

Ellen Brennan

Ellen joined chambers as a tenant, following successful completion of a third six pupillage with chambers. Ellen regularly prosecutes and defends in the Magistrates, Youth and Crown Court. Ellen is noted for her detailed analysis of cases, ensuring that 'every possible part of the case has been covered and anticipated.' She has experience working on cases involving POCA, weapons, drugs and multi-handed violence.

Prior to joining chambers, Ellen completed pupillage with the Crown Prosecution Service where she prosecuted a range of cases in both Magistrates and Crown Court. This gives her a unique perspective which assists both prosecution and defence work.

Whilst in-house with the CPS, Ellen completed secondments with RASSO, the Child Sexual Exploitation Unit and the Attorney General Office where she drafted briefs advising on unduly lenient sentencing.

Ellen is praised for her client manner, particularly when dealing with vulnerable and youth clients. She is described as 'always being willing to go the extra mile.' As a result, she has received private instruction and been requested by clients.

Notable Cases

R v M, Isleworth Crown Court – Prosecuted a 3-day robbery trial involving multiple counts against the same complainant, defendant convicted on two of three counts.

R v A, Leicester Crown Court – represented a client charged with 8 counts of being concerned in the supply of class A over a 5-year period. As a result of significant personal mitigation advanced on his behalf, the client was sentenced to a total of 27 months imprisonment.

R v C, Croydon Crown Court – represented a client who plead guilty on the day of trial to two counts of being concerned in the supply of class A. Ledgers found amongst the client's personal belongings indicated they played a significant role. Despite a guilty plea on the day of trial, client was sentenced to a 2-year suspended sentence.

R v D, Highbury Corner Magistrates Court – represented a 19-year-old client for a sentencing hearing for one count of pwits class B. Client was sentenced to a 12-month community order on the basis of age and lack of previous convictions.

R v M, Reading Magistrates Court - Represented client charged with for breach of non-molestation order (repeated contact) and assault of his ex-partner. After integrated trial and Newton, the client's basis was accepted and client was acquitted of all other counts. Client was sentenced to a 12-month conditional discharge.

R v B, Staines Magistrates Court – secured acquittal for a client charged with public order offences captured on the complainant's phone.

R v B, Willesden Magistrates Court – secured acquittal of client charged with assault emergency worker.

R v F, Uxbridge Youth Court – represented a client charged with two honey-trap robberies. The client was sentenced to a YRO with ISS following relevant previous convictions. Following a failure to abide by conditions, represented the client at breach hearing and persuaded the court to allow the client a further opportunity on the YRO.

Qualifications

Called to the Bar - 2022

BPTC (2021) - Merit, BPP University

MSc Leadership and Custodial Environment (2020) – Merit, University of Suffolk

LLB Law (2018) – Upper Second Class Honours, University of Bristol

Appointments

CPS Advocate Panel – Level 2

Memberships

The Honourable Society of Gray's Inn

Women in Criminal Law (WICL)