



Emma Nash

Called: 2001

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Legal 500 (Leading Juniors) Ranked Tier 3

Emma is highly sought after and well respected with a practice which encompasses the full spectrum of serious and complex criminal cases, both prosecuting and defending. Emma is widely regarded as an outstanding jury advocate with formidable skill in cross-examination and speeches whilst being tactically astute. She is able to master complex briefs with precision and ease and her meticulous preparation of every case is self-evident.

Emma has particular expertise in cases which are sensitive or those involving the very young or vulnerable, including those with mental health difficulties and has excellent communication skills with an empathetic approach.

Hardworking and offering a high level of professional care, Emma is extremely accessible and responsive. Her down to earth, approachable manner makes her an extremely popular choice for lay and professional clients alike.

Emma was appointed a Crown Court Criminal Recorder in 2023 and is ranked in both Chambers and Partners and the Legal 500.

Testimonials

“She is very down-to-earth in dealing with people and a good operator.”

Chambers and Partners 2025

“Emma is a hardworking and diligent barrister. She is forceful in court and persuasive”

Legal 500 2025

“Her advocacy is tenacious and she’s always on top of the brief. She presents the evidence in a way that juries like.”

Chambers and Partners 2024



"Emma is hardworking and dedicated. She thoroughly prepares her cases, and her legal knowledge is sound. She pays real attention to detail and is extremely good with vulnerable and anxious witnesses. In court, she is a natural advocate and a real force to be reckoned with."

Legal 500 2024

"A bright, capable advocate who is a forceful presence in court."

Chambers and Partners 2023

"A fearless and enormously effective cross-examiner. She leaves no stone unturned in presenting a case to a jury. A master of her brief."

Legal 500

"Very clever"

Legal 500

'She is very dogged, determined and always on top of every detail in a case.'

Legal 500

Ranked In



Cases

Criminal Defence

R v JK – 2020 – Ipswich CC -Represented JK in this complex and difficult case, achieving through thorough and effective written and oral mitigation a just result in this extremely sad case.
<https://www.gazette-news.co.uk/news/18199393.sex-attacker-spared-jail-historic-abuse/>

<https://www.eadt.co.uk/news/man-who-assaulted-schoolboys-in-1990s-as-a-teenager-is-spared-jail-1-6491571>

R v K C [2009] All ER (D) 290 Murder – Juror bias, juror writing about case. Led by Chris Sallon QC

R v K G [2019] EWCA Crim 787 – Robbery, appeal against sentence

R v ML [2007] EWCA Crim 1766 – Sexual assault by a teacher on 2 pupils, cross admissibility of counts

R v DW [2006] EWCA Crim 2496 – Appeal against sentence – Making indecent images of children

R v BV – GBH on defendants baby involving “shaken baby” injuries – Led by Jane Bickerstaff QC

R v AM – Rape of grandfather’s partner

R v C -Sexual abuse of 2 step grandchildren aged 6 and 8 at trial over a 3 year period.

R v TW – Sexual assault on a 4 year old

R v SL – Aggravated burglary involving a knife

R v SI – Historic sexual abuse of defendants step daughter and granddaughter

R v TN – S18 GBH involving 10 stab wounds

R v S – Multiple rapes of child aged 9 years by adult

R v DP – Historic rapes and sexual abuse of defendants step daughter who had mental health illnesses



R v P C –32 counts of sexual misconduct towards young children over 10 years by a teacher

R v KD –S18 stabbing case, defendant with significant mental health issues, led by William Clegg QC

R v GS –8 Week multi-handed money laundering trial as led junior

R v DG – 2 S18 offences involving an angle grinder and perverting the course of justice

R v HW – Firearms and ammunition, disposing of them linked to a murder, young and vulnerable defendant

R v NG – S18 GBH by defendant with multiple mental health illnesses on his nurse

R v ER – S18 stabbing. Both defendant and complainant vulnerable

R v DW – Multi handed drugs importation and money laundering

Criminal Prosecution

Sex cases

R v B – 2020 – Basildon CC – Secured the conviction of a care worker who had seriously and repeatedly sexually abused an elderly man with significant mental health illnesses he was charged with caring for in his own home.

R v C – 2019 – Ipswich CC – prosecuting for Essex CPS Rasso unit. Secured convictions for 11 offenses of child sexual abuse where the defendant had groomed the victim and abused him between the ages of 12 and 16.
<https://www.eadt.co.uk/news/suffolk-man-found-guilty-of-sex-offences-1-6424716>

R v ML [2007] EWCA Crim 1766 – Sexual assault on 2 pupils by teacher – Collusion/ innocent contamination

R v RC – Multiple rapes and sexual assault of a child when aged between 12 and 17

R v AL – Sexual abuse of D's own daughter aged 6-7 and 7 at trial

R v MB – Sexual abuse of deceased vulnerable adult by care worker

R v KD – Sexual abuse of 2 vulnerable females by a Police Crime Scene Examiner in the course of his employment

R v WM – Rape of defendants own 11 year old daughter

R v TC –Regular sexual abuse of 2 children aged 5 and 9 by a 15 year old defendant

R v P – Historic sexual abuse of child, 80 year old defendant

R v AP – Historic sexual abuse of a 15 year old child by her step father



R v AW -Sexual abuse of a 5-7 year old child (8 at trial) by her uncle who had mental health illnesses.

R v MA – Multiple rapes and sexual assaults of two 8 year old children by a 12 year old defendant aged 17 at trial

R v AT – Multiple rapes of 2 women who were vulnerable partners of the defendant

R v W – Sexual assault of 4 year old child

R v JP – 2020 – Chelmsford CC – Led by Mark Fenhalls QC prosecution of a man charged with multiple rapes and serious sexual abuse of several child family members over a prolonged period

R v E – 2020 – Ipswich CC – Prosecution of a man for sexual offences over the preceding 60 years for sexual offences against a large number of family members

R v Y – 2020 – Chelmsford Youth Court – Prosecution of a youth charged with repeated rapes of his young sibling

R v JA – 2020 – Chelmsford CC – Prosecution of a foster carer charged with sexual assault of children

Other cases

R v AW – Aggravated burglary with a firearm and possession of firearm with intent

R v JTC – S18 GBH where victim left in persistent vegetative state

R v R and T – Series of distraction burglaries against vulnerable adults

R v KV – Assault and shooting

R v AJ – S18 stabbing

R v TA – Supply of drugs, intimidation and coercion of young man to deal

R v BH – Serial burglar who, in the course of one, stabbed a householder

R v GSD – Arson with intent

E v DPP [2005] EWHC 1077 (Admin) -Case stated – Adjournments, delay, legitimate expectations

R v JTC – 2020 – Chelmsford CC – Led by Tom Kark QC successful prosecution of a young man charged with murder where the death occurred 4 years after the original horrific assault which left the victim in a persistent vegetative state. Involved issues of natus interveniens, causation, waiver of legal privilege, and a challenge in the Court of Appeal regarding the original conviction for s18.

Military & Courts Martial



Emma is experienced in defending members and employees of the armed forces at trial for both military and civil offences before Courts-Martial or Standing Civilian Courts both in the UK and abroad.

R v a Private Soldier (Parachute Regiment) – 2 Week GBH with intent trial by General Court-Martial

R v a Guardsman – S20 GBH case

Professional Memberships

- Criminal Bar Association (former secretary and executive committee member)
- South East Circuit
- Essex Bar Mess

Awards, Qualifications & Other

- Appointed Criminal Recorder in 2023
- Ranked in both Legal 500 and Chambers and Partners.
- Grade 3 CPS Counsel
- CPS Raso Panel
- Vulnerable witness course approved facilitator
- GDPR trained
- Awarded 3 Inner Temple Scholarships whilst qualifying