

LSLA NEWSLETTER – NOVEMBER 2018

Dear Member,

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

LSLA / NLJ SURVEY

Thank you to everyone who took part in the online survey we circulated in conjunction with the New Law Journal. We had an outstanding response which will assist us to reflect members' views accurately in the submissions we file.

The results features in the NLJ's article on 31 October and "Brexit Zeitgeist" report on 1 November 2018 (see <https://www.newlawjournal.co.uk/content/litigators-fear-brexit-factor>)

JUNIOR LSLA COMMITTEE POSITIONS

There are three new positions on the Junior LSLA Executive Committee. The committee meets once a month to plan and manage Junior LSLA events. We also assist with the planning and delivery of LSLA events, and participate in commercial litigation and civil justice consultations to ensure that the views of junior litigators are properly represented.

If you are interested in joining the Committee, please send a short email to Natalie.Osafo@SlaughterandMay.com expressing your interest and outlining your reasons for wishing to join and why you feel you would be suited to the position. Applications will close on **Friday, 23 November 2018**. Applications will be considered by the existing committee members and a vote will take place to choose the successful candidates. The Junior LSLA will notify applicants of the outcome by Friday, 7 December 2018.

WITNESS EVIDENCE SURVEY

In March 2018, a working group was convened to review the current rules and practice for factual witness evidence in commercial court trials.

Earlier this month we circulated a survey to our member to ask as many court users as possible for their views about the current rules and practice on factual witness evidence in the business and property courts, as well as potential alternatives. Views are sought on whether the current rules (used in a broad sense) on witness statements ought to remain in their present form and be enforced more rigorously or whether the rules themselves need to be changed and, if so, how.

The survey is short and should not take more than **10 minutes** to complete. [Survey link](#)

FUTURE EVENTS

29 November 2018 - Junior LSLA 'Banquet at The Crypt' Autumn Bash

To celebrate another successful year of Junior LSLA events, we are pleased to announce our Junior LSLA 'Banquet at The Crypt' Autumn Bash.

The Crypt is the perfect location for a litigators' banquet. This year's JLSLA Autumn Bash will serve up a modern offering in an historic location; it includes a three course meal, drinks, service from the legendary Bleeding Heart Restaurant and sublime live music courtesy of Nathan Hassall Music. The event marks the end of the 2018 JLSLA calendar and will provide a great networking opportunity for junior litigators.

Tickets cost £65 per head for members and £75 per head for non-members. The ticket includes a prosecco reception and drinks from a private bar before dinner, a three course dinner and a post-dinner drink. There will also be a cash bar available after dinner.

Limited spaces are available and tickets to JLSLA events sell fast. To apply for tickets please visit our website at <https://www.lsla.co.uk/events> or complete the attached form.

LSLA Autumn / Winter Lectures

The series is underway with two successful lectures having already taken place:

- 13 November, Patrick Lawrence QC and Paul Fisher of 4 New Square delivered a lecture entitled “*Brexit: A Legal Matter: A Difficult Divorce*” in which they discussed the potential (and existing) positive and negative legal implications arising from Brexit. Slides from the event are available on our website.
- 20 November, Colin Passmore (Simmons & Simmons LLP), Bankim Thanki QC (Fountain Court) and Tamara Oppenheimer (Fountain Court) gave us an update on “*Privilege – where are we now?*” following the decision in *SFO v Eurasian Natural Resources Corp* and provided practical steps for improving the prospects of successfully claiming and maintaining privilege.

There are still a few tickets left for our future lectures.

- 5 December 2018 at Simmons & Simmons LLP, “*The Disclosure Pilot Scheme*” presented by The Rt Hon Dame Elizabeth Gloster DBE, PC, The Hon Mr Justice Knowles CBE, Chief Master Matthew Marsh, Ed Crosse (Simmons & Simmons LLP) and Natalie Osafo (Slaughter and May) will see members of the working group will explain the thinking behind the new rules and what they will mean in practice for clients and their advisers.
- 24 January 2019 at Hogan Lovells International LLP “*Securing Funding; Securing Costs: recent developments in litigation funding, DBAs, security for costs and non-party costs orders*”. Benjamin Williams QC, Stephen Innes and Ben Smiley of 4 New Square will review the changing landscape of litigation funding and will address the questions which commercial litigators need to consider concerning the nature of such funding and the protections which should be sought.
- 13 February 2019 at Slaughter and May “*Financial Litigation Review*” Sonia Tolaney QC of One Essex Court will examine recent banking and insolvency decisions and litigation trends in the financial sector.

Attendance is not limited to LSLA members. Anyone can apply for tickets via the website – <http://www.lsla.co.uk> – or via the attached form – an email will be sent confirming your place a few days before the lecture. The cost is £20 per event.

The events will start at 6pm and will last approximately one hour, to include a period for questions at the end, and will be followed by drinks.

PAST EVENTS

21 November 2018 – Annual Dinner

Our annual black-tie dinner took place at the Law Society on Chancery Lane. Ian Forrester QC, judge at the General Court of the European Union and an expert in European Union Law, spoke about the possible repercussions of Brexit.

Junior LSLA Champions Event 2018 – ‘You are the champions!’ – 18 October 2018

Our inaugural JLJSLA ‘*You are the champions!*’ event at [TT Liquor](#) was very well received and successful. The event was introduced by Natalie Osafo (JLJSLA President) and Julian Acratopulo (LSLA President) and Caroline Field (LSLA Committee Member) shared inspirational words of wisdom for junior litigators, followed by a fun (and competitive) cocktail-making masterclass.

If you are interested in becoming a JLJSLA Champion for your firm please email Natalie at Natalie.Osafo@SlaughterandMay.com

Junior LSLA Autumn Seminars and Events

3 October 2018 - “Pro Bono in Practice: how litigators can give back”

Many thanks to Clare Carter from The Access to Justice Foundation, Emmanuel Sheppard of 3VB and Kerry Stares of the Thomson Reuters Foundation, TrustLaw, for the excellent insight and useful tips on selecting the right pro bono opportunities they provided at our seminar. These elicited an engaging discussion on how litigators assist others, both nationally and overseas. Thank you also to Fladgate LLP for hosting the seminar.

For details on the pro bono opportunities discussed, please email the JLSLA President, Natalie Osafo, at Natalie.Osafo@SlaughterandMay.com

RECENT PRESS AND PUBLICITY

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

- 19 September 2018, New Law Journal, “*A strict interpretation*” by Sophia Purkis and Leigh Callaway (see <https://www.newlawjournal.co.uk/content/strict-interpretation>)
- 25 September, CDR Autumn Symposium included comments provided by Julian Acratopulo, Ed Crosse and David Greene (see <https://www.cdr-news.com/categories/politics/8588-symposium-signals-strong-outlook-for-commercial-disputes>)
- 8 October, Law Society Gazette, “*Calculating diminution in value*” by Georgina Squire and Avneet Baryan (see <https://www.lawgazette.co.uk/practice/calculating-diminution-in-value/5067829.article>)
- 17 October, Law Society Gazette, featured comments from Ed Crosse in its article, “*Disclosure reforms will “change the culture” – Gloster*” (see <https://www.lawgazette.co.uk/news/disclosure-reforms-will-change-the-culture-gloster/5067979.article>)
- 18 October, Litigation Funding, “*Information Overload*” by Caroline Field (see http://cms.lawgazette.co.uk/Uploads/f/w/n/LF-sample-Oct18-1.pdf?_ga=2.206638291.1925668397.1539974770-1895661890.1528140597)
- 26 October “*Fitting the bill*” by Richard Langley (see [https://www.newLawjournal.co.uk/content/fitting-bill](https://www.newlawjournal.co.uk/content/fitting-bill))
- 31 October, New Law Journal published the results of the recent survey with the LSLA in its article called “*Litigators fear the Brexit factor*” (see <https://www.newLawjournal.co.uk/content/litigators-fear-brexit-factor>)
- 1 November, New Law Journal contained a more detailed report on the survey’s outcomes called “*Brexit Zeitgeist*” (see <https://www.newLawjournal.co.uk/content/litigation-trends-brexit-zeitgeist>)
- 1 November, The Times picked up on the survey results in two articles
- 2 November, The Artificial Lawyer, “*Using Artificial Intelligence for Regulatory Investigations – The Benefits, Boundaries and Beyond*” by Richard Jeens and Natalie Osafo (see <https://www.artificiallawyer.com/2018/11/02/using-ai-for-regulatory-investigations-slaughter-and-may/>)
- 6 November, The Commercial Litigation & Arbitration Forum 2018, featured David Greene on Brexit, Ed Crosse on the new CPR disclosure rules and Natalie Osafo on the key to unlocking and retaining millennial talent in dispute resolution (see <https://www.eiseverywhere.com/ehome/commercial-litigation-arbitration-forum/742167/>)
- 19 November, New Law Journal, David Greene discussed the draft Brexit proposals (see <https://www.newLawjournal.co.uk/content/lawyers-react-draft-brexit-deal>)

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.

The JLSLA can also be contacted via their LinkedIn profile at http://www.linkedin.com/groups/Junior-London-Solicitors-Litigation-Association-4438638/about?trk=anet_ug_grpro.

MEMBERSHIP

The LSLA is delighted to announce that the Association now has over 2,400 members, including 974 members of the JLSLA and 31 corporate member firms.

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 <http://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 <http://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.