

Young Lawyer Profile

Gabrielle Clarke



Gabrielle Clarke was admitted to practice in February 2010 and by November 2011 she commenced her own practice following her passion for criminal law.

I commenced my studies in the inaugural year of the Edith Cowan University Law School in 2005. During my fourth and final year of law school, I commenced my first job in the legal profession, working at the Director of Public Prosecutions

where I gained valuable exposure to and experience in the criminal justice system. I completed my articles with John Hammond, initially at Hammond Worthington Lawyers and subsequently with Hammond Legal. During my articles year, I was also elected the junior practitioner representative on the Law Society Council and *ex officio* member of the Young Lawyers Committee.

I was introduced to a variety of areas of law while employed at Hammond Legal. However, it was evident early on that criminal law was fast becoming my passion and where I wanted to focus my career. During this time I was fortunate enough to work with another lawyer, Terry Dobson, who generously became my mentor, offering me the guidance and support to build my confidence and experience in the various areas of criminal law.

With Terry's assistance, I was exposed to many different facets of criminal law, from prison visits, to meetings with barristers, to court work and beyond.

Shortly after Terry commenced his practice of Terry Dobson Legal in July 2011, I was given an opportunity to once again work alongside him in the capacity of my own practice. Although I am a young lawyer and have much to learn, I saw this as an exciting opportunity to further my career and follow my passion in criminal law. In November 2011, I commenced working as a sole practitioner. The name of my new practice is Gabrielle Clarke Legal and it is located on Hay Street, which is fantastic for all the time I spend in and out of the Magistrates and District Courts.

Gabrielle Clarke Legal specialises mainly in criminal law; however, I also practise in traffic law, restraining order matters, extraordinary driver's licence applications, spent conviction applications and all matters related to criminal law. Although it is still early days in this new adventure, I appreciate that it will take some time to build my portfolio of criminal law experiences. I am excited by the challenges of being the master of my own career and taking on all the challenges that this opportunity will present in the future. I am indebted to Terry Dobson for his guidance and mentoring throughout my development as a young lawyer and through my continuing professional development.



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The Law Society of Western Australia is moving premises!

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All other contact details remain the same

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