

Luna Spada

Call 2022



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Luna is a barrister specialising in criminal defence work. Before joining Mountford, Luna worked as an in-house barrister at GT Stewart. She has developed a strong practice in serious crime, securing successful outcomes for clients in a wide range of criminal matters involving violent offences, drugs, fraud, and weapons.

Luna has previous work experience in international criminal law, public and prison law. Prior to joining the Bar, she was working as a legal assistant at the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals and International Criminal Court in The Hague.

Luna is Italian and bilingual.

Expertise

Crime

Notable Crime cases

R v AD [2024] - Islington Crown Court

S18 GBH, ABH, robbery and witness intimidation. 7 days trial with legal arguments including disclosure issues and submission of NCA. Successful NCA on the witness intimidation count. AD was acquitted on all other counts

in 20 minutes.

R v PD [2024] - Gloucester Crown Court

One count of GBH, two counts of intentional strangulation and one count of ABH. Stabbing and violence in a domestic setting. 7 days trial with legal arguments including disclosure issues and discharging a jury.

R v RRB [2024] - Woolwich Crown Court

One count of attempted robbery. RRB was defendant 1 of 3. RRB was fifteen at the time of the offence and seventeen at the time of trial. Legal arguments included bad character, hearsay, and lengthy discussions on directions. RRB was acquitted in 40 minutes.

R v PB [2024] - Woolwich Crown Court

One count of affray and one count of offensive weapon. PB was defendant 3 of 8. The trial lasted 6 weeks and included a number of legal arguments, such as the co-defendant's bad character, hearsay, s78, and submissions of no case to answer.

R v CO [2024] - Old Bailey

Two counts of fraud. The defendant was a sixty-year-old woman of good character. The jury was hung, and CPS decided not to retry the defendant.

R v OK [2024] - Canterbury Crown Court

One count of assisting unlawful immigration to a member state (France). The defendant was the driver of an HGV. He was stopped at Dover and 11 people were found hidden in the trailer of the HGV together with a parcel containing about £3,000. The defendant was acquitted.

R v BH [2023] - Croydon Crown Court

Seven counts of robbery, client charged together with his brother. Lengthy application to dismiss on the basis that the client was never properly IDed. The judge dismissed four of the counts, and the prosecution offered no evidence on another two counts.

R v AS [2023] - Isleworth Crown Court

Two counts of conspiracy to supply class A drugs and one count of conspiracy to supply class B drugs against five defendants. Successful no case to answer submission in relation to class B. The jury found all the

defendants guilty, AS was the only one found guilty on a majority verdict.

R v RB [2023] – Woolwich Crown Court

One count of arson with intent to endanger life. Trial of fact. The jury found that the defendant did the act on a majority verdict, after over nine hours of deliberation.

R v BW [2023] – Kingston Crown Court

Eight counts indictment in relation to three armed robberies. Legal submissions included an application to dismiss, and applications to exclude ID evidence and CCTV pursuant to s78. After legal arguments, the prosecution offered no evidence on six counts. The jury acquitted the defendant in just over one hour.

R v OC [2023] - Woolwich Crown Court

Allegation of joint enterprise robbery. The defendant accepted physical elements of the robbery were made out, but he had acted without dishonesty and intention to permanently deprive. The jury acquitted the defendant in just over one hour.

R v TS [2023] - Wood Green Crown Court

Allegation of joint enterprise armed robbery and possession of a bladed article. Legal submissions included abuse of process argument. The defendant was acquitted on all counts.

R v KJ [2023] - Harrow Crown Court

Allegation of possession with intent to supply class A and class B drugs. Three defendants were arrested in what an expert characterised as a trap house. The other two defendants pleaded guilty before trial. Legal submissions included bad character and submissions of no case to answer. The defendant was acquitted on all counts.

R v AJ [2023] - Southwark Crown Court

Allegation of possession with intent to supply class A drugs and possession of criminal property. The defendant was allegedly seen dealing drugs by off-duty police officers and inspectors. The defendant was acquitted on all counts.

R v JL [2022] - Woolwich Crown Court

Allegation of benefit fraud. Legal submissions included several applications for further disclosure and abuse of process argument. The defendant was found not guilty on all counts.

R v DS [2022] - Croydon Crown Court

Represented a client charged with an offence of engaging, seeking, or offering to engage in a regulated activity when barred, contrary to s.7 of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006. Application to dismiss based on submissions that a position as a driving instructor did not amount to a regulated activity in law. The application to dismiss was successful.

Court of Appeal Cases

R. v Kuyateh (Alhaji Mohamed) [2023] EWCA Crim 1581 (16 August 2023)

Appeal on grounds that sentence was wrong in law and manifestly excessive. The application for leave to appeal was referred by the Registrar to the Full Court. The appeal was successful, the sentence was reduced and the client was released that same day.

R. v Harvey (Michael) [2023] EWCA Crim 406 (15 March 2023)

Appeal on grounds that sentence was manifestly excessive.

Education

BPTC, City University of London
LLM in International Criminal Law, University of Groningen
LLB in Law and Politics, University of Sussex

Memberships

Bridging the Bar
ATLAS Women
Women In Criminal Law