**David Hession**

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**QUALIFICATIONS**

2006 – 2007 **The College of Law, Chester – Legal Practice Course (LPC)**

Pass

 Electives in Commercial, Employment and Family

2005 – 2006 **The College of Law, Chester – Graduate Diploma in Law (GDL)**

Commendation

2001 – 2004 **Queen's University, Belfast – BA Politics & European Area Studies**

 2 : 1 – Second Class Honours, Upper Division

1993 – 2000 **St Malachy's College, Belfast**

A Levels – Business Studies (A), Politics (A), History (A)

 GCSE's – 2 A\*s, 4 As, 3 Bs

**RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE**

February 2011- **Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council**

 **Legal Officer (temporary five-month contract)**

* Defending multiple equal pay claims which has involved preparing and filing ET3s, ensuring compliance with case management directions and researching current equal pay legislation and case law;
* Advising on unfair dismissal, sex discrimination and race discrimination claims which has involved drafting witness statements, preparing trial bundles and instructing Counsel; and
* Attending Case Management Discussions and Pre-Hearing Reviews.

June 2010 - **Berryman Shacklock LLP, Friar Lane, Nottingham**

October 2010 **Assistant Solicitor (temporary five-month contract)**

* Advising employees from Nottingham City Council on the terms and effects of their compromise agreements;
* Researching and advising upon equal pay legislation;
* Assisting the Managing Partner on an unfair dismissal case in relation to whistleblowing which included drafting ET3s, witness statements, requesting further information and preparing the trial bundle; and
* Assisting at seminars and marketing events.

2008 – 2010 **Higgs & Sons Solicitors, Brierley Hill, West Midlands**

  **Trainee Solicitor**

**1st Seat – Private Client**

* Attending client meetings and taking instructions;
* Drafting Wills, Codicils, Deeds of Appointment and Variation;
* Conducting complex tax research for senior fee-earners;
* Assisting on probate files and the administration of estates; and
* Providing training to members of the department on contemporary issues.

 **2nd Seat – Employment**

* Assisting Counsel at Tribunal;
* Non-contentious work including drafting contracts of employment and drafting and advising on compromise agreements;
* Assisting senior fee-earners in running the firm's 'HR Service' by advising on sick pay issues and preparing fact sheets in relation to discrimination and redundancy;
* Assisting on race discrimination and disability discrimination matters which included drafting ET1s and letters of advice; and
* Assisting on unfair dismissal, redundancy (including collective redundancy) matters which included running my own files under close supervision. This involved drafting ET1s, witness statements and lengthy letters of advice to the client.

 **3rd Seat – Corporate/Insolvency**

* Drafting distribution agreements, debentures, shareholders' agreements and ancillary documents;
* Assisting on transactional matters, including due-diligence and post-completion work;
* Assisting on restructuring matters, including drafting share for share exchange documentation;
* Assisting on administrations and pre-pack transactions and carrying out research into complex insolvency matters; and
* Drafting press releases and conducting presentations to other department members.

 **4th Seat – Dispute Resolution**

* Running debt recovery files, including carrying out work for Eriks Industrial Services Limited;
* Attending client meetings in relation to property disputes and contentious probate matters;
* Assisting on commercial contractual disputes, including drafting letters of claim and particulars of claim;
* Drafting debtors and creditors bankruptcy petitions; and
* Investigating preference transactions and transactions at undervalue.

 **Business Development**

* I was an active member of the Birmingham Trainee Solicitors Society (BTSS) and the Junior Lawyers Division (JLD) (Wolverhampton); and
* I helped to organise a number of events charity events in support of my firm's nominated charity, the Mary Stevens Hospice.

July 2005 **Eversheds LLP, Royal Standard Place, Nottingham**

 **Vacation Scheme Student**

* One week's work experience in both the Commercial Property and

 Commercial departments; and

* Attending client visits and delivering sales pitches to prospective clients.

**SKILLS AND INTERESTS**

* Current full, clean driving licence;
* Competent in the use of Microsoft Office, Outlook, Powerpoint;
* Experience in using legal resources such as Westlaw, Lexis Nexis and PLC;
* Basic conversational French and Spanish;
* I am a keen traveller which has taken me as far as North America, Thailand and various parts of Europe; and
* Interests include Golf, Football, following Everton FC and keeping fit.

**REFERENCES**

References will be provided on request.