

Diploma in Insurance Law Spring 2017 Faculty Booklet

**Sarah Conroy, Partner,
Beale & Company**



Sarah has extensive experience of insurance litigation and commercial litigation, acting for clients before the Commercial Court, the High Court and Tribunals of Inquiry. She has acted for insurers and self-insured clients in relation to all types of professional indemnity claims, including claims made against financial services providers, accountants, insurance brokers and other professionals, including architects and engineers.

Sarah has contributed articles to the Law Society Gazette and to international publications on the topic of e-discovery. She co-authored the Irish chapter of *Professional Secrecy of Lawyers in Europe*, published in 2013, and has lectured on the Law Society's professional diploma courses.

**Colm O'Connor, Senior Legal Counsel,
SCOR**



Colm is a corporate insurance solicitor specialising in (re)insurance transactional and regulatory matters.

He is currently a Senior Legal Counsel at SCOR (a tier one global reinsurer) and previously worked in the City of London as part of Clyde & Co's Legal 500 Tier 1/ Chambers Band 1 rated Corporate Insurance Department.

**Lisa Dennehy, Partner,
Ronan Daly Jermyn**



Lisa is a partner practising in the Litigation and Dispute Resolution department at Ronan Daly Jermyn, with extensive experience in defence litigation.

After qualifying as a solicitor in 2007, Lisa worked for Aviva Insurance, where she handled a diverse portfolio of cases in the District, Circuit and High Court. She has a wealth of experience of the claims market and is well respected in the claims industry.

Lisa advises on litigation arising out of property damage and personal injuries claims to include defamation, employer's liability, public liability and motor claims. She has a particular interest and experience in dealing with fraudulent and exaggerated claims.

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**Katie Da Gama, Partner,
DAC Beachcroft**



Katie has over 15 years of experience in insurance defence work, with a particular focus on professional indemnity. Her expertise covers the defence of a wide range of professionals and institutions including solicitors, architects, financial advisers, insurance brokers, accountants, IT professionals and regulated entities.

Her career has spanned both working in London and Dublin, which has given her an insight into understanding the needs of UK insurers, and the practice and procedure of the Irish legal system. This allows Katie to provide advice to UK insurers, which is both practical and commercial, but also balanced to ensure the right result is achieved as swiftly and efficiently as possible.

**Mary-Claire Coakley, Partner & Head of
Litigation Department,
DFMG Solicitors**



Mary-Claire joined DFMG Solicitors as a partner and head of the litigation department in October 2015. She advises on all aspects of commercial litigation and dispute resolution. Her previous background in private practice spans the litigation disciplines and covers contractual disputes, property litigation, professional negligence, construction disputes, debt recovery, employment liability and personal injury. She previously worked in-house with a large Irish insurer, handling complex loss claims in the area of professional indemnity against brokers, architects, financial advisers and solicitors.

Mary-Claire also advises insurers on policy wording and significant coverage disputes. She has litigated cases in all jurisdictions of the Irish Courts and is very familiar with alternative dispute resolution, including arbitration and mediation.

Fergal Crehan, BL



Fergal is a barrister practising in a variety of areas of the law. He has a particular interest and expertise in Privacy and Data Protection Law, and is the Managing Director at the privacy consultancy, The Hit Team.

Fergal has worked on an advisory basis for some of the largest data controllers in the country, creating data protection policies or preparing for audits by the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner. He has acted professionally in a number of significant cases, including a challenge and referral to the European Court of Justice of Irish and European Union Data Retention laws.

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**Niall Campbell, Associate,
William Fry**



Niall is an associate in the Insurance Department at William Fry. He holds a Bachelor of Business and Legal Studies from the National University of Ireland, University College Dublin, as well as a Diploma in Finance Law from the Law Society of Ireland.

Niall is also admitted as a solicitor in England and Wales (non-practising).

**Catherine Quinlan, Aviation Consultant,
formerly AWAS**



Catherine has over 30 years' aviation insurance experience in the leasing industry, commencing her career with Guinness Peat Aviation ("GPA") in 1985 as Executive Assistant to the Chief Legal Officer. As Director of Insurance she transitioned to GE Capital Aviation Services ("GECAS") in 1993. While at GECAS, Catherine reached the position of Senior Vice President, Insurances, managing a four-person team with broad responsibility, including insurance management for 1850 aircraft, 400 engines and a marine and transportation portfolio.

In May 2011, she joined AWAS where she was responsible for all aviation and non-aviation insurance matters. During the past five years, Catherine has presented at various conferences and has lectured at the Law Society of Ireland. She recently left AWAS and is pursuing other opportunities.

**Aidan Lynch, Claims Operations Manager,
Motor Insurers' Bureau of Ireland**



Aidan has worked in the insurance industry since 1995 and has held a variety of roles in insurance companies/brokers including Axa Direct, St Paul (Travelers) Insurance, and Richardson Insurance/123.ie.

He has worked in the Motor Insurers' Bureau of Ireland (MIBI) since 2003 and is presently the Claims Operations Manager.

Aidan holds a Bachelor of Science in Business and Law.

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**Marian Brennan, Partner,
Kennedys**



Marian is a partner and general liability specialist at Kennedys, where her clients include insurers, retailers, financial institutions, and large corporate clients. She has defended employers in a wide range of occupational injury and occupational disease actions, with particular expertise in respect of respiratory conditions, and also advises insurers and self-insured clients in handling potential class actions, “time on risk”, and issues between insurers. She acts for retailers and financial institutions in all casualty matters including nervous shock from third party criminal actions.

Marian also has extensive experience in providing tailored training to staff in EL/PL matters, avoiding and handling fraudulent claims, and providing training to claims handlers in respect of fraudulent and or exaggerated claims.

**Daniel Scanlon, Partner,
Kennedys**



Daniel is a partner at Kennedys, where he advises insurance companies, banks and other financial institutions on large and complex disputes, particularly before the Commercial Court.

He also has experience defending professional indemnity claims against accountants, auditors, insurance brokers, financial advisers, property valuers, and construction professionals. Daniel advises on policy wording and coverage issues for various policy types including PI, D&O and CAR, in addition to advising insurers and their insureds on cyber security issues, business interruption, and property claims.