

Michaela Onuchukwu

YEAR OF CALL: 2024



Overview

Michaela began her pupillage in October 2023 and was supervised by Dominic Connolly. Prior to this, she was supervised by Louisa Collins and developed a keen interest in extradition. During her Pupillage Michaela was able to observe and assist in various matters across Chambers' practice areas.

Before commencing pupillage, Michaela worked as a paralegal in Professional Discipline and Regulatory law at the Royal College of Nursing (RCN) and as a screening case officer at the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC).

During her time at the RCN, she handled a substantial caseload of substantive order review cases and prepared them for hearings on behalf of RCN members. Michaela also supported the representation and defence of RCN members facing professional conduct proceedings brought by the NMC. She drafted written submissions, compiled bundles, and submitted them

to the NMC and Fitness to Practise Committee panels.

At the NMC, Michaela investigated referrals from statutory organisations and the public and conducted evidence-based risk assessments to determine whether interim orders should be imposed on registrants. Her experience has provided her with a comprehensive understanding of professional discipline and regulatory matters.

Prior to this, Michaela worked as a paralegal at various criminal defence firms, including working as sole paralegal within the Sexual Offences department at ITN Solicitors. She has gained significant experience in Magistrates' and Crown Court cases, ranging from driving offences to more serious violent offences. In addition to domestic criminal matters, Michaela has an interest in international criminal law and has worked as a defence intern conducting legal research for the Jovica Stanišić Defence Team at the UN International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals.

Michaela has a strong interest in Youth Justice work having worked with Westminster City Council, where she served as a Referral Order Panel Member and volunteered with the Schools Consent Project by delivering workshops to schoolchildren on the law of consent and sexual offences.

Additional Information

Education

PGDip BVS, City University of London

LLM Public International Law and Human Rights, Utrecht University

LLB (Hons) Law, The University of Kent

Awards/Scholarships

Dutton Bursary Recipient, Association of Regulatory & Disciplinary Lawyers

Jules Thorn Scholarship, The Honourable Society of the Middle Temple

Professional Memberships

The Honourable Society of the Middle Temple.

Women In Criminal Law (WICL).

Financial Services Lawyers Association (FSLA).

Defence Extradition Lawyers Forum (DELF).

Criminal Defence & Criminal Prosecutions - Private & Public

Michaela accepts instructions in criminal defence and prosecution cases.

Extradition & International

Michaela accepts instructions in appropriate extradition cases.

Professional Discipline & Regulatory

Michaela accepts professional discipline and regulatory instructions.