

Colin William Neilson

Education:

2009-2010 Glasgow Graduate School of Law: Diploma in Legal Practice
2007-2009 University of Strathclyde: LLB (Bachelor of Laws)
2000-2004 University of Glasgow: BSc (Hons) in Mathematics
1991-1997 The High School of Glasgow: awarded 6 Highers AAAAAA

Work Experience:

June 2022 to date – Junior Counsel, Faculty of Advocates

October 2021 to June 2022 - Devil, Faculty of Advocates

- • Devilmasters: Bryan Heaney and Tony Lenehan

December 2013 to September 2021: Procurator Fiscal Depute, Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service, Aberdeen Office

- Responsible for solemn and summary crime files, preparing and conducting procedural hearings and sheriff and jury trials as prosecutor in cases concerning controlled drugs, sexual, violent and fraudulent offending; questioning witnesses, delivering jury speeches, discussing procedure and outcomes with vulnerable witnesses, drafting court documents for criminal and civil procedure, drafting charges and case instructions, drafting and craving evidential search warrants and financial production orders, advising police and other investigatory agencies on evidential matters.

July 2010 to October 2013: Trainee and Assistant (from July 2012) Solicitor with Ian Moir & Company in Glasgow (criminal defence firm)

- Responsible for criminal, civil and children referral files including managing correspondence, legal aid applications, consultations with clients and counsel, attending police interviews on behalf of clients, negotiating pleas with the Crown, preparing and conducting procedural diets and trials in summary and solemn procedure, drafting summary and ordinary applications in civil procedure, notes of appeal and special defence notices.

June 2009 – September 2009: Summer placement with Human Rights charity Reprieve – seconded to Louisiana Capital Assistance Centre in New Orleans, Louisiana, USA

- Regular visits to Louisiana State Penitentiary including numerous interviews with inmates on Death Row, researched and managed a project investigating racial bias in jury selection in various parishes in Louisiana, observed trials and hearings in order to relay notes to defence counsel, researched, compiled and maintained files on clients.

August 2007-October 2007: Human Resources Officer for JC Allan Plant & Civil Engineering

- Conducted disciplinary hearings, investigated disciplinary matters and interviewed members of staff, HR administrative tasks

May 2007 – August 2007: Travelling in Australia

- Tutored secondary school Mathematics, played rugby for University of Western Australia RFC

June 2004 – May 2006: Administrative Assistant at Speirs & Jeffrey Stockbrokers in Glasgow

- Administrative tasks in relation to on-going business needs

July 2004 – September 2007: Part-time member of 52nd Lowland Volunteers, Territorial Army, based at Walcheren Barracks in Glasgow

- Regular weekday training sessions and weekends away with my regiment training in military skills (was not given the opportunity to go on operations in my time with the TA)

Personal Profile

I am highly motivated to succeed in whatever I pursue. I would like to think my mathematical background and subsequent training in the law is a combination that lends itself to analytical and precise decision-making. I have a keen interest in human behaviour and a strong sense of fair play.

Interests

I keep fit through running and CrossFit. I enjoy playing the piano regularly.

I previously played rugby for GHK and Aberdeen Grammar at National 1 level. I was secretary and president of Aberdeen Grammar Rugby club between 2018-2021

I have a full UK driving licence.