

# Georgina Blower

**YEAR OF CALL 2009**

Georgina is a bright, meticulous and hard-working junior with an impressive academic background. She specialises in serious crime, human rights and public law and routinely advises on sensitive, high-profile cases.



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## Career Overview

Georgina specialises in criminal justice, human rights and public law and was called to the Bar of England and Wales in 2009.

She has been elected by members of Lincoln's Inn to the Bar Representation Committee between 2017-2018 and 2019-2022. She currently sits on the editorial and policy board for the monthly journal of the Bar, Counsel Magazine.

Georgina has been commissioned by the Bar Standards Board to write and mark examination questions for the Bar Professional Training Course.

Georgina is a diligent and effective advocate who combines sound judgement with meticulous preparation.

Georgina graduated from the University of Keele with a First Class Law Degree and continued this success on the LL.M. at the University of Cambridge, where she was assistant editor of the Cambridge Student Law Review. Georgina has received awards for academic and legal excellence, including the Professor Michael Akehurst Award, granted to one academically outstanding student a year. She was awarded the Sir Thomas More Bursary and Sir Walter

Wigglesworth Scholarship by Lincoln's Inn.

While at Cambridge University, Georgina was a researcher for the Cambridge Pro Bono Project, assisting UN Special Rapporteur, Professor Heyns, on his first thematic report for the UN Human Rights Council concerning the right to life in the context of policing assemblies. Georgina was a member of the Texas Defender Service panel at Cambridge University and conducted constitutional law research for several death row appeals, including in the US Supreme Court. During the summer of 2011, she undertook an internship with the Texas Defender Service in Austin, Texas, assisting attorneys defending capital cases.

Prior to commencing pupillage, Georgina worked as a research assistant in the Criminal Law Team at the Law Commission for England and Wales, assisting on reform to the law on insanity and automatism and contempt of court.

She also gained in-house commercial experience whilst working as a legal assistant for Porsche Cars Great Britain Limited.

She has previously acted as an examination marker for King's College London.

Georgina has also volunteered for Big Voice London, Liberty, Free Representation Unit and Toynbee Hall.

Georgina has participated extensively in mooting competitions nationally and internationally, culminating in her winning the Inter-Inn Mooting Competition 2009 (for Lincoln's Inn) and coaching the Lincoln's Inn team to the World Championships of the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition 2010 in Washington DC, USA.

Georgina was invited to judge the UK national rounds of the Jessup Competition in 2011, 2016 and 2017.

## Area of Practice

### General Crime

Georgina prosecutes and defends in serious criminal cases, ranging from white collar crime to violent and sexual offences. She is a Grade 2 CPS prosecutor. Georgina has particular experience dealing with vulnerable defendants and witnesses and those with mental health difficulties, including with the assistance of an intermediary, and has undertaken specialist vulnerable witness training.

### Financial Crime

She has been instructed in a number of Serious Fraud Office investigations, including as disclosure counsel in a multi-handed multi-million pound conspiracy to defraud investigation and as legal professional privilege counsel, jointly selected and instructed by Rolls-Royce, in an international bribery investigation.

#### Public Law

Georgina has considerable experience acting in public inquiries, having been instructed as a “junior junior” in the Grenfell Tower Inquiry and for a key core participant in the Undercover Policing Inquiry. She is experienced in advising on sensitive issues and in high-profile, complex and voluminous disclosure and redaction exercises. Georgina is fully trained in the disclosure software Relativity and Autonomy. Georgina accepts instructions on behalf of the government, public bodies and individuals.

#### Other work

She is instructed in parole board and adjudication hearings and extradition proceedings.

She has assisted on various advisory projects internationally, including: advising on a multi-million pound breach of contract case in Gibraltar; advising the Gibraltar government on the investigation of child abuse allegations and providing guidance for use in the training of police officers, social workers and lawyers; and advising on plea, evidence and sentence for a high profile false accounting case in Gibraltar.

## Notable Cases

### Undercover Policing Inquiry

Instructed by a core participant.

### Grenfell Tower Inquiry

Instructed as a “junior junior” counsel.

### R v B - Court of Appeal [2015] EWCA Crim 1700

Successfully represented the Applicant for his appeal against sentence. Their Lordships held that the sentence of 14 months' imprisonment was manifestly excessive. This was quashed and substituted with a sentence of 8 months. Counsel received praise from their Lordships for her "careful and detailed skeleton argument".

### **R v S - St Albans Crown Court**

Instructed in a sexual offences case involving three complainants with separate allegations. The Defendant received a community order. Reported link.

### **R v O and another - Woolwich Crown Court**

Secured acquittal on all counts where the allegation concerned physical abuse against the Defendant's two stepsons.

### **R v S - Woolwich Crown Court**

Secured acquittal on all counts in an 8-day section 18 GBH with intent, section 20 GBH and possession of an offensive weapon trial where the Defendant had repeatedly attacked the complainant with a meat cleaver in a busy high street in pre-emptive self-defence.

### **R v M - Kingston Crown Court**

Secured acquittal for two counts of possession of a machete.

### **R v D - Southwark Crown Court**

Instructed in a widely-reported violent incident which occurred at a fashion event at the Serpentine Gallery in London. The Defendant received a suspended sentence. Reported link.

### **R v R - Bristol Crown Court**

Secured acquittal in a 4-day section 20 GBH trial where the client was relying on self-defence and significant injury was caused to the complainant.

### **R v E - Inner London Crown Court**

Secured acquittal for a client charged with burglary.

### **R v S - St Albans Crown Court**

Secured acquittal for a client charged with affray.

### **R v N - Harrow Crown Court**

Secured acquittal for a client charged with harassment with violence.

## **R v S - Reading Crown Court**

Defended in a 4-day section 20 GBH trial with significant aggravating features.

## **R v S - Maidstone Crown Court**

Crown offered no evidence following representations by counsel on the first day of trial.

## **R v M - Snaresbrook Crown Court**

Secured acquittal after a successful half-time submission.

## **R v L - Isleworth Crown Court**

Instructed in a 7-day ABH trial involving group activity and pre-emptive self-defence.

## **Parole Board v C - HMP Coldingley**

Successfully applied for transfer of a lifer convicted of murder to open conditions.

## **Parole Board v H - HMP Moorlands**

Successfully applied for the early release of a client convicted of multiple sexual offences against children in connection with the Rotherham child abuse scandal.

## **Memberships**

- Criminal Bar Association
- Lincoln's Inn

## **Education**

- University of Cambridge, LL.M. (2011)
- BPP Law School, Bar Vocational Course (2009)
- University of Keele, LL.B. Law with Criminology (First Class) (2008)

## **Other Information**

Scholarships and Awards

- Sir Walter Wigglesworth Scholarship, Lincoln's Inn (2012)

- Continuing Education Fund Award, Lincoln's Inn (2010 and 2011)
- Sir Thomas More Bursary, Lincoln's Inn (2008)
- Professor Michael Akehurst Memorial Prize, Keele University (2008)
- International Human Rights Award, Keele University (2008)

