
advocate



Advocate Monthly Top Ten



Welcome back to your first Advocate newsletter of the new legal year - we hope you had an enjoyable summer and are settling well into the new term.

If you want to make a new commitment to pro bono work this new legal year, find out more about [taking on pro bono work](#) with Advocate and explore our [useful guides to pro bono work](#) for tailored information on how to take on pro bono work. Please do also [get in touch](#) if you have any questions – we are more than happy to support you in making a pro bono contribution in any way that we can.

[The Pro Bono Recognition List of England and Wales](#), a cross-profession initiative endorsed by the Lady Chief Justice Baroness Carr of Walton-on-the-Hill, celebrates barristers and solicitors who have volunteered 25 hours of pro bono work within the previous calendar year. There is still time to reach the target of 25 hours this year to appear on the next Pro Bono Recognition List to be published in 2025. If you have already completed 25 hours, make sure to complete the [submission form](#) to appear on the next Pro Bono Recognition List.

[The Pupil Pledge](#) asks pupils to take on just one piece of pro bono work during their second six through any pro bono scheme or initiative – already 100 pupils have taken part this year. We encourage all pupils to try pro bono work in their second six, and invite pupil supervisors to encourage this with the support of our [Guide to Pro Bono for Pupils and Supervisors](#).

More on working with Advocate



Explore events across the UK for Pro Bono Week 2024

Pro Bono Week is bringing together a brilliant [calendar of events](#). There is something for everyone, so please do explore the full event list to see what might be of interest to you during the week.

We are delighted that a number of chambers are holding seminars during the week, and to be involved in a number of events happening across the country, including the first ever Manchester Pro Bono Awards held by the Greater Manchester Pro Bono Committee. We hope to see you at an event near you this Pro Bono Week!

[More on Pro Bono Week](#)



Carols for Pro Bono 2024

Come and join us on Tuesday 10th December at the beautiful Temple Church in London for this highlight in the legal calendar. Be quick as tickets are selling fast with over 200 tickets already sold.

Our celebrity guests giving readings this year include The Rt Hon Baroness Carr of Walton-on-the-Hill, Stephen Mangan and Rachael Stirling. There will also be musical performances from harpist Helena Ricci, and renowned chamber choir Collegium Musicum. It is a fantastic event to bring colleagues, clients, friends or family to and all proceeds go directly to pro bono support.

[Purchase your tickets](#)

4

Advocate Statistics



New pro bono guidance for aspiring silks



This month, we are delighted to have launched a new guide that explains how pro bono work can assist when applying for silk.

The guide sets out how taking on pro bono work can be useful for directly demonstrating the competencies that are assessed in KC applications. For example, taking on pro bono cases in an area beyond your usual area of practice can demonstrate Competency A - your ability to become “familiar with new areas of law quickly and reliably”.

Commenting on the publication of the launch, Advocate’s Vice Chair Sarah Abram KC said:

“I’m delighted to see the publication of Advocate’s Guide for KC Applications... I wish it had been available when I was applying for silk! I used several examples of pro bono work on my application form, and it’s great to see this structured explanation of how pro bono work can provide useful evidence in support of each competency.”

[Read the guide](#)



Following an initial introduction at the end of 2023, Advocate are pleased to launch the Leeds Business and Property Court Litigant-in-Person Support Scheme ("Leeds BPC Scheme").

Established with the support of Business and Property Court Judges in Leeds, the North Eastern Circuit and the Local Bar, this duty Scheme will provide on-the-day advice and advocacy for unrepresented parties on the Companies Court Winding-Up List and the District Judges' Business and Property Court Applications List.

New partner Scheme launched in the North Eastern Circuit

Barristers with post-pupillage chancery experience are invited to volunteer to be on duty for one day at a time, and will accept instructions under the licensed access auspices of Advocate.

Jason Pitter KC, Leader of the North Eastern Circuit, expressed his support of the Scheme: *"The Circuit is delighted to be giving its full support to the Scheme, and are pleased to see such enthusiasm from so many of our local specialists wanting to support the deserving public"*.

[Find out more](#)

Shout out to Panel Members...

7

Abdallah Barakat
9 Park Place Chambers

We would like to thank Abdallah Barakat of 9 Park Place Chambers for assisting on two immigration and asylum appeals in the First Tier Immigration Tribunal.

In one case, Abdallah travelled to Manchester from Cardiff to represent an asylum seeker who is a national of Sierra Leone and who was illiterate and had multiple health issues, and in another recent case he represented a Syrian national seeking asylum. Abdallah ensured that both applicants had a voice at their hearings.

Thank you, Abdallah

8

**Victoria Butler-Cole KC
& Rhys Hadden**
39 Essex Chambers & Serjeants' Inn
Chambers

Thank you to Victoria Butler Cole KC of 39 Essex Chambers and Rhys Hadden of Serjeants' Inn Chambers for assisting in an application in the Court of Protection for the recognition and enforcement of a Turkish Guardianship Order held by a brother in relation to his sister, who had become unwell and was admitted to hospital during an extended stay in England. Her brother wanted to continue to make decisions about her health and welfare in this jurisdiction. Thanks to their representation in court, the judge declared that the Guardianship Order could be recognised in England and Wales.

Thank you, Victoria and Rhys

9

Rebecca Paterson
Pump Court Chambers

Our many thanks to Rebecca Paterson of Pump Court Chambers for providing advice to our applicant, a psychologist, who had a Health and Care Professions Tribunal Service hearing. He was facing possible sanctions if his fitness to practice was found to be impaired following alleged misconduct. Rebecca prepared him ahead of his hearing by providing him with comprehensive advice and submissions. His fitness to practice was found not to be impaired and he will now be able to resume unrestricted practice.

Thank you, Rebecca



The Chambers Pro Bono Framework

[45 chambers](#) have signed up to the Chambers Pro Bono Framework in 2024. If your chambers would like to join them in helping Advocate provide support for the growing number of individuals in desperate need of pro bono legal assistance, [get in touch](#) and we can help you join The Framework in 2025.

"I was overwhelmed and I am still overwhelmed by how kind and helpful you all are. Thank you from the bottom of my heart." - Advocate Applicant

[More about the Framework](#)

Follow us for more!

Advocate is now on [Bluesky](#) as well as LinkedIn and X. Please do follow these accounts to keep up to date with the latest news and information.

Advocate

[Support Us](#) - [Volunteer](#) - [What We Do](#)

