



# Katy Thorne

Called 1994

## Areas of Practice

### Criminal Defence

Katy Thorne specialises in all areas of criminal defence including serious violence, drug trafficking, sex, fraud etc as leading and junior counsel. She is frequently instructed in appellate matters, including CCRC appeals. She has developed a particular expertise in cases with scientific and medical expert evidence, in particular Non Accidental Head Injury (Shaken Baby Syndrome) and Low Copy Number DNA. She also undertakes some crime-related work such as inquests and actions against the police.

## Notable Cases

R v D (2010) Multi billion pound drug conspiracy.

R v L (2010) arson with intent to endanger life.

R v B (2010) Shaken baby appeal.

- Re TN (deceased) (2010) inquest involving toxicology and psychiatric expert evidence.
- R v Wilson (2010) successful appeal on sentences for rape where under 13 year old consents.
- R v S (2009) Rape of man by 15 year old boy – acquitted.
- R v O (2009) Historical incestuous rapes – acquitted.
- R v S and P (2009). Trial dealing with controversy in Low Copy Number DNA, retrial in 2010. Led by Joel Bennathan QC.
- Anthony Stock [2008] EWCA Crim 1862. A unique second reference back to the Court of appeal by the Criminal Cases Review Commission in a case widely believed to be a miscarriage of justice from a conviction in the 1970s. Led by Joel Bennathan QC.
- R v Mathison (2008) multi-defendant conspiracy to supply cocaine – acquitted.
- R v Simeon & others (2008) multi-defendant money laundering – acquitted.
- R v Hibbert (2008) – appeal – robbery with imitation gun - IPP quashed

**tooks  
chambers**

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R v Ahsan (2008) – appeal – murder – tariff reduced.

R v Girdlestone (2007) – cruelty to child.

R v Smith & others (2007) – first prosecution of its kind – prison officers acquitted of gross negligence manslaughter when a prisoner committed suicide – case reported in press at <http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/crime/article1459269.ece>

R v Emeh & others (2007) – multi-defendant murder - gang sword fight – acquitted.

R v Kershaw (2006) – 16 year old acquitted of murdering 17 year old.

R v Gill & others (2005) – Leading Junior – Acquitted of conspiracy to facilitate illegal entry – case reported in the press at <http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/article385466.ece>

## What Others Say

***"MWA Solicitors have instructed Katy Thorne on a regular basis since 1996. It isn't often that you come across a barrister who is as excellent in connecting and communicating with the defendant as she is with advocacy, written advices and prep work, but such a barrister is Katy Thorne. We have no hesitation in instructing her in our most serious cases. At the conclusion of Katy's cases, whatever their outcome, we and our clients are left in no doubt that they have received the best representation possible."***

Mimi Baines, Crown Court Department Manager, Mark Williams Associates

## Membership and Societies

Criminal Bar Association  
Justice  
Liberty  
 Society of Labour Lawyers

## Other Relevant Information

### Appointments

Governor, Westminster Academy 2005 – 2007  
Labour councillor – City of Westminster 1998 – 2002

### Languages

French

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