

Commercial Litigators' Forum

London, New York and Moscow

Commercial Litigators' Forum

E: enquiries@commerciallitigatorsforum.com

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 at a reception at the Royal Courts of Justice on 26 March 2020 attended and supported by the National Pro Bono Centre; 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, Mr Justice Robin Knowles.

We are writing to you to encourage you to support the new 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. 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.

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.

The new National Pro Bono Centre

The new National Pro Bono Centre, due to launch in Spring 2020, builds on the success over the last 10 years of the existing National Pro Bono Centre. The new Centre will serve as a physical and virtual hub, continuing to house many of the major pro bono organisations but further supporting their work and that of a wider range of organisations including legal aid, advice, funders, universities and more. It will help the sector be more effective in meeting the legal advice needs of vulnerable people across the UK.

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

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP

Allen & Overy

Freshfields Bruckhaus

Deringer

Gowling WLG

Harold Benjamin

Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe

LLP

Osborne Clarke

Paul, Weiss

Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP
Ashurst LLP

Baker & McKenzie
BCL Solicitors LLP
Berwin Leighton Paisner
Brown Rudnick LLP
Carter Lemon Camerons LLP
Clifford Chance
Clyde & Co
CMS Cameron McKenna Nabarro Olswang
LLP

DAC Beachcroft LLP
Dechert LLP
DLA Piper
Eversheds Sutherland
Farrer & Co
Field Seymour Parkes LLP

Fieldfisher
Fox Williams

Hausfeld
Herbert Smith Freehills LLP

Hogan Lovells
Howard Kennedy
Humphries Kerstetter LLP
Ince & Co
Jones Day
K&L Gates LLP
Kennedys Law LLP

King & Spalding International
LLP
King & Wood Mallesons LLP
Lewis Silkin LLP
Linklaters
McGuireWoods LLP

Morrison & Foerster LLP
Norton Rose Fulbright LLP

Peters & Peters
Quinn Emanuel Urquhart &
Sullivan, LLP
Reed Smith
Reynolds Porter Chamberlain
Simmons & Simmons
Skadden
Slaughter and May
Stephenson Harwood LLP
Steptoe & Johnson LLP

Taylor Wessing LLP

Travers Smith
W Legal
Watson Farley & Williams LLP
Wedlake Bell LLP

White & Case LLP
William Fry

Annex A

Endorsements

Mr Justice 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.”

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 of the CLF are encouraged to make use of the list of service providers.”

Annex B

Advantages of Sponsorship and Donor Positions

Advantages for all Donors- Commercial and Moral

Commercial Advantages

- 1) It is the only definitive list of service providers available to be used by the commercial litigators and international law firms in London.
- 2) You will get work when there is an urgent need to find a supplier - the directory is kept up to date and used by associates, partners and PSL's - e.g. remember despite how important you are you will not be remembered within months of a meeting - but you are always there to be reminded of by a directory entry.
- 3) You get the opportunity to attend for nominal cost the annual reception at the Royal Courts of Justice (attended by Commercial Court Judges, the GC100 and commercial litigators and COMBAR) to network and celebrate the National Pro Bono Centre.
- 4) Over 100 commercial litigation firms are committing to deprioritise marketing/social engagements from firms who have not sponsored the directory. Think about that when you ask for a coffee or a chance to see your latest software.
- 5) Those law firms and GC100 firm's having diversity and other questions when making appointments are being encouraged to ask will ask: Do you sponsor the Directory?
- 6) Future speakers for events organised by the commercial litigators Forum will only consider using firms which have sponsored.
- 7) LegalWeek/ AML litigation and arbitration annual conference will prioritise seeking panel speakers from entities which have sponsored the Directory.
- 8) Don't forget this year is the launch of the new National Pro Bono Centre and the 125th anniversary of the commercial Court so don't miss out!

Moral reasons

- 1) It is proven that the more you give the wealthier you get - look at Bill Gates.
- 2) All money donated goes direct without deduction to the National Pro Bono Centre.
- 3) The National Pro Bono Centre provides a physical and online hub for the access to justice sector including Advocate and LawWorks.
- 4) This year it is the 125th anniversary of the Commercial Court - don't miss out.

DONOR POSTIONS/LEVELS

Diamond Donor

Donations: £5,000 to £20,000

As a Diamond Donor you will have:

- Attendance at the annual Royal Courts of Justice Reception - the landmark event in the litigation calendar
- An invitation to an event with other Diamond sponsors and the CLF committee.
- 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:

- Attendance at the annual Royal Courts of Justice Reception - the landmark event in the litigation calendar
- 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:

- Attendance at the annual Royal Courts of Justice Reception - the landmark event in the litigation calendar
- 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 50% of the donation amount for that category (providing it is the same donation level as in your first category, or lower, though you are unable to get a discount on a second Diamond donation).

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). (£500)