

## Allan Armbrister

Call: 1984

### Crime

Allan Armbrister is a senior and well respected Member of Chambers, a determined and accomplished jury trial advocate in all areas of criminal law. Allan specialises in serious sexual and violent offences, particularly rape, sex trafficking and historic allegations of a sexual nature. He is extremely experienced in cross-examining young and vulnerable complainants and witnesses and those with disabilities, particularly the preparation of pre-recorded cross-examination procedures (S28 hearings). Allan is renowned for employing tact and understanding, tempered with firmness and forensic examination of the issues.

One particular area of specialism is the examination of accident investigators particularly driving cases involving death or serious injury. Allan has a great deal of knowledge concerning construction and use and handling characteristics of motor vehicles, given his extensive involvement in motorsport activities. One notable case concerned the Hemsworth By-Pass, which also featured cell site evidence. He secured an acquittal of one accused alleged to have participated in organised time trials on the road.

“Allan deals with young and vulnerable witnesses with great tact, understanding and firmness.”

Allan deals with animal welfare issues and has been instructed in hunting and badger baiting cases. He also has considerable experience in dealing with long and complex conspiracies involving allegations of drug tracking, money laundering or fraud.

Allan leaves no stone unturned, employing effective trial management tactics, is thorough and meticulously in his preparation and presentation of the case. He is considered to have a persuasive, relaxed and calm style of advocacy, which proved invaluable in sensitive and complex cases. He is also complemented for his skill in effectively dealing with vulnerable and demanding lay clients.

Having achieved an illustrious and successful career in the Magistrates' Courts Service, he was considered to be one of the top Justices' Clerks in the Country, being appointed to a number of prestigious and important Government Committees, including the Lord Chancellor's Project Board dealing with the Implementation of the Human Rights Act and a working party, which subsequently led to the construction and implementation of the Sexual Offences Act 2003. That experience has given Allan a deep understanding of the operation of the Courts' system and employment of the Criminal Procedure Rules.

### Notable cases

- R v TH, WH & LI (2018) – successfully prosecuted 3 men who assaulted a man in a row over a taxi outside a luxury hotel in Leeds.
- R v AR (2018) – secured acquittal for 16 year old youth who was charged with armed robbery and fraud.
- R v GT (2018) – secured acquittal for defendant who was alleged to have taken part in a complicated conspiracy with other Defendants, to evade paying duty on cigarettes amounting to over £3.5 million
- RSPCA v JH (2018) – Defence counsel in a RSPCA prosecution of six men charged with animal welfare offences relating to a badger baiting case.



### Education:

**1979** Manchester Polytechnic, Diploma in Law for Magistrates' Court Clerks

**1983** Leicester Polytechnic, BA Law

**1988** Derbyshire College of Higher Education, Diploma in Management Studies

### Career:

**1975** Deputy clerk to the Nuneaton justices, Warwickshire

**1988** Deputy clerk to the Leeds justices

**1994** Clerk to the Teesside justices at Middlesbrough

**2001** Tenant at Trent Chambers, Nottingham

**2008** Tenant at 39 Park Square, Leeds

**2012** Tenant at No 6, Leeds

**2015** No 6 becomes Park Square Barristers

- Leeds City Council v NI (2017) – prosecutes Uber driver accused of sexual assault.
  - R v Thompson (2011) EWCA Crim 102 Court of Appeal – Dealing with the question of whether additional counts can be added to the indictment when evidence of the offence was not available at the time of sending.
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## Contact Allan's clerks

[Andrew Thornton](#) on [0113 213 5202](#)

[Gina Hawkins](#) on [0113 213 5205](#)

[Rebecca Wilson](#) on [0113 213 5203](#)

[Hannah Dempsey](#) on [0113 213 5211](#)

[Elaine Foster-Morgan](#) on [0113 213 5217](#)

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## Children Law

Allan Armbrister was involved in the introduction of the Children Act in the magistrates' courts and has shown a keen interest in family law ever since.

He appears for all parties in public-law proceedings, but is particularly involved in finding-of-fact hearings dealing with unexplained injuries, serious sexual offences and violence. His criminal law background equips him to approach cases with detailed forensic examination and presentation of the evidence, and a thorough examination of professional and expert witnesses.

“Allan deals with young and vulnerable witnesses with great tact, understanding and firmness.”

## Contact Allan's clerks

[Claudine Cooper](#) on [0113 202 8604](#)

[Paul Foster](#) on [0113 213 5209](#)

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## Regulatory & Public

Allan Armbrister deals with regulatory breaches, particularly in the areas of animal-welfare law and care homes.

Allan has considerable experience of taxi-licensing matters, and has appeared regularly in hearings for both local authorities or applicants in complex cases concerning the grant, suspension and revocation of hackney carriage and private-hire licences.

Allan will also undertake disciplinary allegations in respect of sporting organisations, including motorsport tribunal hearings (having been a motorsport competitor himself).

## Contact Allan's clerk

Please contact [Madeleine Gray](#) on [0113 202 8603](#)