

# PATRICK O'CONNOR

"Loughaven", Cuillonaghton, Callow, Foxford, County Mayo.

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## Managing Partner

P. O'Connor & Son, Solicitors, Swinford, Co Mayo

1975 to date

### Legal Practice

- Developed family legal practice, steeped in tradition, to become a leading law firm in Connaught with a well-regarded national reputation.
- Extensive experience of advocating for clients in the District, Circuit and High Court. Have addressed all Irish courts including the Supreme Court on many legal matters.
- Practising arbitration since 1983 with extensive experience in commercial, property, insurance and other contentious matters.
- Fellow of The Chartered Institute of Arbitrators
- Have acted as a Mediator in commercial, property and other disputes since 2000.
- Appointed a Notary Public in 1977 and have served in four West of Ireland counties.
- Coroner since 1989. Appointed Coroner for the three amalgated newly created District of Mayo in 2016.
- Council member of the Coroners' Society of Ireland since 2006.
- Member of Garda Síochána Disciplinary Inquiry and Appeal Board since 2007.
- Member of Independent Appeals Tribunal of Irish Prison Service since 2011.
- Currently serving as Chairman of Mental Health Tribunal. Have conducted more than 400 mental health hearings since appointment in 2011
- Chairperson of the Charity Appeals Tribunal since 2016
- CEDR accredited Mediator

### Policy Level Involvements

- Provided leadership within the legal profession for 35 years, serving as President of Law Society of Ireland and Chairman and member of numerous Law Society committees.
- President of Mayo Solicitors' Bar Association. Held other officer roles over the past four decades.
- Served on the Judicial Appointments Advisory Board (1999 – 2002), the Court Services Board (1999 – 2002), the Appeals Board of the Society of Actuaries Disciplinary Tribunal (1999 – 2009) and the Rules of the Superior Courts Committee (2002 – 2012).
- Chairman of a Preliminary Investigation Committee of the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority (IAASA). A member of its external panel since 2009.
- Developed sports law and sports management expertise through roles such as Director with the Irish Sports Council, National Child Welfare Officer with the IRFU and Judicial Officer to World Rugby, European Rugby and Six Nations Championship competitions.

### Other

#### Business

- Appointed to the Press Council of Ireland and served as a Board member for two terms totalling six years. Served as Council Vice Chairman in 2014.
- Director of The O'Dwyer Foundation, a not-for-profit charity, since 1990.
- Director/Trustee of the Brabazon Park Trust since 1978.  
Former Director of:-
- Hope House an addiction treatment centre from 1995 to 2002.
- DANA Exploration plc from 1991 to 1995.
- IRD Kiltimagh Limited from 1991 to 2002.

## **Personal Interests**

- Wide range of leisure pursuits. Participate regularly in fishing, sailing, walking, swimming, and tennis. Have held a committee role in Ballina RFC since 2000 and in Lough Derg Yacht Club since 1990.
- Member of Swinford Golf Club including two years as Captain.
- Involved as a coach and committee member with Ballina Rugby Club, including two years as President, and in the organisation of the professional sport at provincial, national and international levels.