



**Peter Girvan B.L.**

Peter Girvan is called to the Northern Ireland, Republic of Ireland and English Bar, practicing primarily in Northern Ireland.

Peter attended Oxford University obtaining BA Honours in undergraduate degree in Jurisprudence and thereafter the post graduate degree of Bachelor of Civil Law. Peter was the Gray's Inn Prince of Wales Major Scholar when completing his professional qualifications in London. Thereafter Peter undertook pupillage at Quadrant Chambers and the Competition Commission, the UK's preeminent anti-trust authority.

Peter returned to Northern Ireland to practice in 2005. His legal practice centres upon commercial law, human rights and media law. In the commercial field Peter acted successfully as Junior Counsel for the Plaintiff in the case of *Henry Brothers & Others v Department of Education*, a long running and wide ranging public procurement action which concluded in the Court of Appeal. The Plaintiff was excluded, after a tendering process, from the opportunity of undertaking public works within a Schools Modernization Programme with an allocated budget of £650 million over a five year period. Peter has been involved in a number of leading human rights cases in Northern Ireland. *In the Matter of an application Police Service for Northern Ireland, and Suzanne Breen* he appeared as Junior Counsel for the Respondent- an investigative journalist who had accepted a call of responsibility from the RIRA in respect of that organizations attack on security personnel at Massereene Barracks. The Police sought an order under Terrorist legislation for the Respondent to produce all journalist material she held in respect of the call of responsibility. Judgment was entered in favour of the Respondent on European Convention right to life grounds. Recently, Peter has been involved in a number of cases against Facebook, and other defendants using the network, including an award of damages against an internet troll using the website and interim injunctions against Facebook itself.

Peter has contributed to a number of legal textbooks including the Northern Ireland sections of *References to the European Court of Justice* and *Competition Litigation UK Practice and Procedure*.

Between his two degrees Peter travelled widely- including periods in Cuba, Mexico, Peru, Chile, Brazil, Australia and Hong Kong. On previous visits to America he has undertaken a road trip from New York to Houston and attended the Superbowl in Houston, Texas.

Peter is a keen sportsman, with a particular interest in rugby and football. Peter is also an avid reader and fan of music.



**Ashleigh M. Jones BL**

Called to the Bar of Northern Ireland in 2008

I was pupil of Kilmaine Primary, Bangor and then Bloomfield Collegiate Girls school, Belfast. Following this I graduated from Queen's University Belfast in 2007 with a 2:1 in Law and obtained a place at the Institute of Professional Legal Studies. Following graduation in 2008 I commenced my pupillage at the Bar Library, Belfast. My pupillage was a mixed pupillage of Matrimonial, Civil and Criminal practices.

Since commencing practice I have focused on matrimonial, personal injuries and public child law. In 2012 I was admitted to the civil panel and now act on behalf of various government departments including the parole commission and the Land and Property Services.

In my spare time I enjoy horse riding and caring for my horse. I enjoy travel and am looking ahead to my impending first ski trip in March. I also sit on a number of committees both inside and outside of the Bar. Within the Bar I currently sit on the Personal Injuries Committee and Young Bar Committee. I am also the secretary of the Bar Charity Committee. Each year we organize a number of events including balls, dinners and sporting events.



**Gemma O'Farrell BL**

Gemma is a Junior Counsel - barrister, practising at the Law Library, Four Courts, Dublin.

Gemma attended undergraduate university at Trinity College, Dublin where she was awarded an Entrance Exhibition scholarship in 2002. She graduated with an Honours degree in Law in 2006 and in 2007 Gemma completed a Master's Degree (LL.M) at the University of London where, studying International Trade Mark, Copyright and Patent Law she specialised in Intellectual Property.

Gemma completed the Barrister-at-Law degree in the Honorable Society of King's Inns in 2009 and was called to the Bar of Ireland in Trinity term 2009. In June 2009, she was selected to represent the Honorable Society of the King's Inns in a two week, Accelerated Trial Advocacy course at the John Marshall Law School in Chicago Illinois. This intensive course was led by a large number of federal and state judges, and high profile trial lawyers.

Gemma has taught in a number of institutions and is currently lecturing on the Master's Degree (LL.M) at Trinity College Dublin in International Trade Mark and Unfair Competition Law. She is also teaching on the Private Law Remedies undergraduate programme. Gemma is a PhD candidate at the Trinity College Law School where she is reading for her thesis entitled "Death by 1000 cuts" relating to branding and remedies in trade mark law. She is an Arthur Cox fellow having received the Arthur Cox Studentship for Private Law Remedies in 2012.

Gemma practices in civil litigation with an emphasis on general commercial law, chancery and intellectual property. She has been published in a number of commercial law journals, including the European Intellectual Property Review.

In 2011 Gemma worked as a researcher for the Copyright Review Group set up by the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation, to deal with proposed amendments to the Irish Copyright and Related Rights Act 2000.

Gemma is a member of the British and Irish Commercial Bar Association and the Bar Council External Relations Committee.



**John O' Regan, BL**

John O'Regan is a barrister, practising at the Law Library, Four Courts, Dublin. He studied law at Trinity College Dublin, graduated from the Honourable Society of Kings Inns in 2007 and was called to the Bar of Ireland in 2008.

John practises in civil litigation and principally in the area of contract disputes, property law, insurance claims and insolvency. Last year he advised on the possible application of Irish law in a Chapter 11 Bankruptcy in the United States of a large US telecommunications firm which had an Irish subsidiary company. John is also a lecturer in the law of tort on a post graduate course in Trinity College Dublin and in tax law on an undergraduate course in Griffith College Dublin. He is studying to be a registered tax adviser with the Irish Taxation Institute. He has had a number of articles published in the Bar Review of Ireland.

John volunteers regularly at the Northside Community Law Centre in Dublin, where free legal advice clinics are provided for those who cannot otherwise afford such advice. Before being called to the bar he also worked voluntarily as a legal researcher for the PREDA organisation, a human rights NGO in the Philippines whose founder is a Nobel peace prize nominee. He has also volunteered abroad in India and Kenya for SUAS, an Irish NGO which focuses on educational disadvantage.

John is a part time musician and he plays a concert every Saturday night in a bar in Dublin. He sings and plays guitar. His other hobbies are travel and all sports but especially running, and he has run a number of marathons.