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**News release**

8th September 2014

**Paralegals Gain Promotion at Top Lincolnshire Law Firm**

**Two paralegals from** [**Andrew & Co**](http://www.andrew-solicitors.co.uk) **in Lincoln have been promoted onto the firm’s training programme to become fully qualified solicitors.**

Julie Hutchinson and Andrew Tinker were successful in their application to secure a training contract at Andrew & Co after working as paralegals in two of the firm’s commercial teams.

From September, the pair will spend time working in several departments at Andrew & Co to gain further experience and improve their knowledge. They will qualify as solicitors in 18 months time.

Julie Bailey, Chairman at Andrew & Co, congratulated the pair: “Well done to Julie and Andrew who have been offered training contracts to advance their careers and become solicitors.

“Talent is the engine of future growth and at Andrew & Co and we have an active commitment to learning and development. We are always keen to enhance critical thinking and innovation and have a flexible attitude to change.”

Julie Hutchinson graduated from the University of Leicester with a degree in History and Politics seven years ago, shortly after which she completed her Graduate Diploma in Law at De Montfort Law School followed by the Legal Practice Course at Nottingham Law School.

She gained valuable experience at an international law firm while undertaking the Legal Practice Course, specialising in commercial law, employment law and advanced civil litigation.

Julie commented: “I have worked at Andrew & Co for just over two years as a paralegal and am delighted to have obtained a training contract with the firm. I am eagerly anticipating the new challenges and responsibility that comes with them.

“Having worked in the commercial property team during my time at Andrew & Co I am looking forward to gaining invaluable experience, especially in other commercial departments, in order to further my career as a successful solicitor.”

Andrew studied Law at the University of Lincoln before completing the Legal Practice Course at Nottingham Law School where he excelled in civil litigation, employment and personal injury and conveyancing.

He worked for Blakemores Solicitors in Birmingham for two years before returning to his home city and joined Andrew & Co last year.

Andrew said: “After 15 months as a paralegal in the Company Commercial team at Andrew & Co, I can’t wait to start my training contract with the firm. It will give me the opportunity to gain experience in a range of different areas of law, as well as hone the skills required to become a good solicitor.

“It is a great opportunity and I am delighted that I have managed to secure a training contract in my home city of Lincoln.”

**Ends**

**Notes to Editors**

* A paralegal is someone who will usually undertake more process driven work at a law firm but is not a qualified solicitor or barrister. Duties involve working closely and supporting other members of a legal team, liaising with clients, and performing legal administrative duties.
* [Andrew & Co LLP](http://www.andrew-solicitors.co.uk) is one of the longest established independent law firms in the East Midlands, having been set up in 1832.
* It offers a comprehensive range of legal services to private individuals and businesses across a wide range of sectors including renewable energy, agriculture, personal injury, conveyancing, charity and not-for-profit, family and employment law.
* Andrew & Co has 60 staff based at its offices in on Nettleham Road in Lincoln and Kirkgate in Newark.

**For further information please contact:**

**Jez Ashberry**

**Shooting Star PR**

**01522 528540**

**07780 735071**

**jez@shootingstar-pr.co.uk**

**@jezashberry**