

# June 2023 Summary Law Society Representation & Member Services

## **New Solicitors Accounts Regulations - 1 July 2023**

From 1 July 2023 new solicitor accounts regulations come into force. To understand and adapt for the new regulations we would like to remind practitioners that the Society provides guidance and support with regulatory compliance issues and welcomes all queries. If you require assistance with navigating these updates to the financial regulations or have queries or concerns about your accounts please contact financialregulation@lawsociety.ie.

## **Central Bank Consultation - 5 July 2023**

A consultation and Q&A on the Consolidated Guidelines in respect of the Central Bank Administrative Sanctions Procedure takes place at Blackhall Place on **5 July 2023**. In a follow up to April's consultation on enhanced governance, performance and accountability in financial services, the Law Society and Central Bank of Ireland are co-hosting a joint event to outline the approach to implementation of key aspects of the updated Administrative Sanctions Procedure (ASP). Attendance is limited and registration is required.

#### Help a colleague! Mentors needed for female lawyers

The <u>Women in Leadership</u> Mentoring programme is seeking more senior and skilled solicitors to become Mentors to female solicitors. Due to an overwhelming number of mentee applications, the programme wishes to fulfil their expectations and provide valuable and fulfilling Mentor matches. This can only be accomplished with a high number of Mentors to choose from. Despite having our largest group of mentors to date, we still need additional mentors to meet demand. The programme offers training from Law Society Skillnet (eligible for M & PD CPD Hours) and the support of an established network of skilled solicitor Mentors. Perhaps you have benefitted from this programme as a Mentee in the past and now wish to offer your experiences and support as a Mentor. Giving back to the profession in this way can be a rewarding and satisfying experience. We look forward to hearing from you – <u>apply to become a mentor</u>.

### **Currencies Direct**

Those of you who attended Cluster events during May and June will have met the <u>Currencies Direct team</u>. A number of Bar Associations have asked Helen and her team to visit with them to discuss the services Currencies Direct offers. If your Bar Association would like a visit from Helen or her team, please contact Helen Richards, Business Manager on 083 023 8599 or at helen.richards@currenciesdirect.com.

## Fully Booked: Family Law Conference – Building a World Class Family Court System

On **14 July 2023**, the Law Society hosts the <u>Family Law Conference</u>, which is now at full capacity. The conference will consider the proposed legislation to reform Ireland's family law justice system, including the development of specialist family courts and learnings from international best practice, with speakers including pre-eminent family law experts. Thank you to everyone who has already registered. As this event is now at capacity, contact <u>policyevents@lawsociety.ie</u> to be added to the waitlist but please be aware that a place cannot be guaranteed at this time.

#### **LPT on Transfers**

The Conveyancing Committee have issued a practice note regarding guidance on property transfers, as Revenue has highlighted that a small but significant number of properties are changing ownership with an outstanding LPT liability. Read the full Practice Note.

# A successful Calcutta Run!

The 2023 Calcutta Run took place in Dublin on 27 May and in Cork on 28 May. The Irish legal community showed their support with over 1,000 participants, 200 volunteers and staff as well as charity partners and sponsors. Congratulations to all runners and walkers who completed the 5k or 10k route from Blackhall to Phoenix Park, supporting the Hope Foundation and the Peter McVerry and to those who participated in Cork's 5k, supporting Share and the Hope Foundation. View the 2023 Calcutta Run gallery.

## **Celebrating Pride 2023 and beyond**

The Law Society proudly supports Pride, throughout the month of June and beyond and allies such as <u>OUTLaw Network</u>, which represents LGBTQIA+ lawyers and friends across the legal community.

In addition to flying the Pride flag, lighting the building and changing the logo on our websites and social media channels to reflect the rainbow colours symbolising the LGBTQIA+ community, we have made a larger commitment and are honoured to be a partner of Pride at Work. See details of events and resources to mark Pride 2023.

## First unitary PPC concludes on 30 June 2023

As part of a strategic update to streamline solicitor training, the previous two-part 'sandwich course' known as PPC I and PPC II was combined into a singular unitary course in September 2022. This new <u>unitary PPC</u> is fundamentally a reworked course with a new syllabus, structure and suite of advanced electives, of which the first iteration concludes on **30 June 2023.** 

We would like to remind all post-PPC trainee solicitors at this career transition that they can avail of the mental health support, **LegalMind**, as they embark on and continue their in-office training. This independent and subsidised service is also open to members and offers expert assistance to support personal wellbeing and professional success. <u>Access LegalMind</u>.

# Final PPC II Hybrid commences July 2023

The final iteration of the existing <u>Hybrid PPC II</u> will commence 19 July 2023 and run until 17 November 2023 (inclusive of examinations). This year's Hybrid PPC II will be delivered in a blended format via eLectures and some in-person interactive sessions. <u>Applications for a credit</u> must be made in writing no later than **14 July 2023**.

## Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on Social Media

MOOC registration will remain **open until 31 July.** The course is open to anyone who has an interest in learning more about social media and the law. It's free to attend and delivered through a number of short video presentations from expert contributors, supported by suggested reading, quizzes, and live online Q&A sessions with a host of speakers. To find out more and sign up, <u>visit the MOOC webpage</u>.

## **Remote Hearings**

Just a reminder practitioners can access remote hearings directly from the <u>Law Society website</u>. View connection details provided by the Courts Service and access courtrooms equipped for remote hearings through your web browser or the PEXIP app. Login with a solicitor number and password is required for access to Virtual Courtrooms.

## Apply by 20 July for ex gratia scheme for childhood abuse in schools

The ex gratia scheme for childhood abuse in schools was established to implement the European Court of Human Rights Judgment in O'Keeffe v Ireland. The scheme provides redress relating to childhood sexual abuse in day schools has now been reopened for applications until **20 July 2023**. Check if your clients are eligible.

## **Business Information Sessions**

These web-based sessions continue to be produced by the Law Society Member Services team and posted on the website under the Business Hub. See the latest session from 28 June:

• 'Tech, Al and the future of ethics for Lawyers' with Jennifer O'Sullivan

Upcoming sessions will resume in the autumn.

Previous sessions have now been categorised into a <u>playlist of videos</u> for ease of access. If you have any suggestions or ideas for speakers or content please get in touch with Justin Purcell – <u>j.purcell@lawsociety.ie</u>.

#### **Upcoming Law Society Skillnet Clusters**

Meet your colleagues and earn six in-person CPD hours, as bookings are now open for autumn clusters.

- Essential General Practice Update Kerry 2023 takes place in Tralee on 14 September. Take advantage of this opportunity to learn and meet your colleagues while achieving the full in-person CPD Scheme requirement for 2023.
- North East CPD Day 2023 takes place in Castleblayney, Co. Monaghan on 20
   October in partnership with Monaghan Bar Association, Cavan Bar Association,
   Louth Bar Association and Drogheda Bar Association.
- Connaught Solicitors' Symposium 2023 in partnership with Mayo Solicitors' Bar Association takes place in Castlebar, Co. Mayo on 26 October.

For further information see <u>CPD courses online</u>, contact <u>lawsocietyskillnet@lawsociety.ie</u> or phone 01 881 5727.

## **Legal Vacancies**

Do you need legal staff? With over 50,000 monthly views, the Law Society's <u>Legal Vacancies</u> website is acknowledged as the best place for employers to advertise legal jobs. A choice of job ad types are available, at highly competitive rates.

## Advertising prices start at:

- €350 plus VAT for members
- €550 plus VAT for non-members
- €200-€400 plus VAT for a display ad

Jobseekers can subscribe to the weekly <u>Legal Vacancies eZine</u> for the latest opportunities or register for specific <u>Job Alerts.</u>

# **Exclusive Member Supports and Benefits**

- <u>Business Hub</u> provides information, templates, precedents and tools to help you build a more successful and sustainable business.
- <u>Complimentary Client Care Leaflets</u> series of multi-lingual information leaflets on a range of legal topics – free to download and distribute to your clients. (Login required).
- <u>Practising Solicitor logo</u> free to download to your website/stationary and emails (login required) - we also have window stickers available with the practising solicitor logo. Contact Justin Purcell at j.purcell@lawsociety.ie if you would like to order these.
- <u>Digital Law Directory</u> contains contact information for solicitors and firms in Ireland and the rest of the world and including other resources like Courts Service information, service providers to the profession, expert witnesses, statutory / reference material. Login to view the <u>mobile-friendly site</u>.
- <u>Library Subject Guides</u> offer practitioners and trainees an excellent starting point to improve their knowledge of a legal subject or access recommended resources in their particular areas of practice such as family and child law, conveyancing, employment and probate.