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# Advocate Monthly Top Ten!



To celebrate our 25th anniversary year, and as we look to develop access to justice for the next 25 years, we invite you to take part in 25 for 25: The Pro Bono Challenge and complete 25 hours of pro bono in our anniversary year.

The time you give pro bono has an extraordinary impact on the lives of those who apply to Advocate for help. One of our applicants recently commented that: "Being a Litigant in Person is the most stressful situation to be put in and those barristers that offer their time to people like me truly have no idea of the immense gratitude and relief they provide."

On completion of your 25 pro bono hours, you will receive a logo for your email signature or your individual Chambers profile. Ben Collins QC, Pro Bono QC of the Year 2020 Award winner said: "This is a really excellent initiative. We're all busy, but we can all find 25 hours in a year, and every one of those hours makes a big difference to someone. I'm planning to do it – I'd encourage everyone else to do so too!"

Click below to find out more information and to sign up to take on the challenge!

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



The death of baby Harry Richford and the prosecution of the hospital was recently featured in Panorama. Derek Richford tells the heartbreaking story of how Advocate found the family two barristers to help with the inquest into Harry's death.

[Watch Derek's Story](#)

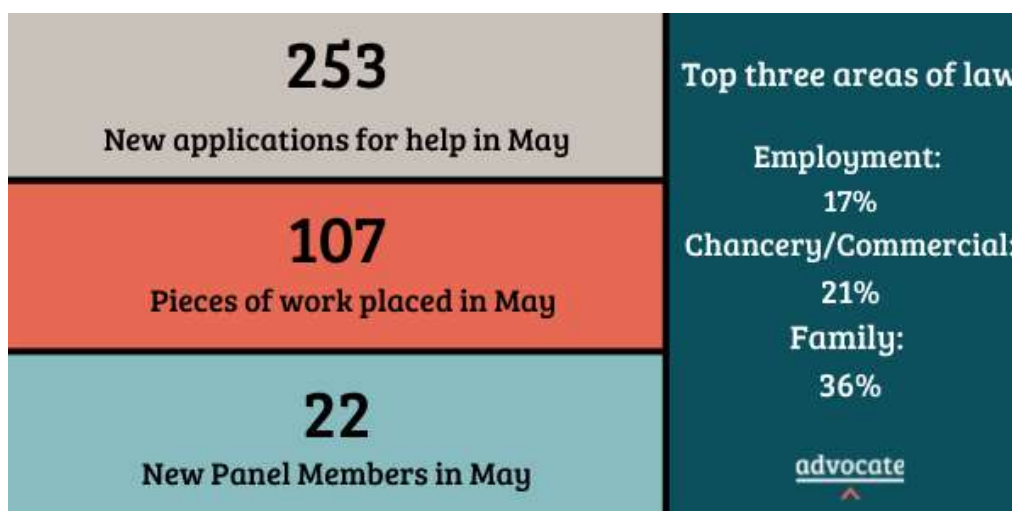


Nominations are now open for the 2021 Bar Pro Bono Awards! We are looking for those who have truly gone above and beyond for those they helped this year, so nominate the boldest and brightest of the pro bono community by 12th September!

[Nominate Here](#)

## 4

### Advocate Statistics



## Meet the 2020 Pro Bono Award winners

Since we have just launched our nominations for this year's Pro Bono Awards, we wanted to share the profiles of the 2020 winners, featured in this month's Counsel magazine. We hope this will inspire you to nominate anyone you know who gives their time to pro bono!



[READ MORE](#)



## Barrister Profile: Charles Ciumei QC

Charles Ciumei QC is one of Advocate's pro bono heroes. He speaks candidly about how taking on pro bono cases when he was a pupil was essential to getting his career started, and how one of his cases ended up changing the law in the Court of Appeal.

[READ MORE](#)

## Our volunteer barrister success stories

7

**Clare Reffin**

One Essex Court

Clare Reffin has been a long standing committed member of the Advocate Reviewing Team. She recently took on a large additional review, on top of the others she was already working on for us. Clare is someone who goes above and beyond to help our applicants. Recently, when a bundle lacked documents and was incoherent, Clare took the time to prepare a detailed chronology as part of the review to help the applicant further.

Thank you, Clare

8

**Aaqib Javed**

Spire Barristers

Aaqib, who is also a former Advocate Caseworker, has recently assisted multiple vulnerable applicants. Amongst his successes is a case involving CAFCASS. Thanks to Aaqib's involvement, our applicant has been reunited with her children. We receive glowing reviews of Aaqib's expertise from our applicants, who cannot thank him enough for his support, kindness and understanding when working on such emotionally charged cases.

Thank you, Aaqib.

9

**Charlotte Mallin Martin**

Guildhall Chambers

Charlotte is a pupil barrister who joined Advocate's volunteer team this year. Shortly after signing up she took on her first case, committing to all of the case management, preparation and representation for a final hearing. Given the urgency, Charlotte was able to secure an adjournment and draft a schedule of loss with one week's notice. Thank you Charlotte for making a real impact from such an early stage!

Thank you, Charlotte



## 25 pro bono voices

Advocate's 25th year is an opportunity to celebrate 25 years of pro bono. Not just looking back and reflecting on the past, but more importantly, building for the future of pro bono and how Advocate can help encourage more people to undertake this valuable work. We are putting together a collection of 25 voices that share on the value pro bono help has on the lives of our applicants as well as showcasing the Bar's inspiring commitment to access to justice.

You can follow the journey at:

[www.weareadvocate.org.uk/25-voices](http://www.weareadvocate.org.uk/25-voices)