



Sharon Beattie

LL.B (Hons) University of Leeds

1986

Inner Temple

Main Areas of Practice:

Crime

Medical Disciplinary/regulatory work

Crime: Prosecuting and defending cases

Cases include:-

- Homicide, medical manslaughter and offences of violence
- Sexual Offences
- Robbery and Fraud

Homicide

- Acted in many Homicide cases. Some of these cases have involved medical and scientific evidence dealing with; amongst other issues, causation, paediatric pathology and deaths during surgery.
- Also instructed in offences of Attempted Murder and other serious violent offences

Medico/Legal Work

- Special interest in medico/ legal issues both in the criminal jurisdiction and in Disciplinary/Medical Regulatory work. Sharon Beattie has recently been instructed by the General Medical Council in respect of cases involving both the practitioner's performance and misconduct.

Sexual offences

- Acted in cases which have been both sensitive and high profile. Including the prosecution of consultant psychiatrists (*R v Kerr* (2006) 2 Cr App R 31) and *R v Haslam*) as well as other medical professionals.

- Acted for the Prosecution in the Court of Appeal in the case of *R v S (Andrew)* CA [2006] EWCA Crim1303) - Authority re creditworthiness of witnesses under s100(1)(b) (See Archbold 2007 13-15)
- Acted for the Prosecution in the case of a police officer charged with Rape which involved complex toxicological evidence. Recently involved in the prosecution of a defendant in respect of the rape of four adult female complainants, and involving various medical and toxicological issues such as the effects of drugs and alcohol, as well as the time for the effects of the same to dissipate.
- Acted for the Prosecution in a case involving “stranger” attacks upon female students in their lodgings. Case dependent upon (“similar fact”) bad character and scientific evidence.
- Acted for the Defence in a case in which the Indictment was stayed as an ‘Abuse of Process’ as a result of the ‘suggestible’ defendant’s memory having been affected by post incident counselling. The ruling formed the basis of the Article “Abuse of Process and the Suggestible Defendant” (Archbold News)
- Acted for the Defence in a case in which the Indictment was stayed as an Abuse of Process. One of the issues in the case involved “childhood amnesia” and the age at which memories are formed and retained.
- Acted for the Defence in cases in which defendants have had mental health difficulties including low mental ages and intelligence.

Robbery and other offences of Dishonesty

- Instructed by the Crown in cases of armed robbery involving issues such as cell site evidence and facial mapping as well as other scientific evidence
- Has acted in fraud cases some of which have involved jurisdictional issues.