

Diploma in Aviation Leasing and Finance Spring 2018 Faculty Booklet

**Nikki Foley, Professional Support Lawyer,
Matheson**



Nikki joined Matheson in 2011 as a Professional Support Lawyer. She trained and qualified as a solicitor in Clifford Chance LLP in London and was based in the firm's Tokyo office for over two years. She then worked in-house as Senior Legal Counsel at Airbus in France, before returning to Dublin to work at A&L Goodbody and subsequently Matheson.

Nikki has been the course consultant on the Diploma in Aviation Leasing & Finance at the Law Society of Ireland since 2012.

**Georgina O'Riordan, Partner,
McCann Fitzgerald**



Georgina's practice focuses on banking and asset finance transactions. She advises leading aircraft lessors, lenders and arrangers on all aspects of aircraft financing and leasing, including cross border leasing transactions, secured lending, portfolio acquisitions and disposals and the establishment of leasing and financing platforms in Ireland.

Georgina also regularly advises in relation to the registration of aircraft with the Irish Aviation Authority, operating aircraft in Ireland, aircraft repossessions and establishing Irish joint venture vehicles for the acquisition and financing of aircraft.

**Dick Forsberg, Head of Strategy,
Avolon**



Dick has over 40 years' aviation industry experience, working in a variety of roles with airlines, operating lessors, arrangers and capital providers in the disciplines of business strategy, industry analysis and forecasting, asset valuation, portfolio risk management and airline credit assessment. As a founding executive and Head of Strategy at Avolon, his responsibilities include defining the trading cycle of the business, primary interface with the aircraft appraisal and valuation community, industry analysis and forecasting, driving thought leadership initiatives, setting portfolio risk management criteria and determining capital allocation targets.

Prior to Avolon, Dick was a founding executive at RBS Aviation Capital and previously worked with IAMG, GECAS and GPA.

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**Ben Andrews, Associate,
Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy LLP**



Ben is an associate in the London office of Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy and is a member of the Transportation Finance Group. His practice primarily covers financial institutions, operators, lessors and manufacturers operating in the asset finance and transport infrastructure sectors, with a general focus on aviation finance.

Ben acts for banks, airlines and lessors in both finance and operating lease transactions, export credit backed financings and restructurings, financing arrangements, portfolio sales and sale and purchase or leaseback transactions. Prior to joining Milbank, Ben undertook a secondment at the London office of a leading global financial institution.

**Mark Shtenko, General Counsel,
Amedeo**



Mark is General Counsel at Amedeo, with responsibility for legal matters and contracts. Mark joined Amedeo in 2013 from Airbus SAS, where he worked for 9 years as senior Legal Counsel supporting the Sales Directorate worldwide, as well as providing advice to the Finance and Asset Management departments.

Prior to joining Airbus in 2005, Mark worked in the Aviation team of international law firm DLA Piper. Mark is a qualified solicitor in England and Wales.

**Lucy Shtenko, Senior Consultant,
Watson Farley Williams**



Lucy joined Watson Farley & Williams LLP in September 1996. Since qualification in 1998, she has worked in Singapore and London on a variety of ship finance, aviation and other asset and structured finance transactions.

Between 2009 and 2013, Lucy worked for the European aircraft manufacturer Airbus in Toulouse, France and re-joined Watson Farley & Williams LLP in November 2013 to continue her work advising banks, leasing companies, shipowners and airlines on aircraft and ship finance transactions.

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**Marie O'Brien, Partner,
A&L Goodbody**



Marie is a partner in the Banking and Finance Department of A&L Goodbody, specialising in asset finance and leasing. She is very experienced in advising on the acquisition, leasing, financing and trading of a variety of asset classes including aircraft, engines, helicopters, ship, rail, machinery and equipment.

Marie regularly speaks in Ireland and internationally on asset finance and Cape Town Convention related topics. In addition to lecturing on the Law Society of Ireland's programmes in Aviation Leasing & Finance, she lectures on the UCD Law of International Finance Diploma. Marie is Head of A&L Goodbody's Chinese Lawyer's Programme.

**Rob Cowan, Managing Director,
Aviareto**



Rob is the Managing Director of Aviareto Limited, which operates the International Registry of Mobile Assets (IR) under the Cape Town Convention. The role includes managing a highly secure, cryptographically enabled registry system that has systematic importance to the aviation finance industry and is regulated by a UN body (ICAO).

Prior to joining Aviareto, Rob held senior positions in Telecommunications and Technology for over 20 years. He graduated with a Bachelor of Engineering in Electrical and Electronic Engineering from University College Dublin, has several postgraduate Telecommunications qualifications, and holds an MBA from Dublin City University, where his focus was on strategy.

**Ed Riley, General Counsel,
Avolon**



Ed is Avolon's General Counsel. He manages Avolon's legal team and has responsibility for all of Avolon's legal and contractual matters.

Ed began his career at Clifford Chance in London. Specialising in aircraft finance, he advised airlines, banks and lessors and also completed secondments to Airbus and GECAS. He then spent six years from 2001 as Senior Legal Counsel with Airbus in Toulouse before joining RBS Aviation Capital as Senior Vice President, Commercial Negotiation, with responsibility for leading the negotiation of transaction documentation with airlines, financiers, operating lessors and export credit agencies.

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**Ian Payne, Associate,
McCann Fitzgerald**



Ian is an Associate in McCann FitzGerald's market-leading Finance Group, specialising in aircraft financing and leasing and other forms of corporate financing.

He advises on a wide range of aviation transactions including operating leases, lease extensions, lease restructuring, portfolio sales and acquisitions, structured finance transactions and securitisations.

**Mary Townsend, Director of Aviation,
A&L Goodbody**



Mary is Director of Aviation in the Banking and Financial Services Department, specialising in Aviation Finance. She has gained extensive experience acting on a variety of financing structures including cross border, commercial bank, private equity and export credit supported financing.

Mary has acted for many of the world's leading financial institutions, aircraft leasing organisations and private investors on transactions involving the acquisition, leasing and securitisation of aircraft and other equipment.

**Paul Carrington, Partner,
Clifford Chance**



Paul is a partner in Clifford Chance's Global Asset Finance Group, specialising in financing, leasing, sales and complex structured transactions involving transportation assets, as well as M&A transactions in the transportation industry.

He has a particular focus on the rail and aviation sectors, acting for financiers, arrangers, manufacturers, leasing companies, operators and owners.

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**Ken Rush, Partner,
Walkers**



Ken is a partner and Head of the Asset & Aviation Finance group at Walkers Ireland, where he specialises in all aspects of asset finance and leasing with a focus on the financing and leasing of aircraft, aircraft engines, helicopters and other heavy transportation assets (such as rolling stock and vessels). His clients include aircraft owners, arrangers, airlines, asset financiers and lessors.

Prior to joining Walkers, Ken worked in the asset and structured finance practice of Clifford Chance London and also in house with RBS Aerospace (now SMBC Aviation Capital). He has extensive aviation experience and has been referred to as "a leader in the aviation field" in Chambers Global 2016.

**Paul Nolan, Senior Vice President -
Aviation Asset Management,
DVB Bank SE**



Paul joined DVB in 2001 with 20 years in-depth knowledge of the aircraft finance and aviation operating lease business, to develop the in-house requirements for aviation asset management. He has been instrumental in the successful re-lease and subsequent sales of numerous commercial aircraft worldwide.

Before joining DVB, Paul worked for Rolls Royce as Vice President - Engine Leasing. In addition, he has worked at both the Royal Bank of Canada and the Industrial Bank of Japan between 1986 and 1999. Paul is a graduate of University College Dublin, with a BA (Hons) in Economics.

**Robert Roy, Vice President -
Transport Division,
Export Import Bank of the United
States of America**



Robert F. X. Roy, Jr., came to Ex-Im Bank in 1990. In 1994, Roy volunteered to help create Ex-Im Bank's Aircraft Finance Division. As the only remaining original member of the Aircraft Finance Division, which has become today's Transportation Division, he brings over twenty years of aircraft finance experience to his new role as Vice President.

In 2008, he was awarded the agency's highest honour, the Chairman's Award, for long-term excellence and professionalism. He has personally underwritten transactions totalling approximately \$20 billion for foreign airlines and operating lessors in support of the export of U.S. manufactured aircraft. In addition to his transaction work, Roy has supervised and mentored a group of highly qualified aviation finance professionals. Over his career, Roy worked on a number of transactions that were recognized by the aviation finance industry with Deal of the Year awards.

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**Jeffrey T. Veber, Partner,
Vedder Price**



Jeffrey is a Shareholder in the New York office of Vedder Price and a member of the firm's Board of Directors. He is also a member of the firm's Global Transportation Finance team, whose performance in 2015 led Vedder Price to be named Aviation 100 Law Firm of the Year by Airline Economics.

With over 20 years of experience representing clients in transportation finance matters, Mr. Veber advises lenders, export-credit agencies, lessors, equity participants, commercial and investment banks, finance companies and others in a wide range of matters. These matters include cross-border leveraged leases, tax-motivated structured financings, mortgage financings, operating lease financings, and asset purchase agreements involving commercial aircraft, corporate jets, rolling stock and vessels.

**Richard Goss, Counsel,
Hogan Lovells International LLP**



Richard is Counsel in Hogan Lovells' Asset Finance practice in London. He primarily advises on cross-border financing and leasing transactions involving aircraft, including operating and finance leases, aircraft sales, PDP financing and residual value insurance. Richard also regularly acts on a variety of other international financing transactions, including trade finance, structured finance and restructuring.

He has also completed a secondment to Pembroke Capital, the aviation finance and leasing division of Standard Chartered Bank, working with their global aviation finance and operating lease team based in Dublin.

**Donna Ager, Partner,
Maples and Calder**



Donna is head of the Aviation practice in Maples and Calder's Dublin office, advising on tax efficient leasing and financing structures. Having worked for more than 13 years in aviation finance, Donna has extensive industry and structuring knowledge in the aviation sector.

Her aviation expertise extends across general aircraft leasing and financing, to include structured products (securitisations, EETCs and general ABS), ECA and bank finance, aviation platform financings, manufacturer funding, and support mechanisms. Donna joined Maples and Calder in 2015. Previously, she was a partner in the asset finance team in the Simmons and Simmons London office. Prior to that Donna worked for over eight years at Clifford Chance, London and three years with Airbus S.A.S. in Toulouse, France.

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**Gerry Thornton, Partner,
Matheson**



Gerry is a partner in the tax practice at Matheson. He advises financial institutions and international corporations doing business in Ireland on all aspects of corporate tax. His main focus is the financial services sector, including investment banking, structured finance, investment funds, leasing, derivatives, and insurance.

Gerry advises many of the world's leading financial institutions, asset management companies and leasing companies carrying on business in or from Ireland. He lectures extensively on financial services tax matters, both at the Irish Taxation Institute and the Law Society of Ireland, and regularly publishes articles in leading tax journals.

**Stuart Kennedy, Partner,
Matheson**



Stuart is a Partner at Matheson. Stuart has widespread experience in advising international financial institutions, aircraft owners, aircraft lessors and airlines on all aspects of the financing and leasing of aircraft, aircraft engines, and parts. He has significant expertise in all aspects of the Cape Town Convention, from advising on the applicability of the Cape Town Convention and Aircraft Protocol to practical aspects of setting up entities as Transacting User Entities and carrying out registrations with the International Registry.

Stuart regularly presents to aircraft and aircraft engine lessors on all aspects of the Convention and Aircraft Protocol and to company directors on their duties and responsibilities under Irish law.

**Brian Skehan, Assistant Director -
Safety Regulations,
Irish Aviation Authority (IAA)**



Brian is the Assistant Director for Airworthiness at the Irish Aviation Authority (IAA). He has been with the IAA for 19 years. He previously worked at Aer Lingus and as a Senior Engineer for airframe systems.

Brian has extensive experience with the EU rule making process and serves on the Rule Making Committee of the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA). He has also served as the Technical Advisor for Ireland on the EASA Management Board.

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**Kieran Oliver, Legal Counsel,
Shannon Engine Support Limited**



Kieran is Legal Counsel at Shannon Engine Support Limited, one of the world's leading lessors of CFM-56 aircraft engines. He provides advice on all aspects of the company's leasing and general commercial operations.

**Christine O'Donovan, Partner,
Mason Hayes and Curran**



Christine is a partner, Head of the Financial Services Team at Mason Hayes & Curran, and a member of the Management Committee. She is an experienced banking and finance lawyer who has worked in-house and in private practice.

Christine's award-winning practice focuses on international transactions in areas of corporate lending, project and acquisition finance, asset financing (particularly aircraft) and cross-border leasing. She advises domestic and international corporate clients, domestic and international credit institutions and aircraft manufacturers, lessors and airlines.

**Gerard Scully, Director of
International Primary Markets, ISE**



Gerard is Director of International Primary Markets at the Irish Stock Exchange, with responsibility for promotion and development of the ISE's markets for international debt and investments funds. He previously worked as a legal advisor on derivatives and capital markets.

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**Niamh O'Meara, Vice President & Senior Counsel,
Milestone Aviation Group**



Niamh is Vice President and Senior Counsel for Milestone Aviation Group, a GECAS company and the world's largest helicopter lessor, based in Dublin, Ireland. Prior to joining Milestone, she worked in private practice in Dublin.

Niamh qualified as a solicitor with the Law Society of Ireland in 2006 and holds a postgraduate diploma in Legal Studies from Dublin Institute of Technology, and an MA in History of International Relations and BA International (French and History) from University College Dublin.

Catherine Quinlan, Aviation Insurance Professional



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.

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, including lecturing on aviation insurance for the Law Society of Ireland's Diploma in Aviation Leasing and Finance since its launch in 2013. She recently left AWAS and is pursuing other opportunities.

**Robert Normand, Client Executive,
Aon Risk Solutions**



Robert began his career with Sedgwick Insurance Brokers in 1980 and since then has developed a broad knowledge in all aspects of aviation insurance practice as a broker, insurer and airline insurance manager.

His major focus for a number of years was the management of the Gulf Cooperation Council Airline Insurance Programme which included all the Middle East airlines and Royal Flights. Robert was an aviation underwriter at Lloyds for over four years and then, in 2003, was appointed Insurance Manager at Gulf Air in Bahrain where he was tasked with raising the overall awareness of risk management and insurance through training and external expertise within the airline. He also developed the skills and knowledge of two Bahraini graduates to ultimately assume control of the department on his departure.

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**Ronan Stewart, Chief Executive -
Commercial, Santos Dumont**



Ronan joined Santos Dumont in 2005 and was appointed Chief Executive – Commercial in January 2016. He has held a number of both technical and commercial roles on a diverse portfolio of asset acquisitions, sales, management, and redelivery projects.

Most recently, Ronan has been responsible for the strategic development of the Commercial side of the business and has broadened the business lines to include areas of Risk, Maintenance Cost Analysis, Maintenance Event Forecasting and Strategic Investment Analysis.

**Patrick Farrell, Partner,
Norton Rose Fulbright LLP**



Patrick is a dispute resolution lawyer based in London, where he specialises in aviation litigation. He acts for airlines, banks, lessors, financiers and insurers, in contentious matters including lease termination, mortgage enforcement and asset repossession worldwide. Patrick has appeared in some of the leading cases in this area, including *Global Knafaim Leasing Ltd v CAA* (and others) (2010) and *Blue Sky One Limited v Blue Airways LLC* (and others) (2010). He advises airlines on UK and EU regulatory matters.

He is currently chairman of the Aviation Law Committee of the International Bar Association, Chairman of the UK ICC Commission on Transport & Logistics and a past chairman of the Air Law Group of the Royal Aeronautical Society.