



# Berenice Mulvanny

**Year of Call:** 2009

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## Crime

Berenice is a specialist criminal practitioner dealing with the most serious offences including murder, rape and other serious sexual offences, firearms and explosives, drugs conspiracies, serious violence, arson and offences of dishonesty. She both prosecutes and defends and is a highly sought-after junior, having been led on a number of serious cases including high profile allegations of sexual offending and multi handed murder.

Berenice's strength is her ability to deal with sensitive and difficult allegations with tact and confidence, especially with cases involving young and vulnerable witnesses.

An exceptional and persuasive advocate who often acts for defendants who have no experience of the court process, who hold positions of responsibility and find themselves charged with serious and (if proven) potentially career ending sexual offences. She has successfully defended police officers, teachers, care workers and military personnel. She also acts for vulnerable, elderly and young defendants.

She is experienced in confiscation proceedings and proceeds of crime as well as other ancillary orders such as Sexual Harm Prevention Orders and Criminal Behaviour Orders.

She is a level 3 CPS and specialist rape and serious sexual assault prosecutor and is accredited by the Bar Standards Board to act directly on behalf of individuals and organisations under the Public Access Scheme.

Berenice has been placed on the approved CPS Advocates Counter Terrorism and Serious Crime Group Specialist Panels and is an advocacy trainer for the Western Circuit and an approved pupil supervisor.

### Examples of Recent Cases

#### Violence, Public Order and General Crime

- **R v KG 2020/2021** - Southampton Crown Court. Possession of prohibited weapon, manufacturing a firearm and possession of explosives
- **R v H & another 2020** - Bournemouth Crown Court. Kidnap and grievous bodily harm
- **R v M 2020** - Southampton Crown Court. Robbery of a convenience store with a knife
- **R v F 2020** - Newport IOW Crown Court. Possession of an offensive weapon in prison
- **R v L 2020** - Bournemouth Crown Court. Defending in an Insolvency Service prosecution for multiple counts of acting as a director whilst disqualified, failing to deliver up books and records to the liquidator and various Companies Act 2006 offences
- **R v L 2019** - Salisbury Crown Court. Death by careless driving
- **R v A 2019** - Southampton Crown Court. Attempted section 18, grievous bodily harm with intent

- **R v H 2019** - Southampton Crown Court. S20 GBH. Defending a door supervisor of a nightclub for assault. Acquitted after trial.
- **R v H 2019** - Southampton Crown Court. Child abduction
- **R v G and others 2019** - Southampton Crown Court. Group knife point robbery of a convenience store
- **R v P 2019** - Southampton Crown Court. Perverting the course of justice
- **R v M and another 2018** - Southampton Crown Court. Child cruelty.
- **R v A 2018** - Winchester Crown Court. Defending a witness in a murder trial facing contempt of court proceedings
- **R v W 2018** - Southampton Crown Court. Defending an allegation of kidnap and sexual assault. Acquitted after trial
- **R v J 2017** - Bournemouth Crown Court. Multiple counts of robbery and grievous bodily harm with intent
- **R v W 2017** - Southampton Crown Court. Child cruelty and assault occasioning actual bodily harm
- **R v MOR and KC 2016** - Portsmouth Crown Court. (Led by Richard Pratt QC) Attempted murder
- **R v D and others 2016** - Southampton Crown Court. Violent disorder in a pub relating to a local sporting event
- **R v P 2016** - Luton Crown Court - Death by dangerous driving
- **R v B 2016** - Southampton Crown Court - Child abduction of a 15 year old
- **R v S and others** - Southampton Crown Court - S16 A Firearms Act 1968. Possession of a firearm with intend to cause fear of violence
- **R v W 2016** - Winchester Crown Court - Arson being reckless
- **R v G and another 2016** - Guildford Crown Court - Robbery. Co-defendant turned Queen's evidence
- **R v P 2016** - Southampton Crown Court - Threats to kill towards ex-partner
- **R v D 2016** - Southampton Crown Court. Section 20, wounding

#### **Drug Offences**

- **R v L 2020** - Southampton Crown Court. Possession with intent to supply. Modern Slavery Act defence with a National Referral Mechanism (NRM) referral.
- **R v S 2019** - Southampton Crown Court. Possession with intent to supply class A. Vulnerable female defendant who was sentenced to a suspended sentence.
- **R v T 2018** - Winchester Crown Court. Operation Crosslands. Supplying a controlled drug of class A to another
- **R v B 2017** - Southampton Crown Court. Possession of a synthetic cannabinoid spice (legal high) with intent to supply after the new legislation came into force  
Operation Pretty 2016 - 2017 Southampton Crown Court. Defending multiple defendants charged with possession with intent to supply class A
- **R v R 2016** - Portsmouth Crown Court. Conspiracy to supply cocaine. The "Sugar network"
- **R v O 2016** - Portsmouth Crown Court. Possession with intent to supply class A
- **R v C, S and D 2016** - Possession with intent to supply class A and supplying class A. Undercover police officers involved in operation Pretty
- **R v B 2016** - Portsmouth Crown Court. Possession Class B with intent to supply and associated firearms offence

#### **Dishonesty**

- **R v H 2020** - Southampton Crown Court. Aggravated burglary with a sword  
Operation Flood.
- **R v R and others 2019** - Bristol Crown Court. Conspiracy to blackmail, theft and handling stolen goods
- **R v L 2019** - Southampton Crown Court. Blackmail.

- **R v D 2017** - Winchester Crown Court. Aggravated burglary with a pick axe handle
- **R v S and others 2016** - Southampton Crown Court. Conspiracy to steal and conspiracy to handle stolen goods
- **R v P 2016** - Winchester Crown Court. Dwelling burglary
- **R v J and others 2016** - Portsmouth Crown Court. Conspiracy to steal over £100,000
- **R v G 2016** - Salisbury Crown Court. Fraud of multiple elderly victims
- **R v W 2015** - Dorchester Crown Court. Prolonged theft from employer
- **R v M 2015** - Southampton Crown Court. Dwelling burglary. Distraction burglaries of targeted elderly victims
- **R v N 2015** - Bournemouth Crown Court. Benefit Fraud in excess of £70,000

#### Reported cases

- **R v P 2014** - Court of Appeal Criminal Division. Leave to appeal sentence granted and appeal allowed with the sentence being reduced by nearly half. Defendant had been convicted of multiple breaches of a restraining order over a long-standing neighbour dispute. [2014] EWCA Crim 1280.

## Sexual offences

Berenice is a specialist criminal practitioner with extensive expertise in offences including rape, including historic allegations, voyeurism, buggery, inciting underage sex and other serious sexual offences. Her strength is her ability to deal with sensitive and difficult allegations with tact and confidence, especially with cases involving young and vulnerable witnesses.

An exceptional and persuasive advocate who often acts for defendants who have no experience of the court process, who hold positions of responsibility and find themselves charged with serious and (if proven) potentially career ending sexual offences. She has successfully defended police officers, teachers, care workers and military personnel. She also acts for vulnerable, elderly and young defendants.

She has experience of ancillary orders such as Sexual Harm Prevention Orders and Criminal Behaviour Orders and is a level 3 CPS and specialist rape prosecutor and is accredited by the Bar Standards Board to act directly on behalf of individuals and organisations under the Public Access Scheme.

#### Examples of recent cases

- **R v S 2021** - Portsmouth Crown Court. Counsel for the defendant charged with multiple counts of non-recent sexual activity with a child when the defendant was a secondary school teacher.
- **R v M 2020** - Southampton Crown Court. Attempting to pay for the sexual services of a child.
- **R v W 2020** - Winchester Crown Court. Counsel for defendant charged with sexual assault and kidnap.
- **R v B 2020** - Southampton Crown Court. Counsel for defendant on a 17 count indictment including arranging the commission of a child sex offence and possession and distribution of indecent images of children.
- **R v G 2019/2020** - Poole Youth Court. Youth charged with assault by penetration.
- **R v D 2019** - Southampton Crown Court. Counsel for a 90 year old defendant charged with sexual assault of a child under 13 and sexual activity with a child family member.
- **R v R 2019** - Southampton Crown Court. Historic rape dating back to 1959.
- **R v H 2019** - Bournemouth Crown Court. Disclosure Counsel. Rape of an escort and witness intimidation.
- **R v L 2018** - Bournemouth Crown Court. Counsel for a vulnerable defendant requiring an intermediary charged with assault by penetration.
- **R v A 2018** - Southampton Crown Court. Counsel for defendant charged with exposure and sentenced to a suspended sentence.

- **R v B 2018** - Southampton Crown Court. Prosecuting a transgender woman for numerous offences of inciting a girl under the age of 13 to engage in sexual activity.
- **R v H 2018/2019** - Winchester Crown Court. Led by Adam Feast QC prosecuting a high-profile defendant charged with 50 counts of historical sexual abuse.
- **R v S 2018** - Southampton Crown Court. Representing a vulnerable defendant of good character charged with rape of a 16-year-old and rape of a 12-year-old. Acquitted after trial.
- **R v E 2018** - Bournemouth Crown Court. Representing a defendant of good character with Autism charged with sexual assault. Issue of reasonable belief in consent. Acquitted after trial.
- **R v R 2017** - Southampton Crown Court. Rape, sexual assault by penetration and voyeurism.
- **R v A 2017** - Southampton Crown Court. Exposure and dangerousness provisions.
- **R v M 2017** - Southampton Crown Court. Sexual assault of a child under 13 and indecent images. Counsel for the defendant. D sentenced to a suspended sentence.
- **R v C 2016** - Southampton Crown Court. Multiple counts of assault by penetration. Trial counsel for the defendant. Acquitted after trial.
- **R v T 2016** - Southampton Crown Court. Multiple counts of sexual assault in a nightclub. Trial counsel for the defendant. Acquitted after trial.
- **R v C 2016** - Bournemouth Crown Court. Rape and sexual assault of a 14-year-old. Fitness to plead and intermediary issues.
- **R v A 2016** - Reading Crown Court. Historic allegations of indecent assault and buggery. Defendant unfit to plead. Counsel for the defendant. Acquitted of buggery.
- **R v J 2016** - Bournemouth Crown Court. Possession of Class A indecent images and possession of a paedophile manual. Counsel for the defendant. D received a suspended sentence.
- **R v T 2016** - Southampton Crown Court. 11 counts of historic allegations of Indecent Assault and Indecency with a child from 1983-1986. Counsel for the defendant. D received a suspended sentence.
- **R v M 2015** - Newport (IOW) Sexual Assault. Trial counsel for the defendant. Acquitted after trial.
- **R v C 2015** - Winchester Crown Court. Sexual assault. Defendant a vulnerable adult. Trial counsel for the defendant, acquitted after trial.
- **R v Mc 2014** - Southampton Crown Court. Production and distributing indecent images.
- **R v R 2014** - Aylesbury Crown Court. Voyeurism involving two prosecution witnesses aged 13yrs old.
- **R v 2014** - Southampton Youth Court. Sexual assault. Court granted a certificate for counsel. D charged with sexually assaulting his 6 year old sister.

## Motoring offences

Berenice Mulvanny has extensive experience in defending a wide range of driving and motoring offences, ranging from offences in the Crown Court where death has resulted to minor driving matters on a private or direct access basis in the Magistrates' Court.

### Example cases include:

- **R v I 2020**- Winchester Crown Court. Defendant, a taxi driver, charged with causing death by careless driving of a motorcyclist.
- **R v A 2019**- Southampton Crown Court. Defendant charged with dangerous driving and attempting to cause grievous bodily harm with intent with the use of his car as a weapon in a road rage incident.
- **R v L 2019**- Winchester Crown Court. Defendant charged with causing death by careless driving after crashing his car whilst under the influence of alcohol which resulted in the death of the front passenger.

- R v P 2019- Winchester Crown Court. Young defendant charged with dangerous driving and driving with a controlled drug (cannabis) above the specified limit after a lengthy police pursuit.
- R v P 2018- Bournemouth Crown Court. Successful application to suspend driving disqualification pending appeal against conviction and sentence.

## Articles

R v Jogee (Appellant) Supreme Court 2016 UKSC 8 - a commentary by 3PB criminal law barrister Berenice Mulvanny following this Supreme Court decision

[View Article](#)

## Recommendations

"I was really impressed with the Client Care that Berenice provided to my Youth Client throughout his Crown Court trial and her obvious understanding of the adaptations that should be made when dealing with Youth Clients.

She skilfully negotiated a less than straightforward trial whilst establishing rapport with my Client and ensuring he fully understood developments in his case. Her preparation of the case and advocacy were first class and she was a pleasure to work with." - **Instructing Solicitor**

"I am very pleased with the outcome and what has been achieved on my behalf. This was the best experience of solicitor and barrister care out of the 25 years I have been going through the Courts. I would like to thank everyone involved and I have recommended Eric Robinson Solicitors to someone else, who has already written to you over the weekend in order to represent him. Thank you so much." - **Criminal Defence client**

"I would like to thank you for your amazing work with a somewhat challenging client. The correct verdict is entirely down to your hard work and superb presentation of his case. I cannot thank you enough. I would be saying the same even if he had not had this outcome as I have been highly impressed with the work seen and it is evident that you have done your utmost on his behalf" - **On behalf of a criminal defence client 2018**

## Academic qualifications

- BVC College of Law
- LLB(hons) University of Kent, Canterbury

## Scholarships

- Middle Temple Harmsworth Scholarship

## Professional bodies

- Criminal Bar Association
- Grade 3 Prosecutor
- Middle Temple
- Western Circuit
- Rape and Serious Sexual Assault accredited prosecutor

- Counter Terrorism specialist prosecutor
- Serious Crime specialist prosecutor