

# Justin Johnson

Junior Counsel - Under 15 Years

CALLED 2020



**Justin has a broad criminal practice and is regularly instructed on cases involving violence, theft, and fraud.**

Prior to joining the Bar, Justin worked in the youth justice field, both in the Civil Service and the charity sector, on issues covering child sexual and child criminal exploitation, homelessness, and resettlement. Justin also gained experience in immigration law where he assisted with a range of applications and appeals for asylum.

## Notable Cases

Driving

### **R v JH, 2023**

The defendant stood trial on an indictment alleging dangerous driving. The defendant was said to

have exceeded speeds of 150mph while racing a supercar.

## [Driving](#)

### Drugs

#### **R v RD, 2023**

The defendant stood trial on a charge of cultivating cannabis. The defendant was said to have cultivated approximately £50,000 of cannabis. The defence under section 45 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 was argued at trial.

## [Drugs](#)

### General Crime

#### **R v N, 2023**

N was charged with criminal damage and threats to kill. The allegation arose in the context of a domestic altercation, part of which was captured on a 999 call recording. Fabrication was argued at trial.

#### **R v MR, 2022**

Justin successfully defended his client against an allegation of being drunk and in charge of a mechanically propelled vehicle, where police had failed to safeguard the defendant from their partner, leaving them with no alternative but to seek refuge in their car.

#### **R v CD, 2022**

Justin successfully secured an extension of the time to pay in relation to a confiscation order.

## [Crime](#)

### Violence

#### **R v JH, 2023**

The defendant stood trial on an indictment alleging grievous bodily harm. The case involved a street fight following an earlier verbal altercation in a bar.

## **R v AS, 2023**

The defendant stood trial on an indictment alleging actual bodily harm. The defendant was said to have strangled and punched his partner during an argument. Self-defence was argued at trial.

## **R v PB, 2023**

Justin represented one of two defendants in relation to an attack involving a bottle. Following representations, the prosecution agreed to substitute charges of GBH and affray for a plea to ABH in respect of his client. At the committal for sentence and following a comprehensive plea in mitigation, the client was sentenced to a two-year community order.

## **R v BM, 2022**

Justin successfully defended his client against an allegation of domestic assault, following detailed legal arguments in relation to res gestae and bad character.

## **R v NJ, 2023**

Justin successfully defended his client against allegations of domestic criminal damage and threats to kill.

### [Violence](#)

## Rape and Sexual Offences

### **R v A 2023**

A was sentenced following guilty pleas to charges of possession of indecent images of children and breach of a Sexual Harm Prevention Order. This was his second conviction for similar offences in recent years. At the sentencing hearing, the judge agreed with the defence's submissions that the defendant should receive a community penalty as he had not received any targeted intervention as part of his previous sentence as is usual.

### **R v AN, 2023**

Justin successfully argued for the imposition of a comprehensive and targeted community order on the basis that, due to systemic issues, previous interventions had been inadequate, following a conviction for making IIOC and breach of a Sexual Harm Prevention Order.

### [Rape and Sexual Offences](#)

## Youths

### **R v J (a child), 2024**

J, a youth, was charged with seven burglaries in the London area. J had arrived in the U.K. by small boat some days prior to the incidents and had disappeared after being placed in temporary accommodation. The defence under section 45 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 was raised at trial.

### **R v BD (a child), 2023**

Justin secured the sole acquittal following a successful submission of no case to answer in a multi-handed robbery.

## [Youths](#)

# Achievements

## Memberships

- The Honourable Society of the Middle Temple
- Criminal Bar Association
- Defence Extradition Lawyers Forum
- Youth Practitioners Association
- Young Fraud Lawyers Association

## Appointments

- AG's 'Junior Junior' scheme
- CPS Panel (Grade 1)

## Education

- Bar Professional Training Course, The City Law School
- Graduate Diploma in Law, The University of Law
- Analytical Sciences, The Kingston University