

**Year of Call: 2018**

**Alexandra-Maria has a busy defence practice and a solid record of securing favourable outcomes for clients from bail applications through to jury trials and at sentence. She thrives on making solid legal arguments. She regularly represents young and vulnerable defendants.**

**Alexandra-Maria specialises in:**

- **Criminal Defence**
- **Business Crime**
- **Regulatory Law**

She joins Libertas Chambers with recent experience in independent practice against a background of working as in-house counsel at a leading criminal defence firm in London. She was a finalist for Legal Aid Lawyer of the Year (criminal defence) in 2019 whilst working for a not-for-profit organisation.

Alexandra-Maria is committed to access to justice and has spent years campaigning for justice for Grenfell and supporting Amicus, a charity that supports lawyers fighting for justice on Death Row.

She has also assisted attorneys at the Mississippi Centre of Justice with youth defendants facing life without parole. Alexandra-Maria has facilitated outreach programmes in underprivileged parts of London designed to empower young people and equip them with knowledge of their rights in 'street law' workshops.

Alexandra Maria is fluent in English and Greek.

**Appointments & Memberships:**

- Criminal Bar Association
- The Honourable Society of Middle Temple
- Amicus, Lawyers for Justice on Death Row

**Publications:**

*"Should we reform the Offences Against Person Act 1861?"* – The Journal of Criminal Law, February 2017 (vol. 81, 1 (pp. 26-32))

**Awards:**

- 2019 Legal Aid Lawyer of the Year (Finalist – Criminal Defence)

**CRIMINAL DEFENCE**

**2024**

**R v DM:** Winchester CC - Instructed as led junior counsel in multi-handed attempted murder with complex issues of fact and law.

**R v EC:** Inner London CC - client acquitted of possession of bladed article due to reasonable excuse.

**R v QD:** Warwick CC - successful appeal against sentence resulting in the client's disqualification quashed.

**R v DE:** Persuaded Bench not to impose disqualification on a totter despite a recent history of speeding.

**R v DC:** Isleworth CC - secured bail in case involving a Class A drugs line with complex issues as to vulnerability of client in custody.

**R v WE:** Ealing YC - secured a conditional discharge for a youth who threw fireworks into a stadium.

**R v RW** – St Albans CC: Client acquitted of possession of offensive weapon after trial.

**R v JK:** Persuaded a DJ not to impose a default sentence where the crown was seeking imprisonment in a complex case involving property overseas.

**2023**

**R v LF** – St Albans CC: Led Junior where defendant acquitted of complex fraud against conglomerates including his employer.

**R v BW:** Secured bail for a client facing trial for possession with intent to supply Class A drugs.



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**R v MD** – St Albans CC: Successful appeal against sentence concerning a youth sentenced to a DTO in a case of exploitation where there was a positive conclusive grounds decision via the NRM.

**R v VJ**: Persuaded the Bench not to impose a mandatory custodial sentence for a second striker in a case of possession of an offensive weapon. Successfully, argued mental health as the exceptional circumstance grounds, the client received a community-based penalty with rehabilitative measures.

**R v AA**: Client accused of assault acquitted with self-defence advanced at trial.

**R v SP**: Advanced legal arguments on day of trial regarding the crown's failures in disclosure, the crown was unable to remedy these shortcomings and offered no evidence.

**R v MN**: Contested crown's application to adjourn on day of trial in the youth court which led to the crown offering no evidence.