal Law

Professional Discipline and Regulation

Violent Offences

- **R v BP [2023]** – Led by Emma Goodall KC in a murder trial. Our client was successfully acquitted of murder and convicted by a majority of manslaughter.
- **R v AB [2022]** – Secured the acquittal of a client accused of scalping the victim in a violent assault, despite evidence from the victim that she attacked him.
- **R v FD [2021]** – Represented a man charged with s.18 GBH in a serious nightclub brawl securing a non-custodial sentence.
- **R v LP [2020]** – Led by Katy Thorne KC in a child cruelty case where a young woman was prosecuted for giving birth unexpectedly and leaving her baby in a bin. Following work with psychologists and legal representations to the Crown, they decided to offer no evidence and our client was acquitted.
- **R v SR [2020]** – Represented a youth charged with attempted murder. Managed to agree a plea to a s.18 GBH.
- **R v SH [2019]** - Successfully represented a 15-year-old youth who pleaded guilty to grievous bodily harm with intent (s.18 GBH) and possession of a bladed article after stabbing his step-father in the groin. Following submissions to the judge and probation, he was sentenced to 18 months in a secure home for vulnerable youth rather than a detention centre.

- **R v MJ & Ors [2018]** - Secured the acquittal of man charged with affray and common assault by arguing self-defence despite CCTV showing two kicks to the head with a shod foot.
- **R v KD [2018]** - Successfully persuaded the Court of Appeal to reduce the sentence of a young man who pleaded guilty to affray and assault occasioning actual bodily harm (ABH).
- **BS and RS v R [2018]** – Secured a successful appeal against conviction for a man convicted of three counts of common assault involving a pool cue.

Sexual Offences

- **R v JF [2023]** – Secured the acquittal of a client accused of rape.
- **R v ML [2023]** – Secured the acquittal of a client accused of sexual activity with a child when he was 18 and the complainant was 15.
- **R v DL [2022]** – Secured the acquittal of a client accused of rape.
- **R v CT [2022]** – Secured the acquittal of a client accused of sexual assault in court martial proceedings.
- **DP v Metropolitan Police Commissioner [2018, 2019]** - Instructed to represent a man accused of five separate allegations of rape against a sexual risk order applied for by the MPC. The defendant was successfully acquitted of a breach of the interim order and appealed the substantive order.
- **R v AL [2018]** - Secured the acquittal of a man charged with disclosing private sexual images of his girlfriend.
- **R v LS [2018]** - Successfully represented a man who pleaded guilty to sexual assault and voyeurism involving his housemate. The case involved lengthy legal argument on whether a Newton Hearing should be held on the basis of plea entered. This point was resolved in the defendant's favour.

Drug Offences

- **R v NC** [2018] - Secured the acquittal of a young man charged with possession of Class A drugs with intention to supply by arguing possession for personal use.
- **R v M** [2018] - Secured a two year suspended sentence for a young man who pleaded guilty to possession of Class A drugs with intention to supply. (The sentence starting point for this offence is 4.5 years.)

Dishonesty Offences

- **R v SL** [2018] - Secured the acquittal of a man charged with stealing £3500 from his employer at the Coral betting shop, despite CCTV showing him placing money in his pocket.
- **R v WD** [2018] - Secured the acquittal of a man charged with burglary, despite evidence that he sold the stolen items on ebay and worked next to the complainant's property.
- **R v HM** [2018] Successfully represented a man charged with robbery and fraud.

Intimidatory Offences

- **R v LW** [2019] – Successfully represented a man charged with coercive and controlling behaviour against a partner, ABH, common assault and dangerous driving.
- **R v MA** [2018] - Successfully represented a man charged with assault occasioning actual bodily harm and coercive and controlling behaviour against his partner.

Driving Offences

Karlia Lykourgou has a strong background in driving cases and related matters.

Her experience in this area comprises: careless and dangerous driving (including fatal collisions); driving with excess alcohol/drugs; speeding; failure to stop; failure to report an accident; no insurance; and driving otherwise than in accordance with a licence.

She mitigates for drivers in special reasons and exceptional hardship applications, successfully preventing disqualification and minimizing the number of points imposed.

She is well versed in legal developments in this area and is able to provide advice and representation on cases at early stages. This enables focused instruction on expert evidence and allows defendants to make informed decisions on plea.

Karla provides clear, detailed advice to all clients on their case prospects and the procedure going forward. This client care approach is particularly helpful to defendants facing serious charges and those who lack experience in the criminal justice system.

Armed Forces

She is sought after for serious and complex criminal cases involving violence, weapons, trafficking, sexual offences, drugs, theft and fraud. She successfully represents clients in all higher criminal courts as well as court martial proceedings.