

Advocate Monthly Top Ten

Sign up for your second six

Sign up PUPIL PLEDGE advocate 2025

Next month, pupils across the country will embark on their second six. Advocate enjoy a long tradition of working with pupils, many of whom come to the Bar passionate about pro bono having done it at law school as part of their legal education.

Advocate are proud to relaunch the Pupil Pledge in 2025—an initiative celebrating the invaluable contributions of pupils to pro bono work. We invite all second six pupils to pledge to take on one piece of pro bono work during this crucial stage of their career development. Any pro bono work completed through any scheme counts towards the Pledge.

Throughout a barrister's career, pro bono work is an important way to develop your advocacy skills and gain diverse experience. Many people seeking pro bono support are in incredibly challenging situations, and your assistance could be life-changing. To support you, Advocate offers the opportunity to seek guidance from a mentor when working on a case through our <u>Collaborate</u> mentoring scheme.

Upon completing the Pledge, pupils will receive a Pupil Pledge logo for their email signatures and social media, with their contribution also promoted on Advocate's social media channels. Read our <u>Guide to Pro Bono for Pupils and Supervisors</u> which explains how pupils can gain experience of pro bono work during pupillage, from assisting their supervisor with a pro bono case, through to undertaking pro bono work directly during their second-six.

Sign up to the Pupil Pledge

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If you can, please donate to Advocate when renewing your practising certificate

advocate

Our deepest thanks to the brilliant Bar

Advocate would like to give a huge thank you to everyone who donated to Advocate when renewing their practising certificates through the MyBar portal this month. The contributions we receive through this process are critical to our sustainability as they make up 42% of our annual income. Your contributions are vital as requests for help from those in need of pro bono support continue to soar. We were created by the Bar almost 30 years ago and we are sustained by you all to this day. Thank you for your continued support.

More about ATP



Network and raise funds through the 2025 London Legal Walk

The London Legal Walk – the largest fundraising event on the legal calendaris back this year on Tuesday 17th June. Over 600 teams including 75 chambers have already signed up alongside thousands of walkers to support access to justice. Proceeds from the walk fund free legal advice charities including Advocate, FRU and the London Legal Support Trust. The Lady Chief Justice, Lord Reed, Sir Geoffrey Vos, and Barbara Mills KC, Chair of the Bar Council, will be leading the walk this year.

Join the London Legal Walk

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Advocate Statistics

135

Live cases currently looking for assistance

76

Pieces of work placed in March 2025

26

New Panel Members in March 2025

Summary of live cases:

Employment: 29%

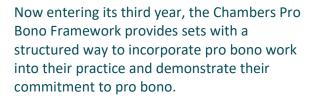
Family:

24%

Housing: 15%

advocate

Make pro bono a part of your Chambers' ethos in 2025



"The Framework has continued to strengthen our ability to communicate Chambers' commitment to pro bono work, providing both structure and clear, demonstrable goals. It has also been a catalyst for action—most notably, enabling us to host a pro bono seminar towards the end of last year which created a valuable forum for our members, particularly junior barristers and pupils, to gain insights from Advocate on the benefits and impact of pro bono work." - Anthony Burgess, Pro Bono Champion at St Philips Chambers.



By signing up to The Framework, chambers gain access to an infrastructure that supports and tracks their contributions, and offers barristers and staff ways to get involved, strengthening a culture of pro bono engagement. At the end of the year, sets receive a bespoke report with a breakdown of the pro bono work completed within chambers and a comparison against sets of a similar size. Sets have found this helpful for benchmarking and a valuable resource to showcase their commitment to access to justice in external communications.

To find out more or sign up, our Engagement Manager, Faye Pauffley, would be delighted to set up a call with you.

More on The Framework



Advocate supporters have been going the extra mile to raise funds for us by taking on challenges to ensure access to justice for those who need it most.

Bill Conner from ABC Chambers' Solutions organised the '112 challenge' where participants completed 112 push-ups or squats a day. This tough challenge raised an impressive £624 and a huge thank you to everyone who took part.

In February, XXIV Old

Buildings kindly hosted a quiz night in support of Advocate and Havens
Hospices, raising over £10,000 that was split between our two charities.
Thank you so much to all involved in organising a fantastic evening and supporting our work.

Impressive wave of 2025

fundraising efforts

Two barristers from Broadway House Chambers, **Christopher Rowe** and **Jake Ellis**, are taking on an intense 165km multi-sport challenge in Croatia, covering the distance by running, cycling, kayaking, and paddle-boarding – all in support of Advocate. We are really grateful for their commitment. You can contribute to their fundraising efforts here.

On 6th April, six supporters of Advocate will be taking on the London Landmark Half Marathon. A huge thank you to Mykaela Brewerton, Kendya Goodman, Katya Pereira, Rosie Sutton, Matthew Timm, and Ellie Trollope for lacing up your running shoes to help fund our vital work.

Take on a challenge for Advocate

Shout out to Panel Members...

Ramby De Mello
No5 Barristers Chambe

Craig Fahey
Atlantic Chambers

Kate Gardiner Henderson Chambers

Thank you to Ramby De Mello of No5 Chambers for assisting a person in appealing a Land **Valuation Tribunal** decision. Our applicant was extremely vulnerable with mental health difficulties and was facing a council tax bill of £33,000 that they could not afford. This was for owning a flat with a shop underneath, which was not being used due to disrepair. Ramby represented our applicant at the tribunal, which ruled that our applicant is now liable to pay nothing due to the property being empty.

Our thanks to Craig Fahey of Atlantic Chambers for providing last minute advice and representation to a woman for a hearing for a Non-Molestation Order extension. The woman has additional needs and health-related issues, and is being guided in the proceedings by her partner's mother. The order was sought after she was removed from her home by an abusive family member. Thanks to Craig, the Non-**Molestation Order has** been extended by six months. The woman was very grateful to Craig for his kind assistance.

Thank you, Craig

We would like to thank Kate Gardiner of Henderson Chambers for representing a man on last minute instructions at the High Court in a Companies List trial which was due to last 3 days. The man, who is a vulnerable party and has additional needs, is currently involved in a complex claim against him involving significant sums. Kate was successful in arguing that an adjournment was necessary to ensure a fair trial, having regard to all of the circumstances of the case. Kate has very generously offered to continue to assist.

Thank you, Ramby

Thank you, Kate

Look out for the 2025 Pro Bono Recognition List

Next month, the 2025 Pro Bono Recognition List will be published to recognise barristers and solicitors who undertook 25 or more pro bono hours in 2024. Thank you to all the barristers who added their names and most importantly took on pro bono work in 2024. Advocate will be sharing about the publication of the Recognition List soon and look forward to celebrating your contributions! If you have already completed 25 or more pro bono hours in 2025, you can appear on the 2026 Pro Bono Recognition List - add your name.

More about the Pro Bono Recognition List

Follow us for more!

Advocate is now on <u>Bluesky</u> as well as <u>LinkedIn</u> and <u>X</u>. Please do follow these accounts to keep up to date with the latest news and information.