



21/04/22

## LAPG Member Update

Issue 10 of 2022

### The 2022 Legal Aid Lawyer of the Year awards

## Nominate your legal aid heroes by 25 April

A small graphic for the Legal Aid Lawyer of the Year awards 2022. It features a dark background with a starburst effect and the text 'Legal Aid Lawyer of the Year awards 2022' and the LAPG logo.

Legal Aid Lawyer of the Year awards 2022

There is just four days to go to submit your LALY22 nomination(s) and recognise the incredible contribution of your legal aid hero or heroes.

With 11 categories to choose from, the LALYs are an opportunity for you to express your admiration for that solicitor, barrister, caseworker, legal executive, trainee, pupil, support staffer, charity or firm which best exemplifies the truly remarkable characteristics of the legal aid profession: commitment, expertise, determination, compassion and skill.

**Nominations close at 23:59:59 on Monday, 25 April**

[Submit your nominations here](#)

The LALY22 award categories are:

1. Outstanding achievement\*
2. Legal aid newcomer
3. Criminal defence
4. Public law
5. Housing law
6. Legal aid support staffer\*\*
7. Family legal aid

8. Legal aid barrister
9. Legal aid firm/Not-for-profit agency
10. Regional legal aid firm/Not-for-profit agency
11. Disability rights
12. Social welfare

\* We do not accept nominations for this award

\*\* New award for 2022

[See here for guidance](#) on how to make a nomination and on the qualifying criteria for each award category.



This year sees the **20th anniversary** of these non-profit-making awards, which were founded by LAPG in 2003 to celebrate the work of social justice lawyers. We are absolutely delighted to be returning to an in-person celebration after two years of virtual awards, and we are particularly pleased to include a new award to honour the **support staff** who worked assiduously during lockdown to keep social justice organisations running.

[Book your tickets here to attend the 12 July ceremony.](#)

**It's not too late to prepare a nomination or support the awards this year**

Spread the word to your friends and colleagues in local legal aid organisations and chambers [by sending them the LALY22 nomination flyer.](#)

**What makes a good nomination?**

We are often asked this question and of course we can't say exactly what the judges consider when making their decisions. LAPG staff members are not part of the judging panel, and we do not influence the decisions at all. Membership of LAPG is not a pre-requisite for either making a nomination or being nominated as the awards are open to anyone who contributes to the delivery of legal aid.

What we can say though is that persuasive nominations always focus on impact as that is really what legal aid is all about – the positive impact on clients, their families, their communities. The life-changing impact of giving someone a voice

or helping someone to defend or vindicate their rights. Using legal aid to fund cases that have wider impact or prevent the misuse or abuse of power by arms of the state. But it is also not always about that big case or reported decision. Over the years many LALY winners have



demonstrated their excellence and commitment by simply being at the coalface, day-in, day-out, and supporting countless clients in the most challenging of circumstances. And all of these factors are why the LALY awards is such an important event for raising the profile of legal aid and celebrating lawyers and their support staff who make such a difference to society.

Persuasive nominations also tend to be supported by those who can attest to impact, commitment and excellence – for example colleagues from within or outside your organisation, members of the judiciary, instructed counsel and other experts and professionals, even opponents, and of course the clients and their family members or friends. We know your work is truly remarkable, and there will be plenty of others who will be willing to say so too.

### **Never nominated before?**

Then why not give it a go this year? The nomination form is straightforward and the rewards from recognising a colleague are immense. Over the years many lawyers have told us that it is an honour just to be nominated, let alone shortlisted or chosen as a winner. Your colleagues work incredibly hard and they achieve amazing results. Why not submit a nomination to tell them that you know just how remarkable they are?

And submitting a nomination need not be particularly onerous. We promise the [LALY nomination form](#) is nothing like CCMS!

If you have any questions about this year's awards, please get in touch with me ([chris.minnoch@lapg.co.uk](mailto:chris.minnoch@lapg.co.uk)) or LALY co-organiser

Fiona Bawdon ([fiona.bawdon@gmail.com](mailto:fiona.bawdon@gmail.com)).

Follow us on Twitter for latest #LALY22 news:  
[@LALYawards](https://twitter.com/LALYawards) [@WeAreLAPG](https://twitter.com/WeAreLAPG)

Please also support the LALYs by donating to our Newcomer award to demonstrate your support for the next generation of legal aid lawyers. All donations are used to subsidise the event and ensure they are accessible to everyone across the legal aid sector.

[Donate to become a Friend of LALY22 and support the all-important Legal Aid Newcomer award](#)

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We look forward to finally getting to see all our wonderful friends and colleagues at this year's LALY ceremony on 12 July. And thank you to everyone who has submitted or is preparing a nomination.

Warm regards,

Chris Minnoch, CEO [@ChrisLAPG](https://twitter.com/ChrisLAPG)

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Would you like to contribute to our Member Updates and share news and information with other members? If so, just email us and we can discuss how you can best contribute.

Thank you for being brave enough to be part of the LAPG community!

# LEGAL AID LAWYER OF THE YEAR AWARDS



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