



Laura Deuxberry

Year of Call: 2013

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Crime and Regulatory Crime

Laura Deuxberry prosecutes and defends in all areas of general crime including; drugs (possession and supply), violence offences, arson, burglary, fraud, rape and sexual assaults (both historic and recent), child offences (images, contact offences and child neglect/ill-treatment), weapons offences, public order offences, breach proceedings, harassment and stalking.

Laura also acts in Youth Court proceedings. Her reassuring and approachable manner means that youth clients and their parents/carers are put at ease. Laura has defended in court martial hearings and is a keen supporter of military charities.

Recent cases include:

R v Moon Swee How and XiaoXia Yang (Court of Appeal Criminal Division 2026). Initially led by Daniel Sawyer (now HHJ Sawyer) at trial in Portsmouth Crown Court, prosecuting three defendants for conspiracy to control prostitution for gain and human trafficking. Two of the three defendants were convicted of both counts after trial and sentenced. Laura was instructed to prosecute the sentencing and the POCA hearings.

The defendants appealed their convictions on the human trafficking charge to the Court of Appeal. Laura drafted the Respondent's notices and the skeleton argument for the appeal in conjunction with Kevin Dent KC who led her at the appeal hearing. The appeal relates to the statutory interpretation of section 2 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015. The outcome of the appeal is awaited.

R v AF (2026) Bournemouth Crown Court, prosecuting: the Defendant failed to attend their trial, they were convicted of two charges of causing unnecessary suffering to an animal and of two charges threatening another with an article with a blade

R v DC (2026) Bournemouth Crown Court, prosecuting: the Defendant was found guilty after trial of having a bladed article in a public place

R v JC (2025) Winchester Crown Court, defending: the Defendant was found not guilty of dangerous driving and causing GBH with intent (s.18) after trial.

Feedback from the Judge in that case was as follows:

'...That was a very nice result - you made a tricky case seem easier than it was. You got everything you could in relation to the evidence and disclosure (which it was obvious that you were completely on top of) but more importantly your examination-in-chief was really efficient, your closing speech was punchy and to the point, and you have really nice manner in front of the jury.'

R v SH (2025) Portsmouth Crown Court, defending: the Defendant accepted possession of controlled drugs but denied supplying them. Not guilty verdicts on the supplying charge after trial

R v SR (2025) Newport Crown Court IOW, defending: charge of cruelty to a child, not guilty verdict after trial

R v Damien Heaven [2024] EWCA Crim 88: defending: appeal against conviction in the Court of Appeal regarding a conviction for witness intimidation. Miss Deuxberry, defending Mr Heaven, argued that the Crown Court Judge made an error when they rejected a submission of no case to answer. The Court of Appeal upheld the appeal and the conviction was quashed.

Recommendations

"I just wanted to say a big thank you for all your hard work on [X]...your work on the case is much appreciated" **(from a reviewing lawyer at the CPS)**

"Congrats Laura, the gaolers have updated us with their very favourable impressions of your advocacy in our court this week. We look forward to instructing you in the very near future" **(instructing solicitor)**

"Just want to say a massive thank you to you and the barrister... We had a much better outcome than expected. She was amazing yesterday, I'd be grateful if you could pass my thanks over to her" **(from the partner of a Defendant)**

"Can you pass my thanks on to...the brilliant lady that is doing trial, she's fantastic, regardless of outcome she really has been brilliant!" **(friend of a defendant)**

"Mr X has called me this morning to thank me for sending him such a wonderful barrister. He described Laura as "absolutely golden" and was very grateful for her patience and support in dealing with his case to secure an outcome that he was absolutely delighted with. For the record, I wanted to again express my gratitude for how expertly and professionally you've been able to deal with all of these cases that have required a considerable amount of patience and cross-referencing. Mr X would not have had such a good result without you having dealt with everything in such detail all the way through this!" **(instructing solicitor)**

"Thank you very much for your excellent conduct of this trial, which led to very good result. Your calm and professional manner in how you handled the case and your thorough grasp of the detail assisted greatly in reassuring our client during what was no doubt an incredibly stressful time for him and his family." **(instructing solicitor)**

"I wanted to let you know how much I appreciated the work you went to in relation to this case and it goes without saying that the outcome was an extremely good one." **(instructing solicitor)**

"Laura is a lovely young woman, ideal for ladies, she is softly spoken and very easy to talk to." **(elderly female lay client).**

"Thank you very much for your help in this matter, kind call yesterday and comprehensive note – first class." **(instructing solicitor)**

"Many thanks for your help in all of this which has to be said, to be very difficult circumstances and of course your representation and expeditious notes." **(instructing solicitor)**

Academic qualifications

- BPTC, The University of Law, 2013 – Very competent
- LLB (Hons), The University of Bristol, 2012 – 2:1

Scholarships

- President of the Bar Society, 2011-2012
- Benefactors' Scholarship, The Honourable Society of the Middle Temple, 2012

Professional qualifications & appointments

- Level 3 - CPS Advocate Panel-General Crime