**LEONA CASSIDY**

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PERSONAL PROFILE:

Pre-Trainee Solicitor, with wide ranging skills gained in a general practice firm. Particular interest in criminal law from my diploma in criminology as well as studying same in my Bachelor of Civil Law Degree. I am also very interested in human rights law from my experience in Panama working on human rights issues. Motivated hard worker seeking a challenging training contract having recently passed three FE-1 Examinations and intending to commence PPC1 in September 2017.

EDUCATION:

* Dublin City University, Bachelor of Civil Law, 2.1 Honours 2015
* City Colleges, Criminology & Criminal Psychology 2012
* Beech Hill College, Leaving Certificate 2011

WORK EXPERIENCE:

- **Pre-Trainee Solicitor**

*O’Hanrahan Quaney Solicitors* (May 2015 – Present) – Fairview, Dublin 3.

I act as a key member of the legal team supporting the solicitors in their day to day legal work including in the preparation of court submissions, pleadings and liaisons with counsel, engrossing documents and meeting with clients while working to tight deadlines. Other duties include preparing legal bills for approval, ensuring that files are kept up to date and attending court to assist in the presentation of cases.

- **Legal Intern**

*Dublin Airport Authority (daa)* (Sept 2014 – May 2015)

Legal Intern during my final year at University. Various tasks that I carried out included assisting the in-house Solicitors and insurance department of the daa working on various litigation, pre-litigation and personal injury cases. I drafted various legal documents while researching legislation, reviewing case files and attending the Four Courts I also assisted in the drafting and amendment of bye-laws with the entire legal team as well as working along with other various departments within the daa on this. I also assessed commercial legal opportunities in other jurisdictions.

- **Shop & Deli Assistant**

*Wrights Food Fayre* (June 2014 – May 2015) – Dublin Airport

- **Waitress**

*Castle Leslie Estate* (Nov 2013 – May 2014) - County Monaghan

- **Waitress**

*Beaumont House* (June 2013 – November 2013) – Dublin 9

- **Waitress/Floor Staff**

*Westenra Arms Hotel* (March 2013 – June 2013) – County Monaghan

- **Receptionist**

*Martha’s Vineyard Family Campground* (May 2012 - August 2012) – Boston, USA

HOBBIES/ACHIEVEMENTS:

- **Chairperson DCU Debate Society** (Sept 2012 – May 2015)

Chairing is a key role on the DCU debate society committee. I organised committee meetings once a week. I raised issues and ideas in our weekly meeting and from here effective decisions were made for the society. I worked along with the committee to organise weekly debates, training sessions in both debating and public speaking, and as well as this I organise teams for debating competitions throughout Ireland. I was on the committee for three years.

**- DCU Open** (March 2015) – Dublin City University

The DCU Open is an open intervarsity debating competition held annually and hosted by DCU Debate society. I was involved on the DCU debate committee for three years and each year organised this event alongside my committee. This is an event which requires a lot of organising and work as students all over Ireland participate in this event.

- **Human Rights/ Business Brigade** (March 2014) – Panama

I worked along with Panamanian lawyers to provide pro-bono legal consulting on a ten day brigade in Panama. I volunteered in remote communities that are under resourced and largely unaware of their legal rights. I also held legal educational workshops tailored to the community on various human rights and business topics.

- **Mentorship Programme** (2013/2014) – Dublin City University

The programme runs for six months and I was paired with an alumni mentor in my second year of University for the purposes of careers and personal development. My alumni mentor was a Solicitor who works in the daa in an in-house legal role and was my mentor for one year. I carried out work shadowing my mentor in the daa during this period.

- **Ballymun Comprehensive School Debate** (2013)

I worked along with RAG society where I assisted secondary school students to organise a debating event for their history project by teaching them various public speaking skills.

- **Volunteer** (January 2012) – Irish Cancer Society

I organised an event in my hometown to help raise awareness of breast cancer, which I raised €1,500 for the Irish Cancer Society.

- **Intergenerational Learning Programme** (2012) – Dublin City University

This is a programme organised by DCU. I participated in this as a student volunteer, where I assisted in teaching those aged 60 years and over, basic computer skills.

- **Fitness**

I am an active member of the gym which I attend at three to five times a week. I particularly enjoy swimming and attending fitness classes.

REFEREES:

Dr Brenda Daly, Ms Maureen O’ Hara,

BCL Programme Chair, In-House Solicitor,

Dublin City University Dublin Airport Authority

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