



“We would not have been able to handle such a huge case with so many complex and disparate pieces of information as effectively without CaseMap from LexisNexis.”

CaseMap Case Study – Hickman Rose

Hickman Rose’ requirements

London-based Hickman & Rose was established in 1991 by Jane Hickman and Ben Rose and has developed into one of the largest specialist criminal justice firms in the country. Rose represented Andrew Adams at the Court of Appeal in a murder case that spanned 6 years and said “Working on this case was like doing a 50,000-piece jigsaw – this being roughly the number of documents we had to examine – except that we did not have all the bits; many were incomplete, some were from different puzzles or incomprehensible and we had no picture on the lid to look at. To compound matters, all the original defence papers were missing and several of the trial lawyers dead.”

The LexisNexis recommendation

CaseMap provides a central repository for critical case knowledge that makes it easy for lawyers to organise, evaluate, and explore the facts, the cast of characters and the issues in a case.

Unlike traditional methods of organising this case knowledge, CaseMap makes case knowledge available to the entire team, makes the organisation process easier by providing unique knowledge culling technologies, and offers a wide array of practical and polished case analysis tools.

How did Hickman Rose benefit?

Ben Rose said “CaseMap was great; it gave me a greatly refined analysis of the case and the sequence of events in a very visual way. All the timelines were hyperlinked back to the underlying source material – and as a lawyer, that’s simply a delight.”

“Also because all the material is held in a relational database with links to the underlying documents, it allowed me to interrogate

the casework very quickly when I needed it, so that I was able to answer awkward questions I may not have thought of originally when they arose in court,” he said.

Adams’ conviction for murder was quashed by the Court of Appeal in January 2007 after the case was referred by the Criminal Cases Review Commission. He was freed on his second appeal after serving more than 14 years in jail for the murder of Jack Royal in 1990. The new grounds included an allegation that his original trial lawyers had failed properly to prepare the case.

Hickman & Rose are now using CaseMap to help tackle another major piece of litigation recently sent back to the Crown Court by the Court of Appeal, involving major drug trafficking offences and where a retrial has been ordered.

“CaseMap represents a fundamental change to how we prepared cases in the past, using tried and tested methods which have stood the test of time. It was a bold move to break from these traditional methods, but one which ultimately proved well worth making.”

“My most memorable experience as a lawyer came after six years’ of painstaking work, when I walked out of the Court of Appeal with Andrew Adams at my side... I probably couldn’t have done that without CaseMap”

Ben Rose – Partner, Hickman Rose Solicitors