



Thomas Acworth

Year of Call: 2014

Email Address: Thomas.Acworth@3pb.co.uk

Secure Email: thomas.acworth@3paper.cjsm.net

Telephone: 01962 868 884

Overview

Thomas Acworth is a criminal specialist. His practice encompasses general crime, regulatory crime including police law and licensing. Thomas prosecutes and defends.

Recommendations

"Words cannot explain how elated I am with the outcome today. I am ever so grateful. Wanted to express my deepest appreciation" – **client's email to instructing solicitor**

"I am extremely grateful for the excellent work you have done on this case" – **email from instructing solicitor**

"I've just had a chat with young Mr. F and he's asked me to pass on his sincere thanks for yesterday. In his words you were top dollar and really cool. Thank you for all your efforts in securing a great result for us" – **email from instructing solicitor**

Academic qualifications

- BPTC (Kaplan)
- LLB (Newcastle University)

Scholarships

- Academic Scholar (Canford School)
- The Luboshez Award (Middle Temple)
- Arnold and Porter Prize for Competition Law (N'cle)
- Pinsent Masons Prize for Public Law (N'cle)
- Cartmell Shepherd Mooting Prize

Professional bodies

- Criminal Bar Association

- Western Circuit

Expertise

Crime

Thomas Acworth's practice covers the spectrum of criminal and quasi-criminal matters: from cases of serious violence to technical road traffic and regulatory offences. He combines meticulous preparation with excellent client care to deliver personable, pragmatic and effective representation.

Appellate Work

- *F v The Queen (Jamaica): Murder (D)*. Appeal to Privy Council on issues of identification, character evidence and incompetency of counsel. Case concerned a gangland contract killing. Ongoing.
- *R v C&D: Armed Robbery (D)*. Resisting appeal against terminating ruling following successful submission of no case to answer. Case concerned joint-enterprise and circumstantial evidence.

Violence

- *R v A: Murder and Attempted Murder (P)*. Led by Nigel Lickley QC. Deceased stabbed by his mother's boyfriend following a dispute at a New Year's Eve party. The accused then stabbed the deceased's father. Noting junior with responsibility for preparing schedules of evidence (blood spatter, financial records and custody timeline), editing ROTIs and drafting admissions.
- *R v A Youth: Wounding with Intent (D)*. Stabbing of teenager on Halloween. Defendant asked victim how dead she wanted to be before inflicting wound. Grave crime.
- *R v T & H: Armed Robbery (D)*. Knife-point joint enterprise robbery of commercial premises. Both defendants ran cutthroat defences.
- *R v F & X: Aggravated Burglary and Dwelling Robbery (D)*. Allegations of armed home invasions in which defendants demanded drugs and drug money.
- *R v D, E and F: Robbery and Dwelling Robbery (D)*. Joint-enterprise ventures. Elderly and vulnerable victims.
- *R v U: GBH (D)*. Single punch outside of nightclub. Complainant hit head on pavement sustaining a fractured skull and a brain haemorrhage.
- *R v Q: Public Order and Assault (D)*. Vulnerable client charged with a string of offences at hospitals and doctors' surgeries. Defence of absence of mens rea.
- *R v B: Battery (D)*. Defence of premier league football coach accused of assaulting a child at a training session. Case involved cross-examination of young children.

Sexual Offences

- *R v K: Sexual Assault (D)*. Defence of hotel concierge. Allegations of biting hotel maid.
- *R v W: Sexual Assault (D)*. Young client with severe ADHD. Case involved allegations of sexual touching and biting of a teenage woman at a house party.
- *R v Y: Sexual Assault (D)*. Sexual touching of a probation officer whilst at approved premises.
- *R v E: Sexual Assault (D)*. Allegations of threats to rape and sexual touching following discovery of partner's infidelity.
- *R v K: Disclosing Private Sexual Images (D)*. Defendant put indecent images of her best friend on Facebook. Defence of consent.
- *R v F: Sexual Assault (D)*. Extended sexual assault arising from BDSM practices.

Dishonesty

- R v H: Bankrupt acting as Company Director (P). Defendant set up two companies whilst bankrupt, one of which traded for an extensive period.
- R v P: Fraud (D). Fraudulent misuse of gift cards totalling thousands of pounds.
- R v Q: Burglary (D). Targeted Burglary. Case involved cross-examination of a vulnerable adult with mental health difficulties.
- R v Y: Burglary (D). Creeper burglary. Issues of DNA identification and moveable objects.

Drugs

- R v R: Possession with Intent to Supply – Class A (D). Schoolboy of previous good character alleged to have supplied fellow pupils with cocaine and MDMA.
- R v D: Production of Cannabis (P). Defendant ran cannabis factory from family home. Professional installation of equipment.
- R v G: Possession with Intent to Supply – Class A (D). County-lines drug dealing. Defendant selling heroin and crack from deerstalker hat.
- R v U: Possession with Intent to Supply – Class A (P). Prosecution of man found with thousands of pounds worth of cocaine and MDMA at a music festival.

Police Law

- Police Force v G: Closure Order (A). Obtained closure order in respect of suspected crack house. Occupant used threatened neighbours with violence.
- Chief Constable v F: Firearms Licence Appeal (R). Hundreds of guns found at residence of a registered firearms dealer together with prohibited weapons and prohibited ammunition. PII and evidential issues resultant from concurrent criminal proceedings.
- Chief Constable v Q: Firearms Licence Appeal (R). Revocation of firearms certificate on basis of intelligence reports. Appeal concerned PII and public safety considerations.

Environmental Crime

- County Council v F: Failing to Produce Waste Transfer Notice (P): Prosecution of a business that was flouting the Waste Regulations and creating a neighborhood nuisance.
- Local Authority v Z: Leaving Litter (P). Prosecution brought by local authority for littering in public place.

Motoring

- R v M: Causing Serious Injury by Dangerous Driving (D). Client drove on the wrong side of the road and caused a collision. Victim sustained significant psychiatric injuries and a broken neck.
- R v U: Dangerous Driving, Criminal Damage, Failing to Provide Specimen (D). Defence of notable figure in travelling community. Case involved a 12 mile police chase through the countryside.
- R v F: Dangerous Driving (D). Police chase through city centre during rush hour. Collisions with other vehicles, some of which contained school children.
- R v S: Drug Driving (D). Successful defence of post-driving consumption of cocaine despite absence of expert evidence.
- R v A: Failing to Provide a Specimen and Careless Driving (D). Court appointed advocate for private soldier involved in road traffic collision with a senior officer.

Sexual offences

Sexual Offences

- R v W: Sexual Assault (D). Young client with severe ADHD. Case involved allegations of sexual touching and biting of a teenage woman at a house party.
- R v Y: Sexual Assault (D). Sexual touching of a probation officer whilst at approved premises.
- R v E: Sexual Assault (D). Allegations of threats to rape and sexual touching following discovery of partner's infidelity.
- R v K: Disclosing Private Sexual Images (D). Defendant put indecent images of her best friend on Facebook. Defence of consent.
- R v F: Sexual Assault (D). Extended sexual assault arising from BDSM practices.

Public and Regulatory

Regulatory

- Police Force v G: Closure Order (A). Obtained closure order in respect of suspected crack house. Occupant used threatened neighbours with violence.
- Chief Constable v F: Firearms Licence Appeal (R). Hundreds of guns found at residence of a registered firearms dealer together with prohibited weapons and prohibited ammunition. PII and evidential issues resultant from concurrent criminal proceedings.
- Chief Constable v Q: Firearms Licence Appeal (R). Revocation of firearms certificate on basis of intelligence reports. Appeal concerned PII and public safety considerations.
- Local Authority v Z: Leaving Litter (P). Prosecution brought by local authority for littering in public place.
- Local Authority v N: Contempt of Court (D). Vulnerable, elderly client alleged to have breached ASBO.