



# Olivia McGonigle

**Year of Call:** 2021

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## Crime

Olivia McGonigle is a criminal law barrister who is instructed to defend and prosecute across the spectrum of offences. Recent Crown Court cases include:

- Successful half time submission in a four handed affray trial (2023)
- Acquittal in a burglary case (2023)
- Secured a suspended sentence for PWITS class A drugs (2023)
- Client found not guilty in ABH case, which involved cross-examination of a young child and unexplained injuries (2024)
- Community order imposed in a case of multiple breaches of a SHPO (in place following the rape of a child) (2024)
- Prosecution offered no evidence in an intentional strangulation case, accepting a plea to battery (2024)
- Plea to battery instead of intentional strangulation. Case then remitted back to the Magistrates' Court for sentence (2024)
- Unanimous acquittal in an ABH case where there were unexplained injuries (2024)

In the Magistrates' Court Olivia is often instructed for private clients. She has recently had multiple successful exceptional hardship and special reasons arguments, allowing drivers who would otherwise be disqualified to keep their driving licences.

## Recommendations

Olivia "represented the Crown with great skill and fairness." An "excellent" advocate. **Crown Court Trial Judge**

Olivia has a "very appealing court room manner." **Crown Court Judge**

"Olivia went above and beyond." **Solicitor**

"I had the benefit of working with Olivia who I found to be extremely hard-working, diligent, pleasant and someone who was able to help us out at extremely short notice to prepare a very complicated witness statement in response to a fairly complicated judicial review matter. Olivia was able to get to grips with a very urgent court deadline and we were able to meet this deadline with her administrative and client care skills. She was able to take detailed instructions from the litigation friend and put this in a witness statement and not only that, was then able to put together a very detailed court bundle at very short notice." **Gregg Burrough – Senior Education Solicitor – Coram Children's Legal Centre**

"Your support gave me great relief. Thank you for fighting so hard." **Lay client**

## **Academic qualifications**

- Bar Training Course – Distinction (BPP London)
- Graduate Diploma in Law – Distinction (BPP London)
- BA Hons History and Political Science (University of Birmingham)

## **Scholarships**

- Butterfield Scholar (Western Circuit)
- Ann Goddard Scholar (Gray's Inn)
- Wilfred Watson Scholar (Gray's Inn)
- Residential Scholar (Gray's Inn)
- Career Commitment Scholar (BPP)
- Excellence Scholar (BPP)
- BPP Advocacy Scholar (BPP)
- GDL Scholarship (Gray's Inn)

## **Professional qualifications & appointments**

- Level 1 – CPS Advocate Panel – General Crime

## **Professional bodies**

- Gray's Inn