

DAVID ROBERTS

What is your job title?

Barrister

What route of education and qualification did you take to get to your now chosen career position?

I attended Kings Inns between 2012-2014 where I obtained a Diploma in Legal Studies. This course took place in the evenings allowing me to work during the day.

I then attended the Kings Inns from 2014-2015 where I obtained a Barrister at Law Degree. I was called to the Bar in 2015 and am now beginning my 6th year of practice.

Why did you choose this career?

I was always interested in a legal career and had some family members working in the area who encouraged me.

What is a typical work day like?

The type of work day depends on whether I'm at hearing (in Court) or not. I practice in a number of different areas such as Criminal law, Civil litigation including employment law, personal injuries, and Family law. If I'm in Court the day can consist of travelling to the Courthouse, consulting with clients before the hearing and then running the case before a Judge and/or Jury. This involves cross examining witnesses and making legal submissions.

If its an office day the time is usually spent reading briefs and drafting the appropriate proceedings.

How long is your work day?

If at hearing the work day will usually stretch into the evening. If not, then I aim to keep my work day to normal office hours.

How much variety is there in your work?

There is a massive amount of variety in my work as I have a mixed practice. The work can vary from consulting with Solicitors and clients, appearing in Court, and having office based paperwork days. Within that there is also variety in the different areas of law depending on the case.

What do you love about your job?

The ability to help people at difficult times by vindicating their rights. The variety in the work which leads to meeting different people. I also enjoy the flexibility that comes with being self-employed.

What is the best career decision you have ever made?

Leaving my previous job and returning to 3rd level to study law

What is the worst career decision you have ever made?

Not leaving my previous job at any earlier age.

What do you read?

Newspapers, novels.

What do you think are the secrets behind getting to where you have got to?

A successful career at the bar requires hard work, perseverance and sometimes patience! A good Master and supportive colleagues are also important.