

Commercial Litigators' Forum

London, New York and Moscow

Commercial Litigators' Forum
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By email

Dear Sirs

The Commercial Litigators' Forum (CLF)

The CLF will be relaunching its website with an innovative and charitably inspired initiative. For the first time, there will be webpages dedicated to providing a definitive listing of all service providers in the areas designated below. It will be the “go-to” first port of call for international dispute resolution groups and in-house lawyers (particularly those associated with the GC100) looking to instruct a service provider.

The launch will take place in conjunction with the National Pro Bono Centre with the support of the judges of the Commercial Court, the GC100 and the firms representing the CLF. Please see statements of support at Annex A “*Endorsements*” from among others, The Hon. Mr Justice Blair, Judge in Charge of the Commercial Court, and Sir Robin Knowles CBE, Trustee of the National Pro Bono Centre.

We are writing to you to encourage you to support the National Pro Bono Centre and this initiative by donating in the categories indicated below. The CLF intends to recognise that donation and show its appreciation through having an enhanced listing (as opposed to just being named) on the CLF website in. The CLF intends to list you whether or not you choose to donate.

The CLF website will feature a collection of pages listing service providers in a number of categories. These will include:

eDiscovery
Litigation Funding
Cyber Investigations and Due Diligence
Expert Evidence
Costs
Legal Recruitment
Translation Services
Lawyers in the British Virgin Isles
Lawyers in the Cayman Islands
Lawyers in Jersey
Litigation Public Relations and Crisis Management Providers

Each category will have relevant know-how and links which will be provided by the exclusive Diamond Donor in each category. Please visit www.commerciallitigatorsforum.com to view a sample of the layout of the donor pages.

There will be Diamond (exclusive), Platinum, Gold and Silver donors (all non-exclusive) each granting different benefits. The benefits are described fully in Annex B “*Donor Levels*”. All donor positions are for a one year period. The lead provider in each category will be the Diamond Donor. It will be the only exclusive category of donor and, allow for the donor’s marketing materials to be featured on the webpage for that category. In some categories the position of Diamond Donor has already been secured. We can of course inform you if that is the case in your category(ies). In future years, we envisage that this position will be offered by way of an auction open to all.

If you provide services in a number of different categories and wish to have multiple donor listings, please see the end section of Annex B.

The CLF

The CLF was established in early July 2002 by a number of leading dispute resolution practices. It has representatives from all the principal litigation practices participating in its activities. The CLF is now active in London, New York and Moscow. More information can be found at www.commerciallitigatorsforum.com.

In keeping with the aims of the CLF, the initiative will provide for enhanced interaction amongst law firms, the judiciary, in-house counsel and service providers to the legal profession.

Advantages for all Donors

Among others advantages:

- 1) you go straight to the heart of the legal community. Your donation will be approved, recognised and debated amongst the international CLF committee members;
- 2) your donation will be announced by each of the participating law firms in an email to their dispute resolution colleagues and professional support lawyers;
- 3) the CLF website will be promoted by CLF committee members to in-house counsel and the GC 100, and to others who are also promoting the National Pro Bono Centre. The GC100 gives full support to the project.
- 4) Legal Week will promote the CLF website and feature a hyperlink on its webpage.

The National Pro Bono Centre

Information about the National Pro Bono Centre can be found at its webpage: <http://www.nationalprobonocentre.org.uk/>

About the Centre:

“Created in 2010, the National Pro Bono Centre houses the profession’s national clearing houses for legal pro bono work delivered in England and Wales: the Bar Pro Bono Unit, LawWorks (the Solicitors’ Pro Bono Group) and the CILEx Pro Bono Trust (CILEx PBT).”

The Centre is designed to be a “hub” for pro bono charities across the sector and supports the wide range of pro bono projects and brokerage which the charities support, helping individuals and community groups all over England and Wales.

The office on Chancery Lane provides a central resource for charities who help people seeking pro bono legal advice and representation.”

Details regarding how to provide your donation will be provided on request. Donors will be required to enter into an agreement with The National Pro Bono Centre recording the basis on which the donation is made, and this letter is subject to the terms of that agreement. The CLF firms do not intend that any contractual relationship will exist with donors, and do not assume any duty of care towards providers in respect of the initiative (including as regards the accuracy of listings and maintenance of the website).

We very much look forward to working with you on this initiative, and hearing from you with positive news regarding a donation.

Yours faithfully

The Commercial Litigators' Forum

Member Firms:

Addleshaw Goddard LLP	Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer	Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP
Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP	Gowling WLG	Osborne Clarke
Allen & Overy	Harold Benjamin	Paul, Weiss
Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP	Hausfeld	Peters & Peters
Ashurst LLP	Herbert Smith Freehills LLP	Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, LLP
Baker & McKenzie	Hogan Lovells	Reed Smith
BCL Solicitors LLP	Howard Kennedy	Reynolds Porter Chamberlain
Berwin Leighton Paisner	Humphries Kerstetter LLP	Simmons & Simmons
Brown Rudnick LLP	Ince & Co	Skadden
Carter Lemon Camerons LLP	Jones Day	Slaughter and May
Clifford Chance	K&L Gates LLP	Stephenson Harwood LLP
Clyde & Co	Kennedys Law LLP	Steptoe & Johnson LLP
CMS Cameron McKenna Nabarro Olswang LLP		
Dechert LLP	King & Spalding International LLP	Taylor Wessing LLP
DLA Piper	King & Wood Mallesons LLP	Travers Smith
Eversheds Sutherland	Lewis Silkin LLP	W Legal
Farrer & Co	Linklaters	Watson Farley & Williams LLP
Field Seymour Parkes LLP	McGuireWoods LLP	Wedlake Bell LLP
Fieldfisher	Morrison & Foerster LLP	White & Case LLP
Fox Williams	Norton Rose Fulbright LLP	William Fry

Annex A

Endorsements

The Hon. Mr Justice Blair, Judge in Charge of the Commercial Court:

“Through the Commercial Litigators Forum, leading law firms and suppliers of services to those law firms are supporting the National Pro Bono Centre, strongly encouraged by GC100. The Commercial Court warmly commends this collaboration.”

Sir Robin Knowles CBE, Trustee of the National Pro Bono Centre:

“The National Pro Bono Centre was established in 2010. It was possible with the support of member firms of the Commercial Litigators Forum, and they have been alongside the Centre ever since. Now CLF and GC100 are working to help take the Centre to the next level. Their efforts are deeply appreciated. They recognise that looking out for those without means is an important part of maintaining the quality and standing of our legal system.”

Rosemary Martin, Chairman of GC100 (the Association of General Counsel of FTSE 100 Companies):

“GC100 welcomes this coordinated leadership by commercial law firms to provide much needed resource to the National Pro Bono Centre. These things matter, and General Counsel notice them. They say much about the individual firms involved.”

John Malpas – Publishing Director of Legal Week

“Our support for this worthwhile effort will be signified by carrying a link from our homepage to the donor pages of the CLF website at the launch of the website.”

Hilton Mervis on behalf of the CLF:

“We thank the donors for their support for this initiative which is aimed to ensure a sustainable and renewable source of funding for the Pro Bono Centre. All member law firms off the CLF are encouraged to make use of the list of service providers.”

Annex B

Donor Positions

Diamond Donor

Donations: £5,000 to £20,000

As a Diamond Donor you will have:

- an exclusive and significant space at the top of your category's page for promotional links and features, including hyperlinks to knowledge portals and other affiliated institutions;
- space provided for a hyperlink to your business webpage, and contact details of five key people in your organisation;
- a text box (limited to 100 words) for you to use in describing the services you provide as you wish, and your company logo; and
- priority invitations to all CLF events in London, New York and Moscow for up to five attendees. There will be an Initiative drinks reception with the CLF committee and the Diamond Donors only.

Please note that as this is a charitable project, and given the limited time before launch, it has been necessary to select the Diamond Donors for the first year in advance. For future years, there will be an auction process for Diamond Donor and all will have an equal chance to participate.

Platinum Donors

Donations: £2,500 to £5000

As a Platinum Donor you will be listed alphabetically and have:

- space provided for a hyperlink to your business webpage, and contact details of up to three key people in your organisation;
- a text box (limited to 50 words) for you to use in describing the services you provide as you wish, and your company logo; and
- invitations to all CLF events (where numbers are restricted) for three individuals to attend.

Gold Donors

Donation: £1,000 to £2500

As a Gold Donor you will be listed alphabetically and have:

- space provided for a hyperlink to your business webpage and contact details of one key person in your organisation;
- a text box (limited to 25 words) for you to use in describing the services you provide as you wish; and
- invitations to all CLF events (where numbers are restricted) for two individuals to attend.

Continued...

Silver Donors

Donation: up to £1000

As a Silver Donor you will be listed alphabetically and have:

- space provided for a hyperlink to your business webpage and contact details for one key person in your organisation; and
- invitations to all CLF events (where numbers are restricted) for one individual to attend.

Non-Donors

Service providers who do not wish to donate to the National Pro Bono Centre will nevertheless be listed in their respective category; alphabetically and by business name alone.

Listing in Multiple Categories

We recognise that many service providers will be active across more than one category and will wish to be featured as such.

To address this, it is possible for a listing in a Non-Donor category to cross-refer to the existence of a donor listing in a Donor category. The Donor category can of course also say you are listed as a Non-Donor in another category.

For example:

- *eDiscovery* - Gold Donor: [*business name*] (also listed with Non-Donors on the Translation Services page).
- *Translation Services* - Non-Donor: [*business name*] (see our Gold Donor listing on the eDiscovery page).

Alternatively, if you wish to appear with a Donor listing in a second category such a listing can be obtained for 25% of the donation amount for that category (providing it is the same donation level as in your first category, or lower).

For example:

- *eDiscovery*: Gold Donor: [*business name*] (also listed as a Gold Donor on the Translation Services page). (£1000)
- *Translation Services*: Gold Donor: [*business name*] (also listed as a Gold Donor on the E-Disclosure page). (£250)