



Nicholas Lumley KC

Year of call 1992 Silk 2012



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Nicholas Lumley KC is a specialist criminal and regulatory law advocate, who has been involved in some of the most complex and high-profile cases in the country. His expertise in criminal law covers both the prosecution and defence of cases involving a broad range of serious offences, including murder, manslaughter, torture, drug trafficking, human trafficking and exploitation, serious fraud, tax evasion and money laundering, professional misconduct and rape. Nicholas is often instructed for defence work on a private basis.

With a background in medico-legal cases and expertise in cases where there is complex medical evidence, Nicholas has specialist experience in child death, including 'Baby-shaking' cases.

Nicholas's regulatory practice involves a mixture of defence and prosecution and court and advisory work. He has a particular interest in Health & Safety cases of the utmost complexity and seriousness, often involving fatalities in the workplace. Nicholas has worked on cases involving the Care Quality Commission and the Health and Safety Executive, where individuals and companies have been charged on both a criminal and regulatory basis. Nicholas represents police officers in front of disciplinary tribunals. He has experience of representing Doctors. He has conducted inquests into complex deaths, including the sudden deaths of babies.

Nicholas is commended for his meticulous preparation, his 'eye for detail' and 'reading of the case, client and witness, not just the case papers.' He is regarded as a 'hands-on silk that goes the extra mile researching the foreign, unusual and bizarre to get to the understanding of his client's case'. His calm demeanour reassures clients and puts witnesses at ease. He 'instils immediate confidence' and is a 'remarkable leader'. He is described as an 'elegant and charming performer' who unfalteringly remains 'calm, composed and reassuring' in what often present as the most trying of circumstances.

Recent cases have included the successful private defences of a business man charged with the rape of his wife, a student charged with the rape of a fellow student after a one-night stand and a barrister charged with raping his mother.

Expertise

Leeds

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Newcastle

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Crime

Notable Crime cases

R v K (2016)

Successful private defence of professional rugby player (England and Newcastle Falcons) charged with rape having met via Tinder. Issues of consent, reasonable belief in consent, admissibility of sexual history of complainant.

R v J (2016)

Successful private defence of businessman charged with cultivating cannabis, defence of medical necessity.

R v M (2016)

Private defence of internet child grooming, issues of entrapment by vigilante group.

R v L & Others (2016)

Multi-defendant immigration fraud.

R v MW (2016)

Murder, issue of causation of complex head injury.

R v AI (2015)

Defence of Relate counsellor and sex-therapist, charged with multiple rapes.

R v KT (2015)

Court of Appeal (LCJ) concerning the issue of consent in extreme sexual encounters. Question of law, of public importance, certified for the Supreme Court.

R v F (2015)

Private defence (Guilty plea and mitigation) of businessman, a qualified solicitor and keen amateur sportsman, who had broken eye-socket of spectator at football match.

R v T (2014)

Prosecution of defendant charged with murder against background of prolonged domestic violence and abuse.

R v S (2014)

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Defendant charged with single punch manslaughter. The victim did not die immediately and sustained further accidental head-injuries. The case involved complex neuro-surgical and pathological evidence as to causation.

Administrative Court & Judicial Review

Nick has appeared on behalf of the General Medical Council before the High Court in numerous applications to extended interim restrictions on Doctors' practices.

Notable Administrative Court & Judicial Review cases

Dr S (2013)

Appeal against the conclusions of the interim orders panel of the MPTS.

Dr A (2013)

Permission hearing and full Judicial Review hearing concerning the interpretation of regulations governing Dr's fitness to practice.

Regulatory

Nick regularly appears before the fitness to practice panel of the Medical Practitioners' Tribunal Service.

Nick also has recent experience of representing sports professionals and bookmakers, before the Crown Court and the Court of Appeal.

Notable Regulatory cases

GMC v Professor H

Fitness to practice, fraudulent research in pancreatic cancer, to obtain grants from pharmaceutical companies and for publication in leading medical journals.

GMC v Dr O

Fitness to practice, deception and fraudulent prescribing.

GMC v Dr M

Appeal by Dr suffering from long-standing delusional and schizophrenic conditions.

Dr D

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Extent of powers of interim orders panel to suspend a Dr of otherwise exemplary character facing criminal allegations of blackmail.

Dr T [2014]

Specialist A&E Dr who perpetrated sustained and sophisticated prescription fraud.

Dr P [2014]

Consultant gynaecologist with NHS and extensive private practice charged with sexual assaults of three female patients.

Dr O [2013]

Consultant psychiatrist whose conduct grossly compromised patient safety.

Dr H [2013]

Consultant gastroenterologist falsifying data and research reports for publication in leading clinical journal.

Dr A [2013]

Consultant thoracic anaesthetist charged with misrepresentation and misconduct.

Licensing

Nick has recently represented the likes of Tesco PLC in liquor licensing applications and has recent experience of firearms appeals.

Inquests

Nick has experience of representing companies, insurance companies and individuals at inquests.

Appointments

- Joint Head of Chambers (2022)
- Head of Criminal Team, New Park Court Chambers (2022)
- Recorder – Class 2 (2013)
- Recorder – Crown Court (2008)

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Memberships

- CBA
- RASSO
- North Eastern Circuit

Directory Quotes

"He is a wonderful advocate."..."He is charm personified and has a lovely manner with the jury."

Chambers and Partners 2025 [Crime]

"An incredibly skilled and talented advocate. He commands the attention of the courtroom."

Legal 500 2025 [Crime]

"Nicholas Lumley KC is a fantastic advocate. He has an understated yet extremely effective approach in the courtroom. "Nicholas is a very fine criminal advocate who gives 100% to every case."

Chambers & Partners 2024

"Nicholas is an excellent counsel."

Chambers & Partners 2023

"He commands respect in the courtroom. He prepares thoroughly and is able to convey the most complex of points in a jury-friendly manner."

Chambers & Partners 2023

"He has a focus and delivery that makes him impressive as an advocate."

Chambers & Partners 2023

"Frequently handles serious criminal cases, including those concerning homicide, rape and drugs. He is particularly experienced in medico-legal matters."

Chambers & Partners 2022

"He is a very polished advocate. His cross-examination skills are excellent and a joy to watch. He has a very good court presence."

Legal 500 2022

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"He is a good operator and has a very sensible and down-to-earth manner. "Very strong and calm in court." "His cross-examination of witnesses is perfect."

Chambers & Partners 2021 (Crime)

"He has a very good manner with the jury. His legal analysis is very good and his written work is superb." "His legal analysis is very good and his written work is superb."

Chambers & Partners 2020 (Crime)

"He is meticulous in his preparation, effective in his delivery and unflappable."

Chambers & Partners (2019) Crime

"A devastating cross-examiner."

Legal 500 2018

"Unflappable, charming, and always has the ear of the court."

Legal 500 2017

"An ability to think on his feet with an astute tactical brain."

Legal 500 2016

"Recommended for 'prosecuting and defending in cases involving drug trafficking, money laundering and homicide'."

Legal 500 2015

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