



Francesca Kirby

Call: 2016

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Francesca has a busy criminal practice defending and prosecuting a broad range of offences in the Crown Court and Magistrates Court. This has included appearing in cases involving violence, sexual offences, drugs, dishonesty and confiscation proceedings. She has experience in representing vulnerable clients, including youths and those with mental health issues.

During the course of her pupillage at Red Lion Chambers, Francesca developed an interest in Modern Slavery offences. She assisted Kate Bex QC and Paul Evans on Operation Piberia, a county lines trafficking trial, and Riel Karmy Jones QC in researching and editing four sections of the 2019 edition of Archbold (Chapter 19 Offences Against the Person), including the section on Modern Slavery.

Francesca also has experience of inquests, having been instructed to assist Adam Wiseman QC in his role as Counsel to the inquest touching the death of Ellie Butler.

Prior to joining chambers Francesca worked at the Free Representation Unit as the Assistant Legal Officer representing pro bono clients in employment and social security matters. This included representing clients at tribunals and the Employment Appeal Tribunal.

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Recent Cases include;

- **R v X 2018** - Client acquitted of assault by beating at half time as there was no case to answer.
- **R v X 2018**- Client acquitted of inconsiderate driving at half time as there was no case to answer.
- **R v X 2018** - Client acquitted of assault by beating following trial.
- **R v X 2018** - Client acquitted of racially aggravated public order offences against his partner following trial.
- **R v X 2018** – Client acquitted of taking a vehicle without consent following trial.
- **R v X 2018(a youth)** – Client given a referral order after a basis of plea to a lesser offence was accepted by the Crown.
- **Operation Piberia** - Trafficking children and a vulnerable adult for the purpose of supplying drugs aka ‘county lines’. Assisted in the electronic presentation of phone schedules in court,

and preparation of documents for the Court of Appeal.

Education

BPTC City Law School (Outstanding)

LLB University of Kent (First Class Honours)

Awards

Inner Temple - Profumo Scholarship and Major Exhibition Award.