

Emerson Toomey

Dublin 1, Dublin, IE / emerson.toomey@gmail.com
linkedin.com/in/emersontoomey / emersontoomey.com

EDUCATION

MPhil in International History

May 2025

Trinity College Dublin, Dublin, IE

BA in Philosophy (Law and Ethics)

May 2022

Northeastern University, Boston, MA

Capstone: “Geography of the Digital Courtroom: Law, Justice, & Media in the Age of the Internet”, in collaboration with the University of the Arts London College of Communication.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Socio-legal-linguistic carceral studies; the carceral state as a legacy of colonialism; literacy in prisons; art, media, linguistics, and the carceral system; abolition and alternatives to incarceration; identity and politics of the Irish language.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2024-2025

Masters Dissertation

Trinity College Dublin

- Conducted oral history interviews with vulnerable populations (former prisoners)

2022-2023

Capital Mitigation Intern

Phillips Black, Inc.

- Researched histories of clients on death row using library, media, and microfilm archives.
- Compiled qualitative geographic histories of clients’ lives using media archives.
- Transcribed, summarized, and analyzed interview footage of clients in various contexts.
- Obtained and analyzed clients’ social, medical, governmental, and educational records.

TEACHING & MENTORING EXPERIENCE

2023-Present

English and Social Sciences Tutor

Self-Employed

- Tutored curriculum and homework content for one student in grade 6.
- Mentored students to assist with undergraduate and law school applications.

2014-2018

Education Specialist

Lincoln Park Zoo

- Instructed seasonal camp and school groups for grades K-6.
- Responsible for the first bilingual (English-Spanish) event in the zoo’s 148-year history.
- Revised and presented disability and service animal policy for all staff and volunteers.

Emerson Toomey

Dublin 1, Dublin, IE / emerson.toomey@gmail.com
linkedin.com/in/emersontoomey / emersontoomey.com

WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2023-Present **Paralegal** **Breen & Pugh**
- Support state and federal criminal and civil rights defense cases in IL, OK, CA.
 - Compose mitigation submissions, sentencing reports; copy-edit reports, filings, and briefs.
 - Assist with paralegal training and attorney support across various offices as necessary.
- 2023-2024 **Paralegal, Public Benefits Practice Group** **Legal Aid Chicago**
- Secured government benefits for 31 homeless clients with mental and physical disabilities.
 - Used trauma-informed approach to interview clients; wrote medical summary reports.
 - Review medical records, complete and submit applications and reconsideration requests.
- 2021-2021 **Investigative Intern** **Public Defender Service for Washington, DC**
- Conducted interviews, collected evidence, analyzed records.
 - Developed psychosocial biographies of clients and their families for federal hearings.
 - Secured the full release of and housing and social services for two clients.
- 2019-2023 **Political and Digital Strategy Consultant** **Self-Employed**
- Provided research, digital strategy, outreach, special projects, and fundraising services.
 - Delivered 2.4m impressions, 3k followers, and \$8.6k for a national Senate campaign.
 - Clients included Senator Ed Markey and Boston Mayor Michelle Wu.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Memberships:

- Society for Linguistic Anthropology
- Oral History Network of Ireland
- National Defender Investigator Association

Certifications:

- SOAR (SAMHSA)
- PHRP (NIH)
- Colbert-Williams

Other Skills

Languages: Irish (beginner)

Technical: Adobe Acrobat, Adobe Photoshop, Canva, LegalServer, CIOX, CJCC JUSTIS, IPRO
Eclipse SE, USAfx, JusticeText