
Advocate Monthly Top Ten!



Fighting for asylum as an Eritrean child refugee: Isaak's story

Isaak escaped persecution in Eritrea and arrived in the UK as an unaccompanied minor. He applied for asylum, but the Home Office denied it, claiming that he was actually Ethiopian because he spoke the “wrong” language. Barrister Emma Daykin from One Pump Court, a specialist in nationality disputes, represented Isaak, convincing them he was in fact from Eritrea.

Isaak’s was an unusual case because the solicitors who filed the original claim refused to continue representing him, leaving him with an appeal date but no lawyer.

Isaak’s case ended up with the Red Cross Young Refugees Service and they eventually managed to get the case to Advocate after months of agonising delay. This case involved co-operation across multiple agencies, all desperately trying to get a traumatised boy the help he desperately needed.

Read more about this remarkable success story and the people involved in it.

[READ MORE](#)

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Emma Daykin: What inspires her to do pro bono

Emma discusses her incredibly varied pro bono work – from being an anti-death penalty intern in the US, through to specialist immigration work in the UK - and how her background influenced her to do it. Emma was the Advocate barrister on Isaak's case (see story 1) and she also volunteers as an Advocate reviewing barrister.

[Read More](#)

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25 pro bono voices: Yeri a Red Cross Caseworker

Yeri is a casework co-ordinator in the Red Cross Young Refugees Service. When Isaak's case landed on her desk, she understood how urgently he needed specialist legal help to fight his nationality claim.

Read Yeri's blog, a wonderful example of the access to justice sector working together to achieve a fantastic result.

[Read More](#)

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Advocate Statistics



Webinar with CLIPs

At the end of April, Advocate's CEO, Rebecca Wilkie, appeared on a distinguished panel for a webinar called "demystifying CLIPS", hosted by Andrew de Mestre QC. Two judges described how grateful a court is when a litigant in person is represented pro bono and CLIPS volunteers described their experiences. To watch the webinar, see more below.



[SEE MORE](#)



Spotlight on Casework

In the first of a series of blogs from Advocate's casework team, Caroline reflects on the impact of the lockdown on applications and the highs and lows of her work after the demand for our service doubled in the last year.

[READ MORE](#)

Our volunteer barrister success stories

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Daniel Hubbard

One Essex Court

Daniel has been working tirelessly on a case since 2017. He represents an elderly gentleman of very little means who has been hounded by a bank for the last 17 years. The applicant lost hundreds of thousands of pounds and was at risk of losing his home. Daniel secured a more favourable settlement for him, and eliminated his risk of homelessness. However, Daniel continues to pursue action to clear his debt entirely.

Thank you, Daniel

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Mira Hammad

Garden Court North Chambers

Mira Hammad of Garden Court North has truly embodied the spirit of pro bono, assisting the family of a young person who took their own life whilst living in supported accommodation. Mira has assisted the family for over a year, working alongside Advocate and INQUEST to ensure that they receive as much help as possible.

Although the inquest hearing is not until July, Mira has already done a huge amount of work on this for us.

Thank you, Mira

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Christopher Sharp QC

St John's Chambers

Christopher has been an Advocate reviewer for over four years now, faithfully accepting four files a month to ensure we are only approving cases for the most deserving applicants. He recently went above and beyond to help someone in a family-child case who may be eligible for Exceptional Case Funding. Christopher undertook a huge amount of research and analysis and was happy for this to be sent to the applicant as a piece of advice.

Thank you, Christopher



Share your story!

There is a huge amount of pro bono work going on, often behind the scenes and in unsung ways. To help us celebrate this, our 25th year, as fully as possible, and for us all to better understand the full extent of the Bar's commitment to pro bono, please consider submitting a few lines on the work you have done. We have created a [short form](#) to make it possible for you to tell us your story.

We would love to hear about the impact that you have seen pro bono work have on either the people and communities you have worked with, or on your own career.

Thank you for your continuing support.