



Zack Martin

Year of call: 2024

Zack is a junior tenant, predominantly practising in criminal law, with experience and training in prison and regulatory law. He has been described as a “pleasure to work with” and praised for his commitment and approachability by instructing solicitors. Zack is “particularly good when dealing with young and vulnerable clients” and has an “ability to advise and represent even the most difficult defendants”. The benefit of Zack’s “fluid” approach to advocacy is evident in the positive results he continues to secure for his clients, including in trials and sentencing hearings.

Prior to joining the Criminal Bar, Zack spent over two years working as a prison law advocate in his hometown, Nottingham. This involved representing prisoners in various reviews, such as orally at Parole Board hearings and via written submissions on behalf of Category A and Close-Supervision-Centre prisoners. This experience in advocacy, client care and caseload management set foundations on which Zack has built his practice joining the Bar.

“[Zack] has on each occasion shown impressive levels of determination, perseverance and tenacity to ensure our clients receive the best outcome possible”.

“[Zack] has demonstrated good attention to detail, strong case preparation and a genuine commitment to the clients”.

Lay clients have been “very complimentary” about Zack’s representation and have described him as a “brilliant brief”.

“[Zack] is patient and approachable and has a good ability to build trust with clients who may require additional support”.

“Zack clearly has a strong understanding of the law and court procedures”.

Professional Associations

Lincolns Inn.

Qualifications

Junior Junior Advocate, Government Legal Department

Grade 1 CPS Panel Advocate

Nottingham Trent University (2023), BTC LLM, Very Competent & Merit

University of Liverpool (2022), LLB, Upper Second Class Honours

Publications

2.7 The Prison Disciplinary System, The Prisons Handbook (2024)

The New Adjudications System, Converse National Prison Newspaper (2024)

Notable Cases

R v X – Secured the acquittal of a client accused of biting a Police Officer. Exposed inconsistencies in the witness’ account via precise cross-examination.

R v B – Persuaded a District Judge to sentence youth client convicted of assault by beating to a conditional discharge, as opposed to the youth rehabilitation order being recommended by the Youth Justice Service.

R v W – Successful submission of no case to answer on behalf of a client accused of assaulting a colleague with a shovel, having highlighted inconsistencies between the two witnesses’ accounts.

R v C – Convinced the Police to withdraw an offence against a client of driving while using his phone. Ensured the driver was not disqualified, avoiding the need for applying for exceptional circumstances.

R v R – Adduced evidence from three Crown witnesses regarding identification which assisted in a successful submission of no case to answer in relation to an alleged breach of protection order.

R v H – Secured a conditional discharge for a client who had pleaded guilty to a public order offence relating to a clash with rival football fans.