

Curriculum Vitae of Dr Thomas B Courtney

Executive summary:

Dr Thomas B Courtney (Tom) Solicitor (non-practising) and author of the leading Irish textbook, The Law of Companies, (4th ed; 2016) is a writer, speaker and thought leader in Irish company law and corporate governance; founder of Courtney Governance Limited.

EDUCATION:

B.A. (Legal Science & Sociology) 1987, NUI Galway

Overall Result: First Class Honour (Double), first place in Degree.

LL.B. 1989, NUI Galway.

Overall Result: First Class Honour, first place in Degree.

Admitted as a Solicitor in Hillary 1992.

LL.D 2004 (NUI)

Higher doctorate awarded by the National University of Ireland on the basis of published legal works.

F.C.S.I (2014)

Elected as a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators

CURRENT & FORMER POSITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT:

Managing Director of Courtney Governance Limited (2024 - date)

Established Courtney Governance in June 2024. The company's business is the dissemination of legal information to company law practitioners through writing and seminars, the provision of practical guidance to company directors through training and mentoring; the provision of strategic governance reviews; and the teaching and examination of law students. See www.courtney-governance.com

Equity Partner Arthur Cox LLP (2006 – 2024)

Head of the firm's company law and governance group, I led a team of 25 professionals in the provision of legal advice and company secretarial compliance, corporate governance and board services. During my time in Coxes, I advised the Irish Department of Finance on the State's legislative response to the Irish banking and financial crisis, in particular on the response to troika and played a key role in the drafting of the legislation to nationalise Anglo Irish Bank, establish NAMA and the legislation to stabilise Irish banks under which the Minister for Finance was given far reaching powers. Separately, in my time in Arthur Cox I advised multinational companies on establishing in Ireland, on cross-border mergers, registered the first SE in Ireland, and advised companies on complex shareholders' disputes and group directors on their duties and governance obligations.

Head of Legal Bank of Ireland Mortgage Bank (1999-2006)

I helped establish this bank as the first mortgage bank in Ireland under Asset Covered Securities legislation; I also worked on the first securitisation of Irish residential assets. I was also secretary and Head of Legal of ICS Building Society – it and Bank of Ireland Mortgage Bank being subsidiaries of Bank of Ireland Group.

Head of Legal Retail Services ACCBank (1994-1999)

I was Head of Legal Services (Retail Banking) with full operational responsibility for taking security in all loans of all descriptions. I also managed the Bank's litigation and provided general legal advices on all matters.

Solicitor (1992 – 1994)

I worked in private practice as a trainee and on becoming qualified working in banking, company law and conveyancing.

APPOINTMENTS:

- Chair of the statutory *Company Law Review Group*, established by the Irish Government under statute (**2000 – 2018**)
- As Chair of the CLRG from its establishment, I am recognised as having been the architect of the pioneering Companies Act 2014 which made the private limited company front and centre of Irish company law.
- Member of the *Review Group on Company Law Compliance and Enforcement*, (**1998**) chaired by Michael McDowell, SC.
- Member of the EU Commission's expert non-governmental former *Advisory Group on Company Law and Corporate Governance*, established by Commission Decision (2005/380/EC) (**2004 – 2007**)
- Editor of *Commercial Law Practitioner* (**1994-2000**)
- Examiner in Company Law for the Law Society of Ireland (**1996- date**)
- Adjunct Professor of Law, University College Galway (**2018-2021**)
- Soon to be appointed member of the Goldsmiths Company of Dublin, a chartered body, established in 1637 on a pro bono basis.

MAIN PUBLICATIONS:

The Law of Companies, Bloomsbury Professional, 4th ed 2016

Mareva Injunctions and Related Interlocutory Orders Butterworths Publishing Limited (1998)