



Gordana Turudija-Austin

Call 2006

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Gordana Turudija-Austin is an experienced criminal defence advocate who appears in trials involving a wide range of serious criminal offences, including large scale drugs supply, firearms cases, serious violence, kidnap, blackmail, robbery, arson, perverting the course of justice, sexual offences and many others.

She is known for her calm manner, thorough preparation and a keen eye for detail.

Gordana is a compassionate advocate who builds a personal rapport with her clients, especially the vulnerable clients who need more attention and support. She is fully committed to her cases and fights fearlessly to achieve the best results for her clients.

Gordana has also successfully appeared in the Court of Appeal.

Gordana is a Grade 2 CPS Prosecutor.

Expertise

Murder & Manslaughter

Gordana predominantly defends criminal cases of the most serious nature, including allegations of murder and manslaughter.

Notable Murder & Manslaughter cases

R v MO & Others (2023)

Junior Counsel in successful defence of a young man charged with joint enterprise murder.

R v HS & Others (2023)

Junior Counsel in attempted murder case and numerous firearms offences.

R v SA (2022)

Secured an acquittal in an attempted murder case involving a woman who had stabbed her partner a number of times.

Modern Slavery

Gordana has defended and prosecuted cases relying on s.45 defence under the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

She regularly advises her clients whether and when such defence should be raised and potential consequences of the NRM conclusive grounds decisions in the light of the most recent decisions.

Notable Modern Slavery cases

R v PT (2019)

Vietnamese man trafficked to work in a cannabis factory acquitted following a positive conclusive grounds decision by the NRM.

R v AD (2021)

A vulnerable young man with special needs recruited to supply drugs in a county lines enterprise was acquitted after a detailed defence statement was served following the Crown's decision to proceed to trial despite a positive conclusive grounds decision.

Sexual Offences

Gordana has defended in a variety of cases involving sexual offences ranging from possession and distribution of indecent images, sexual assault, sexual communication with a child, inciting a child to engage in sexual activity to arranging and facilitation the commission of a child sex offence, rape and many more.

Notable Sexual Offences cases

R v JB & Another (2023)

Currently instructed in a stranger rape case also involving allegations of violence and strangulation.

R v JM (2021)

Secured a suspended sentence for a vulnerable man convicted on multiple counts of inciting a child to engage in sexual activity and arranging and facilitating the commission of a child sex offences.

R v RN (2021)

Represented a man with mental health difficulties charged with committing an assault with intent to commit a sexual offence.

Historic Sexual Offences

Notable Historic Sexual Offences cases

R v JL (2023)

Currently instructed in a historic child abuse case involving multiple rape counts.

Drugs & Serious Violence

Notable Drugs & Serious Violence cases

R v CG & PP (2023)

Acquittal after a no case to answer argument in a drugs supply case involving a kilo of cocaine.

Operation Atoll (2022)

Secured an acquittal in a multi-handed conspiracy to supply class A drugs.

R v ZF (2022)

Secured a community order in a s.18 GBH with intent case where a woman had bitten of a complainant's finger.

R v LC (2022)

S.18 stabbing in a domestic context where the defendant received a suspended sentence.

R v NH (2022)

Secured an acquittal in a S.20 wounding where a bottle was used as a weapon.

R v BG & LM (2022)

Secured a suspended sentence in a case of perverting the course of justice.

R v LS & TB (2021)

Robbery trial, involving a vulnerable complainant requiring an intermediary. Targeted disclosure requests resulted in no evidence being offered on the second day of trial.

Firearms

Gordana regularly defends cases involving a wide range of firearms offences.

Notable Firearms cases

R v AD (2022)

Secured an acquittal in a case of possession of a loaded firearm with intent to cause fear of violence.

R v CU (2020)

Secured a suspended sentence for a man charged with possession of a disguised firearm, possession of a prohibited weapon and possession with intent to supply cannabis.

Sexual Harm Prevention Orders

Gordana regularly defends cases involving the imposition of Sexual Harm Prevention Order as well as breaches of the same.

Notable Sexual Harm Prevention Orders cases

R v AC (2023)

Secured a suspended sentence for the defendant who breached the SHPO soon after he was released from prison.

R v JH (2022)

Secured a conditional discharge for the defendant who breached his SHPO a number of times during the lockdown.

Criminal Behaviour Orders

Notable Criminal Behaviour Orders cases

R v MN (2023)

Gordana has successfully argued against the imposition of a Criminal Behaviour Order where the Crown applied to exclude the defendant from entering a number of towns in his county as well as the majority of the town where he lived.

Proceeds of Crime: confiscation

Gordana is regularly instructed in Proceeds of Crime as well as Money Laundering cases.

Fraud

Gordana is regularly instructed to represent defendants charged with a variety of fraud offences.

Notable Fraud cases

R v NR & KR (2022)

Fraud case involving stealing and cashing in scratch cards.

R v LA (2022)

The defendant obtained nude photographs from a woman using fake social media accounts and pretending to be a modelling agent.

R v CM (2020)

The defendant impersonated a police officer and defrauded his partner and her mother.

Qualifications

- LLB Hons University of London
- LLM in Criminal Law

Memberships

- Gray's Inn
- Criminal Bar Association
- Thames Valley Bar Mess

Languages

- Serbo-Croat (Serbian/Croatian/Bosnian)
- Spanish (conversational)