

RHIAN MITCHELL

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PROFILE

Qualified solicitor with 5 years' experience dealing with a range of complex cases. Specialised in criminal law. Currently studying the Masters in Public Administration and now seeking a public policy role where I can use my previous experience to influence UK government policy.

EDUCATION

The London School of Economics & Political Science

2013 - 2015

- Master's in Public Administration (Expected distinction)
- 2 year programme developing professional level policy making skills
- Specialised in social policy focussing on understanding social disadvantage and gender and European welfare states.
- Second year courses covered advanced analysis of public and social welfare
- 10,000 word dissertation covered a comparative analysis of European welfare states
- 'Capstone' project working with Serco to deliver recommendations for the extension of HMP Thameside to ensure inmate welfare and transition to meaningful employment on release

BPP

2007 – 2008

- Legal Practice Course (Pass)
- Professional skills course (Pass)

The University of Warwick

2004 – 2007

- LLB (Law) (First Class)

WORK HISTORY

Kingsley Napley

2010 - 2013

Criminal Associate/Solicitor

- Promoted from Solicitor to Associate in 2012

Bindmans LLP

2008 - 2010

Trainee Solicitor

- Rotated around various practice areas to complete my training period. Specialised in criminal cases from 2010.

RELEVANT SKILLS

Analytical Skills

Academic:

- Analysed data relating to the 'Healthy prison tests' as part of Serco capstone project.
- Dissertation involves extensive literature review of over 30 white papers, bills and journal articles

Employment:

- Reviewed case histories for all cases I worked on at Bindmans and Kingsley Napley.
- Successfully researched history of civil claims of compensation for prisoners subject to unlawful acts. This included several cases of discrimination. Research used in major case Davis v HMP Wandsworth resulting in a successful £20,000 compensation claim.

Project Management/ Delivering Results

Academic:

- Delivered research report and set of 15 recommendations ahead of scheduled deadline to assist Serco with £34m extension of HMP Thameside as part of LSE capstone project.

Employment:

- Engaged in end to end autonomous case management at both Kingsley Napley and Bindmans.
- Collaborated with a team of 3 other solicitors at Bindmans to represent a group of prisoners with applications at the European Court of Human Rights arising from their ban on voting in the general election.

Problem Solving**Academic:**

- Overcame the loss of a team member during capstone project by suggesting a new division of the team's tasks. Resulted in project delivered ahead of schedule.

Employment:

- Solved issues with numerous client's cases at Bindmans and Kingsley Napley.
- Supervised a team of 5 paralegals at Kingsley Napley acting in a high profile judicial review (Peters v HMP Ashfield). A complex case requiring careful decision making at each stage.

Working in a Fast Paced Environment**Employment:**

- As a solicitor at Kingsley Napley often ran over 50 matters at any one time thus developing strong time management skills.
- Notable case - Roberts v HMP Whitemoor at Kingsley Napley where I was acting for the client to challenge unlawful prison policies. The case involved frequent court appearances and required quick thinking to ensure all parties had the correct documentation.

Communication & Influence**Academic:**

- Liaised with Serco clients as part of LSE capstone project. Presented recommendations to senior managers resulting in a prize for best MPA project.

Employment:

- Advised clients in a professional but sensitive and confidential manner
- Guided journalist facing legal action as part of the 2011 phone hacking scandal. Parties settled shortly before trial.

SKILLS

- Proficient at all Microsoft Office programs – Access, Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Outlook.
- Experienced user of SPSS and stata for data analysis
- Competent user of document review programs (First Advantage, Ringtail)
- Full United Kingdom driving licence.

REFERENCES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST