



Nick Robinson

Year of Call: 2006

Email Address: nick.robinson@3pb.co.uk

Secure Email: nick.robinson@3pb.co.uk.cjism.net

Telephone: 01202 292 102

Homicide (Murder and Manslaughter)

Nick has extensive experience defending in murder, attempted murder, manslaughter, and causing death by driving, appearing as both sole advocate and led junior in complex multi-defendant trials lasting up to twelve weeks. He is regularly led by some of the most prominent King's Counsel on the Western Circuit in cases attracting significant national media coverage – including BBC News, Sky News, ITV, The Guardian, The Telegraph, and the Daily Mail.

Selected Cases

R v JB – (2026) Attempted murder – knife attack. Prosecution's forensic linguistic expert evidence excluded. Not guilty of attempted murder despite a guilty plea to s.18 wounding. *Reported:* [Dorset Echo](#).

R v X (youth) – Winchester Crown Court (2025) Murder (joint enterprise) – 28-day trial before Mr Justice Linden; led by Zafar Ali KC (23 Essex Street). Four defendants stood trial arising from two linked incidents involving e-bikes being deliberately rammed by vehicles as part of an ongoing feud. Nick's client, a youth, was alleged to have been accessories to murder in the first incident. Nick drafted and made all legal arguments, secured exclusion of bad character evidence, and made the submission of no-case to answer. The defendant did not give evidence, and the jury acquitted him of both murder and manslaughter after 33 hours of deliberation. *Reported:* [BBC News](#), [Daily Mail](#), [ITV News](#).

R v Edward Jones – Winchester Crown Court (2024) Assisting an offender and fraud linked to a murder investigation; twelve-week trial led by Zafar Ali KC. Previous consistent statement successfully admitted under a hearsay exception. Unanimous not guilty on all counts. *Reported:* [Daily Mail](#), [Andover Advertiser](#).

R v Atiqullah Oryakhail – Bournemouth Crown Court (2024) Attempted murder; defendant aged 17, trafficked from Afghanistan, diagnosed with PTSD. Confession obtained under caution in Vienna challenged and excluded. Not guilty of attempted murder by judicial direction. *Reported:* [Daily Mail](#), [Daily Echo](#).

R v Lawangeen Abdulrahimzai – Salisbury Crown Court (2024) Murder – led by Jo Martin KC; thousands of pages of evidence, including social services records, and material from criminal and civil proceedings in Italy, Norway, and Serbia. Bad character evidence relating to a previous double murder conviction in Serbia. *Reported:* [BBC News](#), [ITV](#), [Sky News](#), [The Guardian](#), [Daily Mail](#), [The Telegraph](#).

R v Benjamin Atkins – Winchester Crown Court (2024) Murder – two-handed trial before Mrs Justice Stacey; led by Zafar Ali KC. Non-defendant bad character evidence admitted regarding the deceased's drug dealing and violence. Convicted by majority after 33 hours of deliberation. *Reported:* [BBC News](#), [Sky News](#). Prosecution sought 30+ years; 19 years imposed on basis Court accepted defence submissions Atkins acted in excessive self-defence (sentencing remarks); AG Reference increased by only 2 years: Atkins & another [2024] EWCA Crim 1316. *Reported:* [BBC News](#).

R v Jack Hindley – Winchester Crown Court (2022) Murder of a vulnerable adult. Two youth defendants alleged to have

carried out a ritualistic knife attack; led by Kate Lumsdon KC. Successful applications to admit co-defendant's bad character, and to exclude purported confession evidence. Four-week trial before Mr Justice Sweeney. *Reported: [BBC News](#), [ITV](#).*

R v Kieran Cameron – Winchester Crown Court (2015) Attempted murder. The defendant was alleged to have knocked on the door of a drug dealer's home and fired a revolver twice. The complainant instantly telephoned police and named the defendant, who was known to him. The evidence included gunshot residue, cell site, ANPR, over 100 hours of CCTV, and bad character evidence relating to both the defendant's and complainant's membership of organised crime gangs. A novel point of law arose regarding the admissibility of hearsay evidence from three eyewitnesses who refused to attend court; their comments to police at the scene suggested someone other than the defendant was the assassin. Unanimous acquittal. Led by Nigel Lickley KC. *Reported: [Daily Echo](#).*

R v Teresa Sheldon – Winchester Crown Court (2015) Murder and attempted murder. The defendant killed one of her two children and severely injured the second in a suicide attempt by fire. Complex psychiatric evidence; periods of assessment under section 35 of the Mental Health Act 1983. The Crown accepted pleas to manslaughter and arson on the basis of diminished responsibility. At sentence, Mr Justice Dingemans heard victim impact evidence from the children's father in open court and resolved the discrete issue of whether to impose a sentence of imprisonment or a hospital order. Careful submissions were advanced in support of an order without restrictions, which was the sentence passed. Led by Nigel Lickley KC. *Reported: [BBC News](#).*

R v Nicholas Price – Winchester Crown Court (2015) Murder and attempted murder – three-week trial. Loss of control and self-defence in a cuckooing context involving gangland violence and firearms. Led by Nigel Lickley KC. *Reported: [BBC News](#).*

R v Jason Darby – Winchester Crown Court (2015) Attempted murder. Psychotic episode whilst listening to the Archers; multiple stab wounds to skull, head, and face. Crown accepted a guilty plea to s.18 GBH with intent – following service of psychiatric evidence. *Reported: [Daily Express](#) and [Daily Echo](#).*

R v Nathan Robinson – Winchester Crown Court (2014) Murder. The Crown's case was that the victim was murdered for his money. The defence case was that the defendant, who had a long and complex history of mental ill-health arising from childhood trauma, denied murder on the grounds of diminished responsibility and loss of control. There was significant competing psychiatric evidence. The novel issue in the case was whether the jury were entitled, in the absence of direct evidence, to infer a loss of self-control. Led by Michael Vere-Hodge QC. *Reported: [BBC News](#).*

R v Melling Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) [2014] EWCA Crim 742 – Appeal against murder conviction, Liverpool Crown Court. *Reported: [BBC News](#).*

Recommendations

Court of Appeal

In an appeal against sentence R v Sherriff [2012] EWCA Crim 2381 Lord Justice Aikens said:

"Mr Robinson presented the arguments very concisely, clearly and persuasively".

In an appeal against sentence R v Kluver [2010] EWCA Crim 3237 Lord Justice Moses said:

"There is ample authority for the proposition that counsel for the defence has so skilfully identified both in his written grounds and in his oral submissions and we are indebted to Mr Robinson for them".

In an appeal against sentence R v Bennett [2010] EWCA Crim 1032 Mr Justice Davis said:

"Mr Robinson, on behalf of the Appellant, has put the case very well".

In an appeal against sentence R v Woodcock [2011] EWCA Crim 1347 Mr Justice Blair said:

"Mr Robinson has argued the case well for the applicant."

Chambers and Partners Legal Directory

Nicholas Robinson exclusively defends in heavyweight and high-profile criminal cases. He acts in a variety of cases including murder, sexual offences and crimes against children as well as mortgage fraud and armed robbery. He also handles appeals

against conviction from the Court of Appeal in Jamaica to the Privy Council.

Strengths: "He has a great practice. "He is a smooth advocate who has a great way of speaking to the jury."

Chambers UK 2025/Crime/Western Bar

Strengths: "He has a very client-centred approach." "His advocacy skills are impressive." "Nick is an industrious individual."

Chambers UK 2024/Crime/Western Bar

Strengths: "He is highly effective and highly skilled in all aspects of criminal defence work."

"Clients love Nicholas. He's a very good lawyer and a persuasive advocate."

"Nicholas handled the cross-examination deftly but devastatingly. His ability to juggle disclosure requests, client management and legal arguments is remarkable."

Chambers UK 2023/Crime/Western Bar

Recent work: Successfully represented a young defendant who was charged with an offence of wounding with intent.

Chambers UK 2022/Crime/Western Bar

Exclusively defends in heavyweight and high-profile criminal cases. Acts in a variety of cases including murder, sexual offences and crimes against children as well as mortgage fraud and armed robbery. He also handles appeals against conviction from the Court of Appeal in Jamaica to the Privy Council.

Strengths: "Has a very positive attitude and his written work is excellent." "He has an approach and flair which juries like."

Recent work: Represented a defendant charged with serious assaults with weapons and false imprisonment, in relation to two complainants.

Chambers UK 2021/Crime/Western Bar

Strengths: "He has a very good reputation and his written work is of the highest quality."

Recent work: Represented a defendant who was accused of being involved in a serious conspiracy to supply Class A drugs.

Chambers UK 2020/Crime/Western Bar

Successfully represented one of two Polish defendants charged with the gang rape of a prostitute.

Chambers UK 2019/Crime/Western Bar

Strengths: "He is both responsive and proactive, and his advocacy skills are fantastic."

Chambers UK 2019/Crime/Western Bar

Legal 500

'Nick is a committed, highly competent and effective criminal barrister. He is an effective trial advocate who gets good results, and his pleas in mitigation are always carefully constructed with great preparation.'

Legal 500 2025/ Crime (General and Fraud) - Western Circuit

'Nick is diligent and always enthusiastic about his work. His written work is of the highest quality. He is also a very persuasive and effective advocate.'

Legal 500 2024/ Crime (General and Fraud) - Western Circuit

'Nick is a top level operator. A first-class and fearless advocate with a very robust and incisive approach to criminal litigation. An exceptional strategist.'

Legal 500 2023 / Crime - Western Circuit

'Nick's strengths are his intelligence, his ability to fully engage with a jury and his thorough preparation.'

Legal 500 2022 / Crime - Western Circuit

'A criminal defence specialist'

Legal 500 2021 / Crime - Western Circuit

'A criminal defence specialist'

Legal 500 2020 / Crime - Western Circuit - Tier 1

'An expert in defending in serious crime cases.'

Legal 500 2018/19 / Crime - Western Circuit - Tier 1

'Self-assured and dedicated.'

Legal 500 2017 / Crime - Western Circuit

'Extremely diligent in his approach to cases.'

Legal 500 2016 / Crime - Western Circuit

'Known for his defence work in the Crown Court, and his practice has an emphasis on serious crime.'

Legal 500 2015 / Crime - Western Circuit

'He specialises in sexual offence cases, particularly those involving children and historical allegations of misconduct.'

Legal 500 2014 / Crime - Western Circuit

'3PB's Nick Robinson is "a very confident and knowledgeable advocate".'

Legal 500 2013 / Crime - Western Circuit

Nick was also recommended by the Legal 500 directory for 2012 and 2011.

Judiciary, Instructing Solicitors, Lay Clients & Social Media Recommendations

Mr Recorder Don Tait said in open court following the acquittal of Nick's client Mr Reece Creighton:

"Mr Robinson you did an excellent job defending this man. You very skilfully revealed all of the inadequacies in this investigation ... I am sure Mr Creighton is very grateful."

Instructing Solicitor

"Truly grateful for your proactive case management, first class professionalism and dedication".

Instructing Solicitor

"This was a difficult case in one sense and your efforts and assistance went beyond the call of duty. I very much appreciate it".

Instructing Solicitor

"Please accept my heartfelt thanks and appreciation for all your incredible and excellent hard work on this firm's cases and for always doing over and above what is required in every matter that you deal with. Not only that, well done on all of your outstanding results and faultless client care!"

Instructing Solicitor

"Thank you Nick, I am very grateful for your assistance. Your professionalism and support is unbelievable".

Lay Client

In September and October 2017 at Bournemouth Crown Court Nick represented one of two defendants who faced an Indictment containing six counts. The trial lasted over two weeks and the defendants were found not guilty on all counts. Nick's client sent an email to the CEO Simon Astill where he provided, inter alia, the following appraisal:

"I write to you to express my sincere gratitude about a member of your Chambers Mr Robinson who defended me at trial ... The case required complete concentration and an eye for detail. This worried me as being on legal aid I thought I might not receive the same service as a client paying privately. This wasn't the case at all and in fact the complete

opposite. Mr Robinson genuinely cared about his client and even spent time to reassure my co-defendant ... During the trial Mr Robinson's charisma was a breath of fresh air; he kept the Jury on their toes and concentrated throughout and also he was very calming during the breaks when tensions were high. Finally Mr Robinson's closing speech was mesmerising and got across every possible point I could think of and more. I knew after his speech there was no way I would be convicted. I feel in debt to this man and feel that the literature in my email doesn't allow me to explain my true gratitude."

Lay Client (defendant's mother)

"Thank you so much for all the hard work you put into F's case; I can't thank you enough Mr Robinson".

Lay Client

"Just wanted to express my thanks, for the confident, reassuring and supportive way that Mr Robinson has handled my case. At short notice he has been able to defend me to his confident best. His caring and clear way in which he dealt with me and my family and friends was top notch".

Lay Client (Direct Access)

"Nick - I'm eternally indebted to you and will never be able to thank you enough for today's outcome ... thank you from the bottom of my heart for all you have done for me. You've given me my life back".

Lay client's relatives (letters to instructing solicitor and Nick respectively)

"I would also like to say a specific thank you for bringing Nicholas Robinson in as L's barrister. L felt very comfortable talking to Nick, and Nick, in turn, put L at ease. The relationship barristers have with their client, the trust and confidence in the barrister's ability is paramount, and we certainly had that with Nick. I think it also proved that a barristers relationship with his counterparts on the other side is also important and in our case this definitely proved to be significant".

"I just wanted to repeat our thanks for your sterling work in L's defence".

Social Media

"You can't beat Nick Robinson when it comes to mitigating circumstances".

Social Media

"You can always rely on Nick Robinson to come up with something original when it comes to mitigating circumstances".

Academic qualifications

- BA Criminology & Sociology, The University of Liverpool (First Class Honours)
- Postgraduate Diploma in Law, Manchester Metropolitan University
- Bar Vocational Course, BPP London

Professional qualifications & appointments

- Called to the Bar: 2006.
- Chambers & Partners – Leading Junior: 2019–2026 (Crime – Western Bar).
- Legal 500 – Leading Junior: 2011–2026 (Crime – Western Circuit).
- BSB Direct Access Accreditation – Authorised to accept instructions directly from members of the public.
- BSB Accredited Litigator – Authorised to conduct litigation and to instruct counsel, expert witnesses, and investigators.
- Independent Jamaica Council for Human Rights.

Professional bodies

- Bar Pro Bono Unit
- Criminal Bar Association
- Western Circuit