

Thomas Evans

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Motoring offences

Tom has significant experience of cases concerning the following driving offences:

- Causing serious injury by dangerous driving
- Dangerous driving
- Careless driving
- Drink driving (including failing to provide a specimen)
- Speeding
- Driving without insurance
- Failing to stop (report an accident)
- Using a mobile phone whilst driving
- Failing to provide information

Many of Tom's clients have avoided disqualification as a result of him successfully arguing special reasons or exceptional hardship.

Recent cases

V -v- R [2020] - Tom successfully represented his client in her appeal against a 6-month disqualification from driving and a requirement that she complete a re-test before having her licence removed. She had entered a guilty plea to an offence of careless driving which had regrettably resulted in two pedestrians suffering serious personal injury. The Court allowed her appeal finding that an endorsement of her licence was the appropriate penalty in all the circumstances of the case.

R -v- K [2020] - Tom's client was charged with speeding and alternatively failing to provide information of a driver's identity. Following a contested trial the Court found that he had not been the driver and that due to the chaotic nature of his life at the relevant time he had provided the information as soon as reasonably practicable.

Re. Offences under the Vehicle Excise and Registration Act 1994 [2020] – Tom represented the leasing arm of a well-known vehicle manufacturer in respect of numerous offences of failing to tax and insure vehicles. Although each case amounted to a separate prosecution, the Court were persuaded to take into consideration the Totality Sentencing Guidelines when assessing the appropriate financial penalty.

Recommendations

Thomas Evans boasts impressive experience acting as lead counsel in criminal proceedings and appearing in the Court of

Appeal. His practice covers organised crime, charges of homicide, GBH and arson. Strengths: "He is able to quickly grasp complex technological information and detail." "Thomas's advocacy skills are excellent."

Chambers UK 2024/Crime/Western Bar

Strengths: "He is a very skilled advocate and cerebral counsel."

"Thomas is an extremely accomplished, knowledgeable and hard-working barrister who goes over and above in case preparation."

"Thomas is a rising star. He is bright, tenacious and very effective in court."

Chambers UK 2023/Crime/Western Bar

Thomas Evans boasts impressive experience acting as lead counsel in criminal proceedings and appearing in the Court of Appeal. He handles a wide range of cases, including those relating to charges of homicide, GBH and arson. Strengths: "His eloquence in court captivates the jury."

Recent work: Appeared on behalf of a defendant charged with causing death by careless driving.

Chambers UK 2022/Crime/Western Bar

'demonstrates an agility of mind and perspicacity possessed by very few indeed'.

'He has masses of common sense and gets to the nub of cases very quickly. He is highly intelligent, a very effective advocate, and judges like him.'

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

'A dedicated advocate who is well liked by clients.'

Legal 500 2023/Crime (General and Fraud)/Leading Junior/Western Circuit

'A forceful, hard-working, tactically astute advocate.'

Legal 500 2022/Crime (General and Fraud)/Leading Junior/Western Circuit

'Tom is always well-prepared and on top of his brief. He has clearly thought about it in detail. His speeches are assured and well-constructed. He is calm, measured and conspicuously good at his job for his level of call. He engenders confidence in the trial judge, jury, client and opponents alike. A very good and talented barrister.'

Legal 500 2021/Crime

"Mr Evans came to 'his fore' when cross-examining the defendant. I have been party to many a prosecution crossexamination, but his delivery and attention to detail was the best I have ever witnessed, it was clever and directed at the appropriate level. I was most impressed that the defence barrister was to comment that the cross-examination was "forensic and exact". His direct cross-examination ultimately caused the defendant to enter a "guilty" plea mid-way through his evidence."

CPS court case - Officer in the case.

"Just a quick letter to say thank you for the result we had in court. The barrister you gave me was brilliant and couldn't have done better. Please tell Mr Evans I said thank you, his final speech was amazing with great attention to detail." Lay client acquitted of s.18 GBH to instructing solicitor.

"Tom - I just wanted to say thank you for all your efforts.

I have always found the law fascinating. My grandmother was one of the first female Magistrates, my grandfather, father and

brother are all lawyers. So I have always been surrounded in the language of the law and during many lunches and suppers we would debate the meaning of certain words.

Yesterday was a fantastic example of a Barrister using diplomacy and tenacity in equal measure to make your point in regards to the substantive / significant point of law. It will no doubt become an incidental footnote in just another legal brief - but it was an important matter that needed to be brought to the courts attention and one which you made eloquently and resolutely.

Your job must be incredibly rewarding when the court makes a decision that both the prosecution and defence believe to be best for all parties. I believed we reached that equilibrium yesterday and I will always be indebted to you for helping the judge reach that decision."

Lay client who narrowly avoided an immediate sentence of imprisonment following his guilty pleas to two counts of causing serious injury by dangerous driving.

Academic qualifications

- BVC, College of Law Very Competent
- GDL, College of Law Commendation
- BA (Hons) History, University of Sussex 2.1
- Winner of the 2010 College of Law BVC Mooting Competition
- Winner of the 2010 Inter-Varsity Mooting Competition

Professional qualifications & appointments

- Serious Crime panel
- CPS Grade 3 Prosecutor
- Former member of the Treasury Solicitors' Junior Junior Panel