

LSLA NEWSLETTER – APRIL 2019

Welcome to our latest newsletter sending you information about future events and letting you know about our recent activities.

RECENT EVENTS

AGM and Dinner – 13 March 2019

Our AGM took place earlier this month at Hogan Lovells. Those present voted unanimously to amend our constitution to:

- broaden the scope of our membership to include all those who practice regularly in the London Courts; and
- increase the number of committee members who are not officers to 20.

We welcome applications to join the committee at any stage during the year. If you are interested please email our secretary, Gavin Foggo at GFoggo@foxwilliams.com.

Details of the current officers and committee members may be found at <https://www.lsla.co.uk/current-officers>

We are also pleased to announce that Chris Bushell of Herbert Smith has been elected Vice-President. Chris is a former member of the JLSLA committee and has demonstrated his commitment to the association over many years.

The AGM was followed by an informal dinner at which the Rt Hon Sir Geoffrey Vos gave an informed speech. As usual at this event, the speech is subject to the Chatham House rule.

JLSLA March Seminar – 11 March 2019

Last month the JLSLA held a panel discussion on the use and methods of private investigators to facilitate successful litigation which was kindly hosted by Slaughter and May. The panel consisted of: Tony Irossi (Head of the Secretariat of the Association of British Investigators), Dick Smith QPM (Director of IP Forensics (GB)), Joseph England of Quadrant Chambers and Almira Cemmell (Head of FTI Consulting's Global Risk and Investigations Practice for Europe and Africa in London) and was followed by networking drinks.

LSLA Autumn/Winter Lecture series

In their lecture entitled "*Securing Funding; Securing Costs: recent developments in litigation funding, DBAs, security for costs and non-party costs orders*" held at the end of January, Benjamin Williams QC, Stephen Innes and Ben Smiley of 4 New Square discussed the changing landscape of litigation funding at our lecture on 24 January 2019.

Our final lecture of the series, "*Financial Litigation Review*" took place on 13 February 2019 at Slaughter and May. The sell-out talk by Sonia Tolaney QC of One Essex Court examined recent banking and insolvency decisions and litigation trends in the financial sector.

JLSLA Tech and AI January Seminar

On 30 January 2019, the Junior LSLA held its first seminar of the year: "*Technology and AI for litigators: what you need to know and why*". The seminar was hosted by Reed Smith LLP and chaired by JLSLA President Natalie Osafo. Panellists Stuart Whittle (Business Services and Innovation Director at Weightmans LLP), Gary McRitchie (EMEA Technology Disputes Coordinator at White & Case LLP), Gideon Shirazi of 4 Pump Court and Elizabeth Mason of Reed Smith LLP, shared insights on a range of topics, including the use of technology under the new CPR Disclosure Pilot.

LONDON INTERNATIONAL DISPUTES WEEK

Many of our committee members and past presidents shall be speaking at events during the inaugural London International Disputes Week between 7-10 May. The week is aimed at promoting the capital

as a leading centre for handling international disputes, through a programme of interactive sessions and networking events. Full details may be found at <https://lidw.co.uk/>

RECENT PRESS AND PUBLICITY

The LSLA and members of its committee has recently received the following press coverage:

- 9 January 2019, the CDR article "*Disclosure and documents demystified*" reported on the disclosure pilot scheme panel discussion. Ed Crosse participated in the panel. (<https://www.cdr-news.com/categories/holman-fenwick-willan/8936-disclosure-and-documents-demystified>)
- 11 January 2019, the New Law Journal article "*Parallel Criminal & Civil Proceedings*", by Jason Woodland. (<https://www.newlawjournal.co.uk/content/between-rock-hard-place-1>)
- 21 January, Sophia Purkis and Sarah Charig discussed litigation privilege in their Law Gazette article "*What stays in the boardroom?*" (<https://www.lawgazette.co.uk/practice-points/what-stays-in-the-boardroom/5068922.article>)
- 19 March, Natalie Osafo delivered a speech and participated in the panel discussion on Her Majesty's Courts and Tribunal Service court modernisation programme at the Legal Futures Civil Litigation Conference, 2019 (<https://www.legalfutures.co.uk/conferenceevents/civil-litigation-conference-2019>)
- 28 March, "*Artificial intelligence and national digital case law database could revolutionise litigation*" by Natalie Osafo (<http://disputeresolutionblog.practicallaw.com/artificial-intelligence-and-a-national-digital-case-law-database-could-revolutionise-uk-litigation/>)

THE JUNIOR LSLA

The JLSLA provides:

- Seminars designed to offer practical tips on procedural and substantive legal issues commonly faced by junior civil litigators in an interactive and relaxed atmosphere;
- Networking events for members to meet and form contacts in their peer group; and
- E-news on recent and future activity and key developments with the aim of ensuring that the junior perspective is reflected in the LSLA's responses to consultation papers.

The JLSLA is aimed at solicitors of 8 years PQE and less. Members of the LSLA will automatically become members of the JLSLA if they qualify by year of admission and complete the relevant section of the membership form.

The JLSLA also has firm Champions, who act as the point of contact between the JLSLA committee and their firm.

If you are interested in joining the JLSLA or being the JLSLA Champion for your firm, please contact the JLSLA President, Natalie Osafo at Natalie.Osafo@SlaughterandMay.com.

Join the JLSLA LinkedIn page to receive updates on JLSLA events and initiatives:
<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/4438638/>

MEMBERSHIP

The LSLA is delighted to announce that the Association's membership is nearing 3,000 members with well over 1,250 members of the JLSLA with 40 corporate members.

Corporate membership can offer a real saving to firms. Essentially, for £500 a firm with corporate membership can register an unlimited number of litigation solicitors working for it in London as members. Please contact Chris Bushell at Chris.Bushell@hsf.com if you would like further information or to take out corporate membership.

Otherwise, you can join the LSLA by visiting our website at <https://www.lsla.co.uk>. If you are 8 years PQE or less you will automatically become a member of the JLSLA if you input your year of admission when completing your online membership application.

Members are also welcome to join the LSLA LinkedIn group at <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/4545696>.

EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS

Some of our members say that they are, on occasion, not receiving email notifications for LSLA and Junior LSLA events. We have been advised that such notifications may sometimes be blocked by our members' firm's IT servers, which automatically quarantine emails received from, for example, "donotreply" email addresses.

Should you not be receiving our email notifications, we would advise you to contact your firm's IT team and request that they "whitelist" both donotreply@lsla.co.uk and lsla@lsla.co.uk.

ONLINE PAYMENTS FOR LSLA EVENTS

When making payments for membership and our events we would kindly request that you quote the correct data to identify the matter to which the payment relates. Incorrect identification often occurs where a firm's accounts team makes a payment to the LSLA as an existing payee, using old order data rather than updating the payment instruction to include the new order number.

Updating payment data to correctly reference the event to which a payment relates would significantly ease the LSLA's administrative burden. Thank you for your continued support and assistance.

LSLA WEBSITE

Our website at <https://www.lsla.co.uk> includes: details of our forthcoming events, copies of the responses we have filed to recent consultations, recent articles and press citing members of the association, and past editions of the newsletter.

You can also join the LSLA via our website as well as sign up for future events on it.

We hope that our website will prove a source of information for members. Please let us know if you have any comments on it.

LIST OF SUPERVISING SOLICITORS

The White Book refers to the LSLA maintaining details of individuals who might be able to act as supervising solicitors for the execution of Search Orders. Our list continues to grow and is updated quarterly. We invite those suitably qualified to provide us with their details, including relevant experience, for inclusion on the list.