

Advocate Monthly Top Ten

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Mid-year update from Advocate

As we near the end of the Trinity term, we wanted to take the opportunity to celebrate the contribution of the Bar to pro bono work and access to justice.

This year we have launched our new initiative for Chambers who are keen to establish and formalise their Chambers' commitment to pro bono work, [The Chambers Pro Bono Framework](#). Chambers that commit to The Framework help to support the growing number of people in need of legal assistance that are unable to pay, and ensure that their barristers make use of the opportunities pro bono work provides. Twenty-six Chambers from right across England and Wales have signed up and are implementing The Framework. [Click here to find out who they are.](#)

We would also like to say a huge thank you to the barristers who have taken on work with Advocate so far this year, including the 260 new barristers who have [signed up](#) to volunteer with us. As part of the [Pro Bono Pledge](#), over 2,640 hours have already been given by dedicated volunteers so far this year.

We look forward to working with you in the second half of this year and wish everyone a lovely summer. If you are able to, please do consider continuing to browse our weekly case list over the summer months to see if there is a piece of work you can help with.

With thanks and best wishes,
Advocate.



Middle Temple Practice and Management Course

Advocate is regularly invited to speak at the Middle Temple courses for pupil barristers, to share about the benefits of getting involved in pro bono, and the many ways in which Advocate are able to support this. If you are involved with the training courses at your Inn, and think an Advocate presentation could be beneficial, please do get in touch.

[Get in touch](#)



Annual London ASICS 10k fundraising run

We are immensely proud of 6 members of our team who took part in the ASICS 10k. We would like to say a special thanks to all those who donated to our runners.

All donations go towards changing the lives of applicants in desperate need of pro bono support. It's still not too late to donate below.

[Donate](#)

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Advocate Statistics

127

Live cases currently looking for assistance

642

Pieces of work placed so far this year

258

New Panel Members in 2023

Summary of live cases:

Family:

25%

Housing:

15%

Employment:

14%

[advocate](#)



Bridging the Bar

Summer Interns

This month we were delighted to welcome four Casework Interns to the Advocate team to complete their one-month internship with us as part of our collaboration with Bridging the Bar.

Bridging the Bar is an award-winning charity that exists to improve equal access to opportunities within the legal profession across all underrepresented groups. It believes that the Bar should reflect the diverse society in which we live in, to serve all those a part of it.

This is the second year that Advocate has collaborated with Bridging the Bar through our internship programme to help make legal careers more accessible to law students from underrepresented groups.



During their time with us, the interns have gained exposure to a wide range of areas of law, as well as to everyday practical tasks that are involved in all types of casework. These skills will equip them to stand out when looking to prepare for their future careers.

Read our interview with Simran, one of our previous Bridging the Bar interns, to find out more about how our interns found their time working with us.

[Read Simran's story](#)

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Inaugural Launch of the Displaced Journalists Initiative

The Displaced Journalists Initiative (DJI) was launched on 17 July 2023 by [Talent Beyond Boundaries](#) (TBB) and [Doughty Street Chambers](#).

Since the Taliban takeover, Afghanistan has lost almost 40% of media outlets and 60% of journalists, according to [Reporters Without Borders](#) (RSF). In response, the DJI was formed to support employers and organisations wishing to recruit talented displaced journalists.

TBB is a global non-profit organisation working to connect skilled refugees, such as journalists, with employers. TBB developed the Displaced Talent Mobility Pilot with the UK Government, which enables priority processing of skilled worker visas and safeguards talented workers.

Inaugural Launch of the Displaced Journalists Initiative

The launch event highlighted existing work with a group of Afghan journalists and how the DJI can be used to relocate them and their families to safety.

You can support this initiative and journalists at risk by:

- Signing up, sponsoring and hiring the journalists, such as in print, broadcast, media, communications, or academic positions.
- Raising this opportunity within your organisation, with HR/risk managers.
- Sharing with contacts and asking them to register interest.

[Click here for further information](#)

Shout out to Panel Members...

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Amber Turner
Radcliffe Chambers

Many thanks to Amber Turner from Radcliffe Chambers for accepting an urgent possession case. Our applicant is the daughter of the deceased tenant and is facing possession proceedings which, if successful, would leave her homeless. Amber's vital assistance has highlighted a potential tenancy succession case and means that Advocate can continue to search for a volunteer to draft a defence.

Thank you, Amber

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Sophie Cartwright
KC
Deans Court Chambers

Our huge thanks to Sophie Cartwright KC from Deans Court Chambers, who stepped forward to represent the family of Nicola Bulley in the high-profile inquest case. She worked with solicitor Terry Wilcox from Hudgell Solicitors, found through Pro Bono Connect. The Senior Coroner noted they had undertaken representation "on a pro bono basis because they felt that it was the right thing to do".

Thank you, Sophie and Terry

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Tom Croxford KC
Blackstone Chambers

We would like to thank Tom Croxford KC from Blackstone Chambers for undertaking an impressive 80 hours of pro bono work so far this year. His work has been recognised through the Pro Bono Pledge, where he far exceeded the target of 25 hours. Tom worked on two complex EAT cases, showing incredible dedication to both. On top of this he is also the Pro Bono Champion at Blackstone Chambers.

Thank you, Tom

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Have a lovely break!

We will be back with our next newsletter in September.

You can still [get in touch](#) with our friendly team at Advocate if you have any further questions about how to get involved in our work.

We hope you all have an enjoyable summer!