

ZAINA SHAHNAWAZ

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BIOGRAPHY

My professional background is in government. In 2013, I obtained my Masters of Environmental Law from New York University and passed the New York State Bar Exams. I now practice primarily in environmental crime, public law, regulatory prosecutions and general criminal defence. In late 2020 I was featured in *Lifting the Bar*, published by Maddocks, as one of seven leading female junior counsel in planning and environment law.

QUALIFICATIONS

New South Wales Bar exams	2016
New York State Bar exams	2013
Masters of Law (Environmental Law) <i>New York University School of Law, New York NY</i>	2013
Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice (with Merit) <i>Australian National University, Canberra ACT</i>	2007
Bachelor of Laws (Hons), Bachelor of Arts (English) <i>The University of Sydney, Sydney NSW</i>	2006

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Barrister 2016 – present

- Indictable and summary criminal matters in the District Court, Land and Environment Court, Federal Court and Local Court.
- Practicing in public law, regulatory crime, environmental crime, fraud, tax offences, telecommunications offences, proceeds of crime, sexual assault, personal violence.
- Participated in pro-bono duty barrister scheme at Downing Centre criminal courts and in the Refugee Law Project.
- Briefed by NSW Crown Solicitor's Office, NSW Department of Planning, Industry & Environment, NSW Fair Trading, Commonwealth DPP, NSW Environment Protection Authority, Water NSW, Legal Aid, and private firms.

Roles held prior to joining Bar 2007 – 2016

- NSW Office of Environment and Heritage, Senior Legal Officer and Legal Officer, 2013 to 2016
- Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions, Federal Prosecutor, 2010 to 2012
- Judicial Commission of New South Wales, Senior Legal Editor, 2009
- Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department, graduate program (2007), Legal Officer International Crime Co-operation Division, 2007 to 2009.