

Nicholas Kearns, Former President of the High Court

Born in 1946, he was called to the Irish Bar in 1968 and to the English Bar in 1980. In 1982 he was appointed a senior counsel. Much of his work at the Bar was in personal injuries, acting for both Plaintiffs and Defendants.

He was appointed to the High Court in 1998 and to the Supreme Court in 2004. He has also sat as an ad hoc judge in the European Court of Human Rights and chaired the Referendum Commission in the Irish referendum on citizenship in 2004. He was made a bencher of Middle Temple in 2006

He was appointed President of the High Court in 2009, a position he occupied until he retired in 2015.

Since then he has been made chairman of the Personal Injuries Commission in 2017. He also now chairs the National Maternity hospital and serves on a public interest board of PwC

Following his retirement as a judge, he achieved a Masters Degree in Creative Writing from Trinity College