**​Hannah McGinley**

**EDUCATION**

**2022-2023 Final Examinations Part One, The Law Society Ireland**

I have passed all Final Examinations Part One as of March 2024

**2021-2022 LL. B (Bachelor of Law), National University of Ireland, Galway**

Result Overall: 2:1

* Legal Thesis: “Are Ireland Breaching Domestic and International Human Rights Obligations Concerning the Treatment of Transgender Refugees in Direct Provision?” (73%)

**2018-2021 BA (Hons), Law and Sociology and Political Science, National University of Ireland, Galway**

Result overall: 2:1

**2016-2018 Leaving Certificate**

Points: 343

**WORK EXPERIENCE**

**September 2023- Present- Judicial Assistant, Ms Justice Elma Sheahan, Circuit Criminal Court and Special Criminal Court, The Criminal Courts of Justice, Parkgate St. St James, Dublin 8**

* Responsible for organisational and administrative tasks essential to the smooth operation of the court proceedings
* Oversee courtroom preparations. Organising the courtroom daily, ensure all necessary books and documents are readily available for the Judge
* Coordinate with barristers and other court staff to ensure timely and efficient proceedings, minimising wait time for the Judge
* Prioritising emails and correspondence for the Judge, as well as disseminating important information to relevant parties
* Conducting ongoing research to update recent Court of Appeal judgements and relevant legal developments
* Organising all files and research in an efficient way, physically and digitally
* Taking detailed notes during court sittings and maintain itemised record for future reference
* Managing an Excel spreadsheet detailing case names, descriptions and outcomes, with over 550 inputs

**November 2022- September 2023- Project Worker (funded by IHREC), Mr John Lannon, Doras 51a O’Connell St. Limerick City, Co. Limerick**

* Mapped the rights of International Protection Applicants in Ireland in areas such as housing, healthcare, education, employment, and social welfare. Worked with colleagues and focus groups, with support from the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission, to develop the first free e-learning platform simplifying access to these rights
* Managed a dedicated email channel for Ukrainian temporary protection beneficiaries and accommodation providers, handling over 950 state-provided accommodation contracts. Coordinated with local resource centres and escalated unresolved issues to the Department of Justice, resulting in one provider losing their accommodation contract
* Compiled and analysed statistics on complaints related to temporary accommodation, which attracted the attention of the Irish government and the United Nations, leading to a meeting to discuss common complaints, the procedure, and the success rate in resolving issues

**January 2022- November 2022, Volunteer Researcher, Mr John Lannon, Doras 51a O’Connell St. Limerick City, Co. Limerick**

* Participated in weekly meetings with staff to set objectives and engage in discussions on key issues, gaining a comprehensive understanding of the challenges faced by International Protection Applicants in Ireland
* Conducted in-depth research on the legal rights of migrants, focusing on access to mental health care and the right to translators in healthcare settings. This research was published by Doras and distributed as a pamphlet in Limerick and other local resource centres across Ireland
* Successfully completed the placement in March, transitioning to a full-time position while balancing postgraduate studies, thesis writing, part-time work, and four FE1 exams, demonstrating strong time management and organisational skills

**December 2020- August 2023, Supervisor, Mr Gary Colohan, Upper Dominick St. Galway City, Co. Galway**

* Motivated a team of five employees, delegating tasks to colleagues maintaining best practices, using efficient communication and organisational skills
* Helped foster good relations with clientele
* Completed training to finalise necessary paperwork weekly
* Navigated through a work/ academic life balance successfully through the final year of my undergraduate career

**June 2016- December 2020, Sous-Chef, Ms Angela McLaughlin, Main Street, Dunfanaghy, Co. Donegal**

* Promoted from kitchen porter to sous-chef manifesting a productive relationship with the head chef leading to greater efficiency in the kitchen and a hunger for progression
* Aided the manager in completing the most efficient rosters each week
* Took charge of inventory management, foreseeing the necessary stock each week

**SKILLS PROFILE**

**Problem-solving abilities:** Demonstrated strong problem-solving skills by adapting to evolving COVID-19 procedures, resolving complex issues during the Ukrainian, Afghan, and Gaza migration crises, and efficiently managing tasks in the fast-paced Criminal Courts of Justice. Developed innovative solutions to ensure smooth operations in both legal and humanitarian settings

**Interpersonal skills:** Demonstrated strong communication and collaboration with a range of stakeholders, including colleagues, court staff, Judges, the Department of Justice, and the United Nations. Skilled in maintaining professionalism and confidentiality, particularly in high-pressure situations where one misstep could jeopardise a trial. Experienced in sensitively communicating with vulnerable groups, such as migrants and individuals within the criminal justice system

**IT Expertise:** Proficient in Microsoft Office and Adobe Reader, Drupal CMS, completing the European Computer Driving License and Legal Technology Assessment, with the ability to type over 70WPM

**Legal Knowledge:** Developed a comprehensive understanding of core legal areas through my academic and legal career, with strong skills in drafting case notes and proficient use of legal databases. Experienced in researching other jurisdictions and staying up to date with evolving laws, particularly in human rights and criminal law. Capable of deep-diving into niche topics, as demonstrated by my research on translators in medical settings

**ACHIEVEMENTS**

* Delivered a keynote speech at the launch of Doras’ Know Your Rights course on the SaorEd platform, which attracted over 100 attendees and resulted in more than 80 sign-ups within the first week. This project aimed to empower International Protection Applicants by providing them with accessible information about their rights and was the first of its kind
* Volunteered at the Free Legal Advice Centre, providing support and legal guidance to individuals in need, enhancing my understanding of community legal services
* Raised over €40,000 for the Galway Rape Crisis Centre by participating in daily sunrise swims every November from 2020 to 2022, as part of the Coldvember initiative with fellow NUIG students
* Achieved financial independence at 18 through part-time work while balancing academic commitments and excelling in both
* Raised over €1,200 for Crumlin’s Children’s Hospital through fundraising efforts, including a magazine sale at age 11 and a family speech in 2015

**INTERESTS**

**Gym:** Developed a rigorous training program that includes weightlifting five times a week, and cardio three times a week, remaining motivated to accomplish my goals with a well-developed knowledge of nutrition

**Cooking:** I enjoy cooking and try different recipes often. I'm very interested in understanding my body's nutritional demands, specifically the calories and macronutrients required for a balanced diet. I enjoy experimenting with new recipes and techniques, and I frequently host dinner parties for friends and family

**REFEREES**

Mr John Lannon

CEO

Doras

51a O’ Connell St.

Limerick

J.Lannon@doras.org

Ms Justice Elma Sheahan

Circuit Criminal Law Judge

The Criminal Courts of Justice

Parkgate St. St James

Dublin 8

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