

FIELD COURT CHAMBERS

THE 2024 CHAMBERS PRO BONO FRAMEWORK REPORT

45

Chambers signed up to The Chambers Pro Bono Framework in 2024



25%

On average, 25% of members from participating chambers engaged in pro bono work



<u>advocate</u>

617

Barristers appeared in The 2025 Pro Bono Recognition List of England and Wales



Field Court Chambers' Pro Bono Work in 2024

24% of our members took on pro bono work in 2024

Our members completed pro bono work through Advocate, Not Beyond Redemption, Action for Children's London Advocacy Service and Pro Bono Connect

Barristers who have completed pro bono work with Advocate

Aristide Hoang-Brown
Harrison Engler
Madeleine Southey
Mark Tempest
Tony Harrop-Griffiths

Pro Bono Champion

Mark Townsend Lily Cooke



Chambers in England and Wales

This chart compares the percentage of barristers in each chambers that take part in pro bono work in sets of a similar size nationwide. It offers a comparison of where Field Court Chambers' work falls in relation to other sets of 0-50 members.



*The data received from other sets has been anonymised.

Field Court Chambers have reported that 24% of barristers completed pro bono work in 2024



"I would like to express my most sincere gratitude for Mr Engler's most professional representation in two hearings at the Central Family Court. Mr Engler devoted his time to write very focused Position Statements and prepared the bundles for both hearings. He has always been very effective in his communication promptly replying to all my queries and reminding to adhere to court's procedures and deadlines. He acted with honesty and integrity.

He explained the legal process by breaking down complex legal terminology. Mr Engler's representation during the Hearings meant that I felt understood, informed, confident and reassured in Court. He kindly drafted the Order explaining all the next steps that needed to be followed by both parties for the next hearing. By preparing Position Statements and drafting the Order Mr Engler assisted the Court. He provided invaluable support on every level.

Throughout my communication with Mr Engler, it quickly became apparent that in addition to his professionalism and expertise he has a selfless personality, strong sense of empathy, compassion and his willingness to help others is truly inspiring.

I would recommend Mr Engler without hesitation to anyone who is looking for a Barrister in the area of Family Law.

I am also very grateful to Advocate for providing access to justice to those members of the society, who cannot afford paid legal help."

Applicant



During pupillage, Harrison Engler appeared twice pro bono through Advocate on behalf of a mother in private child law proceedings. The proceedings concerned a child with learning needs. The father had disputed arrangements for schooling and contact. After he represented her, Harrison's client emailed Advocate expressing what it had meant to her:

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I would recommend Mr Engler without hesitation to anyone who is looking for a Barrister in the area of Family Law."

Aplicant



To show the difference pro bono can make, we encouraged Harrison (with his client's consent) to share her thank you on LinkedIn in the hope of prompting more people to take on pro bono work.

Harrison said "Nothing posted on LinkedIn previously about me has ever drawn so much attention! As someone early on in my career at the Bar, pro bono work helped to raise my profile."





Last year, Barry McAlinden acted for the maternal grandmother and step-grandfather in a High Court application for return orders concerning their 2 grandchildren. The children had been removed from the jurisdiction and taken to Iran.

The case involved numerous High Court hearings and mounting costs. The couple were struggling to pay their legal costs and having to borrow money which was causing them more psychological and financial strain.

In the interests of ensuring them access to justice, and to alleviate that stress, Barry agreed to act pro bono.

By continuing the case pro bono, the couple had access to advice, advocacy and [pastoral] support at a very upsetting and critical time, avoiding the additional psychological burden of worrying about the cost of the ongoing proceedings.

Without Barry's intervention, the couple risked existing contact with their grandchildren coming to an end.







Thank you Field Court Chambers for participating in The Chambers Pro Bono Framework 2024

Appointed a Pro Bono Champion
Actioned pro bono work
Organised a seminar
Reported on the pro bono work completed

We extend our sincere thanks to the members and staff of Field Court Chambers for their unwavering support of Advocate and access to justice. We could not continue to operate without all you do.

"...you give the less fortunate a voice in the world and in the legal system. You should all be proud in touching the lives of many when they need help. You help make our bit of the world a better place. You certainly have made our small bit of the world better by your involvement." - Advocate applicant



Annex

The Chambers Pro Bono Framework (The Framework) is an opportunity for all chambers in England and Wales to establish their commitment to undertaking pro bono work and improving access to justice.

As the Bar's national pro bono charity, Advocate wants to make it possible for every chambers to be part of the solution and to help us address the growing number of people in desperate need of legal assistance, who cannot obtain legal aid or afford to pay.

The Framework provides the opportunity to strengthen and highlight the pro bono ethos of your chambers and makes it possible for everyone, both barristers and staff, to contribute.

By signing up to The Framework, chambers commit to four actions within a calendar year, these are:

- (1) Appoint Pro Bono Champions
- (2) Action pro bono work as a chambers
 - (3) Organise a seminar on pro bono
 - (4) Report on the pro bono done

The data used in this report was obtained through self-reporting from Chambers in England and Wales who participated in the 2024 Framework.

Information was also gathered from The Pro Bono Recognition List.

