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KEATING
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ELIZABETH DONNELLY

Call: 2020

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Areas of Practice

- Construction & Engineering
- Professional Negligence
- General Commercial
- Public Procurement

Clerks' Details

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Practice Overview

Elizabeth Donnelly was called to the Bar in 2020. She joined Keating Chambers as a tenant in September 2021, upon completion of her pupillage.

Elizabeth is developing a practice which spans Chambers' core specialist areas. During pupillage, she assisted on a wide variety of contractual disputes and professional negligence cases arising in the construction, engineering and energy sectors.

Before coming to the Bar, Elizabeth spent a year as the Judicial Assistant to Lord Justice McCombe in the Court of Appeal. Prior to that, she undertook a six-month traineeship with Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer's international arbitration team in Paris, where she worked on several international commercial arbitrations and investment treaty arbitrations.

Elizabeth is fluent in French, and speaks Spanish to an advanced level.

Recent Cases

Construction & Engineering

- Drafted Particulars of Claim on behalf of a building contractor for unpaid fees relating to a residential project disrupted by the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Assisted in drafting a Reply and Defence to Counterclaim on behalf of a mechanical design-and-build contractor in its claim against an electrical engineering consultant for breach of contract and negligence.
- Assisted in drafting the Defence to an insurer's Additional Claim against a residential property developer, against whom allegations of negligence had been made.
- Assisted in drafting the Response in a final account dispute referred to adjudication by a fire safety engineer.
- Assisted in advising a building contractor on whether a sub-contract had been validly executed as a deed.

Professional Negligence

- Assisted in advising an employer on the scope of a design-and-build contractor's duty of care in tort in respect of the design and construction of cladding works.

General Commercial

- Assisted in advising a theatre manager and operator on issues of force majeure and grounds for contractual termination in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Public Procurement

- Assisted in advising a Local Authority on the robustness of its stance in commercial settlement negotiations with a private contractor. The advice also covered risks of challenge under public procurement law to contractual variations proposed by the private contractor.

Education & Professional Career

Professional Career

Tenant, Keating Chambers	2021
Pupillage, Keating Chambers	2020 – 2021
Called to the Bar, Lincoln's Inn	2020
Judicial Assistant, Court of Appeal of England and Wales	2018 – 2019
Trainee in the International Arbitration Group, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP (Paris)	2018

Education

Bar Professional Training Course, BPP University (Very Competent)	2020
LLM in Public International Law, London School of Economics and Political Science (Distinction)	2017
LLB Hons, BPP University (First Class)	2016
Graduate Diploma in Law, BPP University (Distinction)	2015
BA in Modern & Medieval Languages, University of Cambridge (Double First Class)	2014

Awards & Scholarships

Lord Denning Scholarship, Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn	2019
Excellence Award, BPP University	2019
Bateman Scholarship, Trinity Hall Cambridge	2014
N.R. Pillai Travel Scholarship and College Prize, Trinity Hall Cambridge	2012
Elmore Travel Exhibition and College Prize, Trinity Hall Cambridge	2011

Languages

French (fluent)
Spanish (advanced – C1)

Memberships

Society of Construction Law
LCIA Young International Arbitration Group (YIAG)

Additional Information

Elizabeth maintains an active interest in public international law, having previously interned at the British Institute for International and Comparative Law (BIICL). She has published on topical issues relating to the laws of war, international human rights law, and the law of the sea.

Outside of work, Elizabeth enjoys swimming, music and learning languages.