

Anna McDonnell
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Education

- 2014 - 2017 (Expected)** **Bachelor of Civil Law: (2.1 Average)**
Dublin City University, Whitehall, Dublin 9
Currently a second year student
- 2009 - 2014** **Abbey Vocational School, Donegal:** Leaving Certificate (460 Points)

Relevant Employment

- June 2015 - August 2015** **O'Donnell McKenna Solicitors, Donegal.**
During this placement I was engaged as an assistant in a small solicitors practice. My responsibilities included attending on client meetings, drafting correspondence, file management and briefing counsel. My work was mainly centred around practice areas of conveyancing and probate.
- June 2015** **Legal Aid Board, Smithfield.**
Throughout the course of my placement I was assigned to one of the managing solicitors in the Refugee and Child Abduction departments. I completed a training course with the Refugee Documentation Centre on assessing an asylum application. For each application, I attended meetings and took notes, which I discussed with the attending solicitor after each meeting. During the course of my placement one application proceeded to tribunal stage and allowed me to experience a further part of the process. When refugee status was granted, it was a very rewarding experience.
- May 2015 - Present** **Begley's Pharmacy, Donegal.**
I am engaged as a sales assistant in a busy retail pharmacy at weekends and during holidays. This involves dealing with the public on a continuous basis. It is necessary to carry out my work with discretion, particularly in respect of the confidential medical information of customers. In my opinion this ability to build relationships based on trust is a key skill for a solicitor.

Volunteer Work

FLAC

- I am an active participant in DCU's FLAC (Free Legal Advice Centres) society. I was selected to participate in clinics and provide legal information to members of the public (under the guidance of a barrister).

St Vincent de Paul Society DCU

- As an active member of this student society I take part in the weekly soup runs in the City Centre. Teams of five or six take different routes through the city.

Achievements

- I was involved as a hostess in the No Name Club organising events for teenagers to socialise in non-alcohol and non-substance environments.
- I play piano and I completed my Grade 7 exam in May 2014.
- I received a commendation in the 2012 Texaco Art Competition.
- I participated in a production of 'Oliver! the Musical' in Donegal Town.
- I am a keen basketball player and represented my school and town at national level.

Professional skills

- IT skills developed as part of course completed in secondary school.
- My communicational skills have been advanced through my work with the No Name Club which required working with adults in the community in order to organise events. My work in Begley's Pharmacy further enhanced my communicational skills as I was working at the main counter in a busy pharmacy.
- I can work individually although I work equally well in a team environment, as evidenced my achievements in piano and basketball.
- I completed a training course with the Refugee Documentation Centre through my work in the Legal Aid Board which further developed and enhanced my legal research skills. The training specifically related to assessing the risk presented to the asylum seeker by their country of origin.

Referees

Ms. Una O'Donnell, O'Donnell McKenna, Solicitors, Waterloo Place, Donegal Town, Co. Donegal.
Email: una@odmk.ie

Ms. Grainne Brophy, Manager, Legal Aid Board, 48-49 North Brunswick St, Georges Lane, Smithfield, Dublin 7. Email: gcbrophy@legalaidboard.ie

Dr Tom Hickey, School of Law and Government, Dublin City University, Glasnevin, Dublin 9.
Email: tom.hickey@dcu.ie

Signed: Anna Mc Donnell

Date: 26/January/2016